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.

392 Marrickville Rd, Marrickville 2204
PO Box 237, Marrickville NSW 1475

8577 5670 www.stbrigid.org.au parish@stbrigid.org.au
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	Jim Yeo (Safeguarding)
Fr Cong Van Nguyen CP	Marisa Rizzo	Sasha Rances & Thomas Gray (Youth)

ALL SAINTS DAY - 1 November 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
Anthony Rizzo
PFC
Hayley Wilding
Sacred Union
Fr Giltus Mathias CP
Seniors' Group
John Freeman & Peggy Blackall
Vinnies
Terry Petry
Youth Group
Tom & Sasha

WE ARE CALLED TO BE SAINTS

Dear parishioners and friends,
Every time we come to St Brigid's Church, we are surrounded by the saints. We see our Mother Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Brigid, Saint Paul of the Cross, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Patrick, Saint Maria Goretti, Saint Mary MacKillop, Saint Lupo, Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, and many others represented throughout the church and in the Saints Room.
We look at them, remember them, and pray with them.
But perhaps we do not often stop and ask ourselves: *What do these saints have to do with my life? Or, am I also called to be a saint?*
Many people think that saints are extraordinary people. They seem very different from us. They performed remarkable deeds and lived exceptional lives. On the other hand, we are ordinary people with responsibilities, struggles, weaknesses, and limitations.
However, the First Reading for the Feast of All Saints gives us a different picture.
Saint John sees a great crowd that no one can count, coming from every nation, people, and language. They stand before the throne of God, clothed in white robes and holding palm branches.
What impresses me is that this crowd is not made up only of famous saints. It is not only apostles, popes, martyrs, or missionaries. It is a countless multitude of ordinary people. They are fathers and mothers, workers and farmers, students and teachers. People who lived ordinary lives but remained faithful to Christ.
The Book of Revelation tells us that they passed through many trials, but they persevered in faith.
This is the message of the Feast of All Saints. Being a saint is not a privilege reserved for a few. The call to be a saint is given to every Christian.
Some people may ask: *What do I need to do to become a saint?*
For me, this is not the most important question.
If being a saint depended only on human effort, it would be simple. We could create a list of rules, establish standards, then follow them carefully, and hope to become saints. Sometimes, because of too much focusing on standards and expectations that we forget compassion, love, and forgiveness. We may even judge others by the standards we create. Instead of bringing people closer to God, sometimes, we can make them feel burdened or excluded.

I think a better question is this:
How can I stay close to God?
How can I grow closer to Him each day?
How can God become more present in my life?
Because becoming a saint is not a human achievement. Becoming a saint is God's grace.
No one makes himself or herself a saint. God is the One who sanctifies us. God is the One who slowly transforms our hearts, our minds, our thoughts, our behaviours.
The saints became holy not because they followed a perfect system, but because they allowed God to work in their lives.
In today's Gospel, Jesus shows us this path through the Beatitudes. Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are the meek. Blessed are the merciful. Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
These qualities are the fruits of a life lived close to God. When we remain close to God, we become more gentle. We become more compassionate. We become more merciful. We desire what is good and right.
That is why the journey to become a saint begins in the ordinary moments of life: a sincere prayer, a few moments before the Blessed Sacrament, a kind word instead of a harsh one, forgiveness when we are hurt, honesty when no one is watching, patience with those around us.
When we allow God into these moments, He gradually changes us, transforms us, purifies us.
We know that no one becomes a saint overnight. That is a lifelong journey.
If each day we stay a little closer to God, love Him a little more, and trust Him a little more, then God will continue His work within us.
And one day, by His grace, we too may join that great multitude that Saint John saw: people from every nation and language who remained faithful to Christ until the end.

Amen

-Fr Doan Sy Ho CP

PIETY STORE

Baptism candles and stoles available as well as a large range of religious goods. GOD'S WORD for 2027 is now available.

LITURGY CORNER: THE GIFT OF SILENCE

Silence is a meaningful part of our worship. It gives us space to listen to God and respond in our hearts. When the priest says, *"Let us pray,"* we pause to bring our intentions before God. After the readings and homily, silence helps us receive God's Word; after Communion, it allows us to rest in Christ's presence with gratitude. These quiet moments invite our participation. At Mass, let us treasure the silence and make room for God to speak.

FROM FR GILTUS

Dear Parish Family,
Our **Children's Newsletter** began last week, and the overwhelming response has been such an encouragement! It is lovely to see this initiative so warmly welcomed. My heartfelt thanks to everyone generously sharing their time, creativity and support to help our children connect with the Gospel and grow in faith.
This Sunday, we celebrate **All Saints' Day**, and children are warmly invited to come dressed as their favourite saint to the 10:30 am Mass. It is a lovely reminder that we are all called to holiness through everyday acts of love, kindness and courage. Our **parish fundraising lunch** follows at 12 noon. Thank you to everyone organising, preparing, donating and joining us. Your generosity helps us care for our parish home, and gathering around the table strengthens the friendships that make us a community.
I'm pleased to share that the **parish hall roof replacement** is now complete. Thank you to our Maintenance Committee and everyone whose support has made this work possible. The committee is also exploring options for the church flooring as we continue caring for our much-loved church for generations to come.
On Wednesday, we were delighted to host **Sydney Catholic Schools** for a Mass, as they commissioned Eucharist Congress ambassadors, marking two years until the International Eucharistic Congress. It was a joy to welcome students and staff and gather around the Eucharist, the heart of our Catholic faith.
On Monday, **2 November, we commemorate All Souls' Day**, remembering our loved ones who have died and entrusting them to God's loving mercy. November Mass envelopes are available for those who would like their deceased loved ones remembered at Mass throughout the month. May our prayer bring comfort to all who grieve and renew our hope in the promise of eternal life.
Please also **mark your calendars** for our **Christmas Carols** on 12 December at 7 pm and our **Christmas Day Lunch** on 25 December. We look forward to sharing the joy of Christmas together. Registration is essential for the Christmas Day Lunch, so please be sure to register if you would like to join us.
A gentle but important **reminder**: please do not stick chewing gum beneath the pews. Considerable time, effort and money went into removing old gum and restoring our pews, and sadly, fresh gum has already been found. Please wrap used gum in a tissue or paper and place it in a bin. Thank you for helping us care for our church and respect the work that has gone into its restoration.

With love and prayers,
Fr Giltus

Noël! Noël!
RETURNS TO ST BRIGID'S THIS CHRISTMAS
TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2026

This festive season, the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Brandenburg Choir return to St Brigid's Marrickville for Noël! Noël!, a heartwarming celebration of Christmas through music.

Enjoy an uplifting evening of cherished Christmas carols, glorious choral music and festive favourites, all performed with the Brandenburg's signature warmth and splendour.

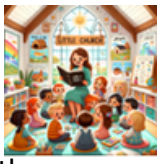
Book your tickets today!

LINK: https://www.brandenburg.com.au/live-concerts/events/noel-noel-2026/

CHRISTMAS @ ST BRIGID'S

St Brigid's will host a small and welcoming lunch for parishioners who may appreciate the warmth of good company and a shared festive meal on Christmas Day. It will be a simple gathering filled with friendship, conversation and Christmas cheer. For more information and to RSVP, please click on the QR code provided.

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: David Lee, Marie TQ Lee, Assunta Gregoris.

Anniversaries: Allan & Dorothy Hanscombe, Eric & Caroline Turnbull, Therese Lahoud, Br Gabriel Preston CP, Marie J Cashman, James Pearson, Dulcie Sykes, Ethel Hall, Maria Pham Thi Quy, Peter Q Thang Hoang, Angelina Buck, Angelo Basile, Peter Luat Tran, Betty McFarelane, Sr Ita Maher OSU, Michael Albim Bergiss.

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, 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: Dan Duggan, 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: The Solemnity of All Saints

First Reading: Rev 7:2-4, 9-14
I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

Response: Ps 23:1-6
Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-3
We shall see God as he really is.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Come to me all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 5:1-12
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Mon 2	All Souls' Day	
	7pm	Parish All Souls' Mass
Tue 3	Bl Pius Campidelli of St Aloysius CP	
	7pm	Liturgy Committee meeting in PC
Wed 4	St Charles Borromeo	
	10.30am	Funeral of TL Giovanni Cotroneo
Sun 8	7pm	Parish Youth Group in Hall
Mon 9	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	
	10.30am	Funeral of TL Marie Lee
	7pm	Christmas Lunch @ St Brigid's Meeting in PC

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	TBA	Viet
9.00	Mary T	Viet
Wed 6.45	TBA	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
		31 Oct / 1 Nov	7 / 8 Nov	31 Oct / 1 Nov	7 / 8 Nov	7 / 8 Nov	
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	C L1 L2	Laura N Michael P Ofa T	Kelelia F Jim Y Leila W	Vinh N Paul C Elizabeth B George K	Vinh N Ofa T Thu H Gabrielle B	Vinh N Ben Augustine	Jim Y Michael P
Sunday 8am	C L1 L2	Emma K Joanna V Jason G	Mary L Marco G Heather K	Rebecca B Mary L Stephen O	Margaret K Dennis M Joanna V	Dennis M Luca G Antonella G Aiden S	Peter H Maria M
Sunday 10:30am	C L1 L2	Bernadette S Mely S Italian	Albert N Lina M Italian	Anthony N Tony C Diana P John M	Anthony N Susan K Tony H Angie C	Albert N Anthony N Josh K	Tony C Julian P
Sunday 6pm	C L1 L2	Joyce O Arthur K Jasimin C	Charlie E Charlene E Joyce O	Charlie E Lina E Kevin B	Arthur K Alexis H Rex H	Tony H, Janna H Charlene E Celina E Alexis H	Arthur K Jackie K