St Brigid's, Marrickville

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia.
Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887
One Family, Alive in Christ. We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people.

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After hours emergency: 0401 772 139

PARISH TEAM

Fr Giltus Mathias CP	Sr Elenita Flores CP	Paola Yevenes
Fr Joachim Rego CP	Sr Rosana Estoque CP	Pongia Fenukitau
Fr Joseph Sy Ho Doan CP	Elena (Len) Di Perna	Sasha Rances
Fr Cong Van Nguyen CP	Jim Yeo - Safeguarding Officer	Thomas Gray

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 18 October 2026

St Brigid's Parish, Marrickville, acknowledges and pays respect to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather.

PASTORAL MINISTRY CONTACTS

Adult Faith Formation
Mary Leask
Adult Sacraments
Sr Rosana Estoques CP
Altar Society
Fr Doan Sy Ho CP
Bereavement Ministry
Sr Elenita Flores CP & Michael Schiano
Children's Sacrament, CCD
Sr Elenita Flores CP
Family Group
Adrienne & Jonathan Harverson
Justice & Peace Network
Peter Jennings
Liturgy Committee
Patricia Thomas
Maintenance
Michael Daher & Pongia Fenukitau
Men's Club
Arthur Kassis, John Skinner & Mick Ward
Ministry of Care
Sr Rosana Estoque CP
Passionist Companions
Margaret Turner
PPC
Fr Giltus Mathias CP
PFC
Paul McCabe
Sacred Union
Fr Giltus Mathias CP
Seniors' Group
John Freeman & Peggy Blackall
Vinnies
Terry Petry
Youth Group
Tom & Sasha

FEAST OF ST PAUL OF THE CROSS

Dear parishioners and friends,
This weekend, we celebrate the feast of St Paul of the Cross, the founder of the Passionists. At the heart of his life was a simple but profound conviction: that the Passion of Jesus is the greatest expression of God's love, and that remembering it should change the way we live and the way we look at one another. Whenever I think of the Passion of Jesus, the first thing that comes to mind is how graphic it is, as Mark presents it. Something about Jesus' death in the Gospel of Mark is impossible to miss. Jesus does not die in silence. He cries out: *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*
I, like many of you, often understand those words as a cry of pain and abandonment. And they certainly are. But what if there is something more? Could it also be a cry of protest against everything that has brought him to the cross, the injustice, the cruelty, the abuse of power, the religious hypocrisy and the indifference of those who stood watching?
We rightly say that Jesus died for our sins. But there is another uncomfortable truth: Jesus also died because of our sins. His death shows us what human beings are capable of doing to one another when power matters more than people, when religion loses its compassion, and when good people choose to remain silent.
Two thousand years later, that cry has not disappeared. We hear it in the suffering of people caught in wars, in the desperation of families forced to flee their homes, in those struggling to put food on the table, and in people whose dignity is so easily overlooked. Sometimes it is much closer than we think: someone quietly grieving, an elderly person waiting for a visit, a family carrying troubles nobody knows about.
But one of the most remarkable moments in Mark's account comes at the very end. A Roman centurion, a man who belonged to the machinery of violence that put Jesus on the cross, looks at him and declares, "*Truly this man was God's Son.*" Something about the way Jesus suffered and cried out reached even the man standing on the side of his executioners. The cross made him see differently.
Perhaps that is what St Paul of the Cross wanted the world to discover. To remember the Passion is not simply to feel sorry for Jesus or admire how much he suffered. It is to allow his suffering to open our eyes to the suffering of others.

And there is another important lesson here. Faith does not always mean accepting suffering quietly. The Bible is full of people crying out to God, questioning, lamenting and pleading for justice. Jesus himself did so. Sometimes a cry of pain is also the beginning of change. Sometimes love demands that we refuse to accept things as they are.
As we celebrate our founder's feast, perhaps we might spend a little less time asking how much Jesus suffered and a little more time asking what his suffering is asking of us.
Whose cry have I heard recently? Did I really listen? Or have I become so accustomed to the suffering around me that I no longer notice it?
St Paul of the Cross gave us a beautiful prayer: *"May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts."* May it be more than a prayer we repeat. May it shape what we notice, whom we listen to, and how we respond. Because the Passion of Jesus is not only something to remember. It is a love that still has something to say to our world today.
Happy Feast Day!

-Fr Giltus Mathias CP

MARIAN CONCERT: A BEAUTIFUL EVENING OF PRAYER AND TOGETHERNESS

Our Marian Concert on 9 October was a beautiful evening of prayer, music and fellowship. It was wonderful to see our parish family come together, with different cultures, languages and traditions united in their love for Mary. We may not have understood every word of the hymns, but we certainly understood the faith and devotion behind them.
My heartfelt thanks to the organisers, our Music Ministry Team, and all the cultural groups who so generously shared their music and traditions. Thank you also to everyone who worked behind the scenes and to all who joined us for the evening.
It was not about professional performances or perfect singing, but something far more special: a parish family praying, celebrating and enjoying one another's company. May we continue to create such moments of friendship, faith and belonging in our parish.
Thank you to everyone who made the evening so memorable!

HAPPY FEAST DAY TO OUR PASSIONIST FAMILY

On behalf of the St Brigid's parish community, we extend our warmest wishes and prayers to all the Passionists of Holy Spirit Province, and especially to the Passionist community here at St Brigid's, as we celebrate the Feast of St Paul of the Cross.
Our parish is deeply grateful for the presence, dedication and generous service of the Passionists over the years.
We are particularly blessed to share in the richness of the Passionist charism, which continually invites us to recognise God's extraordinary love revealed in the Passion of Jesus and to stand with those who suffer in our world today.
It is a privilege to have the Passionist spirit woven into the life, faith and history of our parish. May St Paul of the Cross continue to inspire and guide the Passionists in their mission, and may our parish continue to grow in the spirit of compassion, hope and love that lies at the heart of their vocation.
Happy Feast Day to all our Passionists! May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts.

A DAY OF GRACE: THE VISIT OF ST CARLO ACUTIS

Thursday, 15 October, was a truly special and grace-filled day for our parish as we welcomed the pilgrim relic of St Carlo Acutis. Throughout the day, the relic was hosted in our church, offering a precious opportunity for prayer and reflection.
It was particularly moving to see the involvement of our young people. Through exhibitions and seminars held at the school, students from both our schools had the opportunity to discover Carlo's remarkable yet relatable story of faith, and to receive a personal blessing. There was something deeply beautiful about seeing young people encounter a saint who was, not so long ago, a young person like themselves.
In the evening, our parish community, along with many visitors, gathered for the Rosary, Reconciliation, Mass, catechesis and personal veneration of the relic. It was a wonderful reminder that holiness is not something distant or beyond our reach, but something that can grow quietly in the ordinary circumstances of our lives.
My heartfelt thanks to our Parish Team and both our schools, particularly St Brigid's Primary School, for their generous involvement and careful preparation. A very special word of appreciation to our parish youth, who led the music at Mass so beautifully, adding a special sense of prayer and hope to the celebration.
May the grace of this visit remain with us, especially with our children and young people, inspiring them to recognise that they, too, are called to holiness, here and now.

St Carlo Acutis, pray for us!

Images from both our Marian Concert and the visit of the relics of St Carlo Actuis

CHRISTMAS @ ST BRIGID

The parish will host a small Christmas Day lunch for parishioners who may be alone. Registration is essential.
Use the QR code to register, or contact the parish office.
We are also looking for volunteers and donations (food, other items, or monetary donations) to make this lunch possible. If you are able to volunteer or donate, please use this QR code which provides more details.

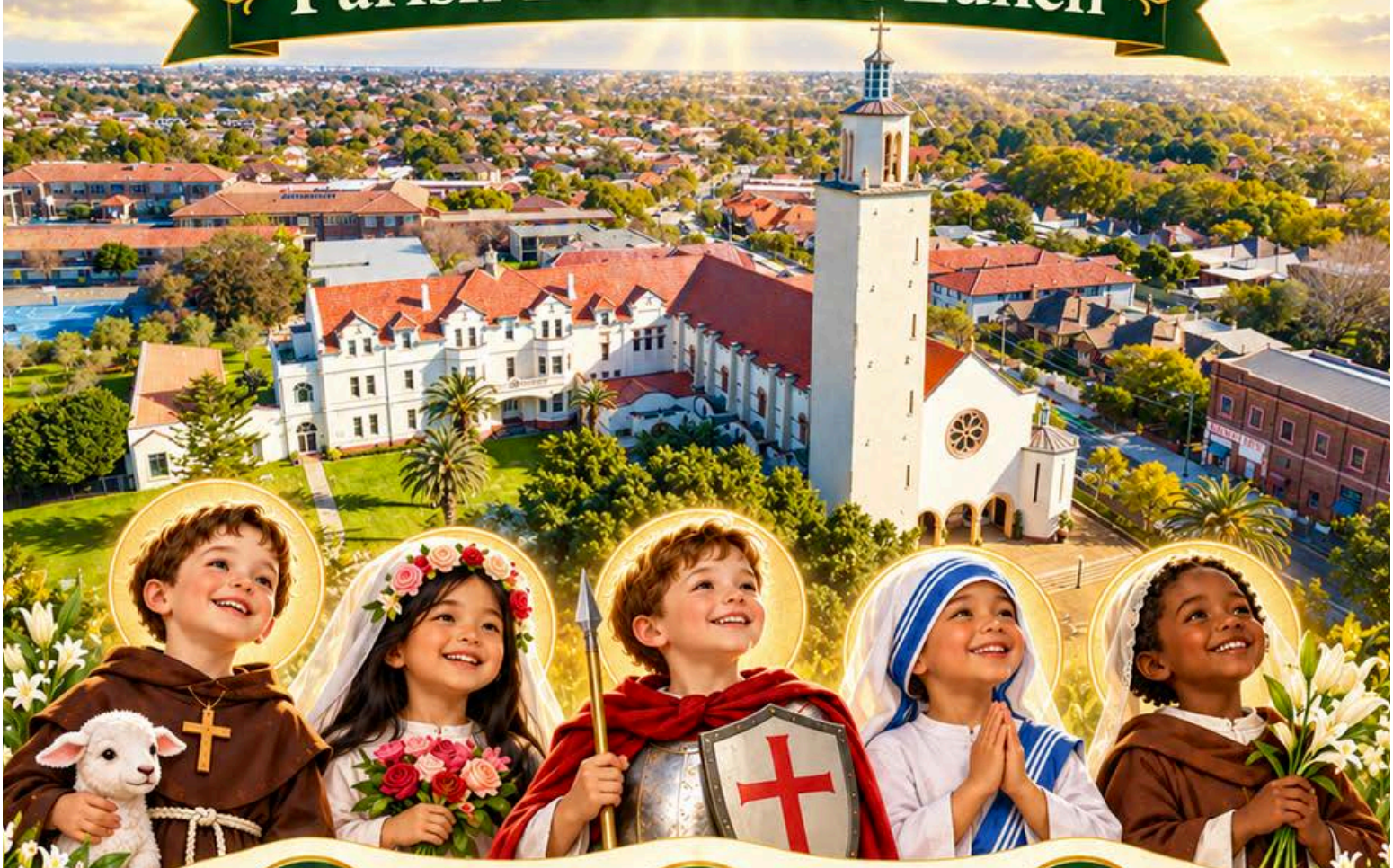
Many thanks!

The Christmas at St Brigid organising team

St Brigid's Catholic Church, Marrickville

All Saints Day Celebration

Parish Fundraiser Lunch



Sunday 1 November

10:30am Mass

Children are invited to dress as their favourite saint

Fundraiser Lunch at 12 noon

Tickets required for lunch

Join us for celebration, fellowship and fun

All are welcome

Sacred Union

Couples Date

A guided reflective session with your spouse to connect and grow.

Sunday 29th November
Following 10:30 am Mass
Shrublands Hall
Light refreshments
&
Childminding provided

RSVP 15th November

ST. BRIGID'S PARISH

MARRICKVILLE

All Souls Mass Schedule

November 2, 2026

6:45 am Mass

9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Mass for All Souls

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR
A PASSIONIST HEART FOUNDATION

Help build a new home for children with disability.
For more than 40 years, Senta Bilong Helpim in Vanimo, Papua New Guinea, has been a place of care, support and hope for children and families living with disability. We are now raising $300,000 to help build a new Senta, providing therapy spaces, accessible facilities, training areas and a safe place where children and young people can learn, participate and belong. Every donation, no matter the amount, can make a difference.

Together, we can build a new Senta Bilong Helpimand give children and families renewed hope. Scan the QR code to donate OR visit: gofund.me/8efeb9045

ROSTER FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD & EUCHARIST

Ministers, to better plan for the next roster, if you know you will be unavailable from the beginning of November until the end of February 2027, please email the parish office (parish@stbrigid.org.au) to avoid being rostered.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Planned Giving receipts for financial year ending in June 2026 are available at the back of the church.

ST BRIGID'S LITTLE CHURCH

Little Church is the Children's Liturgy of the Word, when the Gospel is explained to the children and there are activities that allow them to engage a better understanding of the message of the Gospel. Please contact the parish office or see Sr Elenita if you can help for 30 minutes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Donald Loughry, Zakia El-Daher.
Anniversaries: Maria Kearsey, Robert Faulkner, Sophie Wikosz.
Those Carrying Severe Illness: Agnes Sonju Wong, Alfred Schiavo, Amalene & Gerard George, Anna Delacruz, Antonios Gebrael, Belinda Camacho, Bob Mandile, Catherine Vella, Charles Chen, Colin Constantinou, Damia Roumie, Elizabeth Pizzuto, Jennifer Alam, George Baraket, Georgina Kaldis, Hudson & Theo Doak, Huyen Nguyen, Jo Morrison, John Love, Laurice Sassine, Leonardo, Lidia Obeid, Llyan McAusland, Loreto Theodoupoulou, Margaret Barrett, Marie Thompson, Mary Angela Thomas, Michael Chrissimos, Michael Natoloczny, Pauline Zerbo, Paul Murphy, Penelope Lincoln, Peter Buchel, Peter Martin, Richard Hudson, Rosario Poli, Rosie Pazman, Sienna Mai Cao, Sofi, Tim Jude Thomas, Tina Schino, Wendy Joukhador.
Other Intentions: Giuseppina Genco, Jennifer Alam, Joseph Bianchini, Joseph Farah, Josephine Farah, Wendy Lamb.

ARCHDIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the office on (02) 9390 5800 or at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step.
The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

MASS TEXTS: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Is 45:1, 4-6
I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Response: Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10
Give the Lord glory and honour.

Second Reading: 1 Thess 1:1-5
We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 22:15-21
Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2026		
Mon 19	St Paul of the Cross	
Tue 20	10.30am	Funeral of TL Donald Loughry
Wed 21	7pm	RCIA in PC
Sat 24	United Nations Day	
Sun 25	7pm	Parish Youth Group in Hall
Mon 26	7pm	Christmas @ St Brigid's Meeting in PC
Wed 28	Sts Simon & Jude	
	7pm	RCIA
Fri 30	Sydney Catholic Youth	
Sun 1 Nov	Parish Fundraising Lunch in Hall	

LITURGICAL TIMETABLE

MONDAY - FRIDAY: **Mass at 6:45am** followed by Exposition and Rosary, then Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am, followed by **Mass at 9am** and Rosary.

SATURDAY: **Mass at 8am** followed by Rosary.
Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4.15pm.
Mass at 5pm (Livestreamed) and **6.30pm** (Vietnamese).

SUNDAY: **Mass at 8am | 10.30am** (bilingual) **| 4pm** (Vietnamese) **| 6pm.**

MINISTRY OF CARE & SUPPORT TO THE AGED AND INFIRMED:
Communion is taken to sick residents in Nursing Homes and in their homes on a weekly basis, either by Ministers of Care or family members. Please contact the Parish Office to organise Communion to be taken to those who are home-bound.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is offered after 6.45am and 9am Mass on the first Friday of each month.

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES

Day	Eucharist	Word
Mon 6.45	Vinh N	Jim Y
9.00	Mary T	Liz
Tue 6.45	Albert N	Viet
9.00	Mary T	Viet
Wed 6.45	Albert N	Paul C
9.00	Liz	Buddy
Thu 6.45	Paul C	Michael P
9.00	Thom Thao	Joanna
Fri 6.45	Vinh N	Patricia
9.00	Tony C	Leila W
Sat 8.00	Jim	Judy

WEEKLY ROSTER

MASS TIMES	Commentators (C) & Lectors (L1 & L2)			Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers	Collector In-charge
		17 / 18 Oct	24 / 25 Oct	17 / 18 Oct	24 / 25 Oct	24 / 25 Oct	
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	C L1 L2	Gabreille B Paul C Laura N	Elizabeth B Thu T Jan R	Vinh N Carole P Leila W	Vinh N Michael H Kelelia F	Vinh N Ben Augustine	Jim Y Michael P
Sunday 8am	C L1 L2	Libby D John S Emma K	Mary L Esther G Stephen O	Mary L Stephen O Margaret K	Dennis M Joanna V John S	Dennis M Luca G Antonella G Aiden S	Peter H Maria M
Sunday 10:30am	C L1 L2	Peter J Bernadette S Margaret T	Angie C Dana T Italian	Anthony N Albert N Joanne M Frank C	Anthony N Bernadette S Jenny O John M	Albert N Anthony N Josh K	Tony C Julian P
Sunday 6pm	C L1 L2	Laura P Landon O Charisse E	Kevin B Oscar P Rania R	Lenore D Kevin B Arthur K	Alexis H Rex H Lenore D	Tony H, Janna H Charlene E Celina E Alexis H	Arthur K Jackie K