

**A reading from the Book of Sirach (15:15-20)**

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response:** Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's Law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts *R/*

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. *R/*

Bless you servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. *R/*

Teach me the demands of the statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. *R/*

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (2:6-10)**

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: *the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.* These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:17-37)**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny. 'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery.* But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell. 'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal.* But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord.* But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Communion Antiphon:**

**They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them: they were not disappointed in what they craved.**



# Weekly Parish Newsletter

## Bollettino Parrocchiale Settimanale

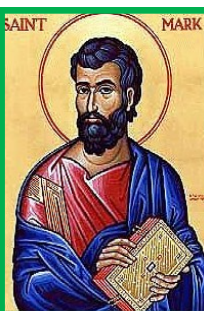
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The Parish Community of St. Brigid and St. Mark

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stbrigidsparish](http://www.facebook.com/stbrigidsparish)



*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.*

**Excerpts from the Biography of St Brigid of Kildare**

**Early Life**

Brigid was born in 5th-century Ireland to a pagan father, Dubhthach, a chieftain of the Leinster clan. Her mother Brocca was a slave and a Christian who had come to the faith through Saint Patrick's preaching of the gospel. From birth, Brigid was also considered a slave and endured mistreatment from her owners growing up. Despite her upbringing, though, she developed a reputation for being extraordinarily kind and generous to others. She once gave away her mother's entire supply of butter to someone in need and then prayed for God to replenish the supply for her mother. In response to Brigid's prayers, butter miraculously appeared, according to one of the stories about her childhood.

**Saint Brigid's Cross**

A special type of cross known as "Saint Brigid's cross" is popular throughout Ireland. It commemorates a famous story in which Brigid went to the home of a pagan leader when people told her that he was dying and needed to quickly hear the gospel message. The man was delirious and upset when Brigid arrived, unwilling to listen to what she had to say. Brigid sat with him and prayed, taking some of the straw from the floor and weaving it into the shape of a cross. Gradually, the man quieted down and asked Brigid what she was doing. She explained the gospel to him, using her handmade cross as a visual aid. The man then came to faith in Jesus Christ, and Brigid baptized him just before he died. Today, many Irish people display a Saint Brigid's cross in their homes, since it is said to help ward off evil and welcome good.

**Legacy**

According to Irish legend, Saint Brigid performed numerous miracles over the course of her long life of service. Once, she was traveling on horseback with her sisters when her horse became startled. Brigid fell off and hit her head on a stone. Blood from the wound mixed with the water on the ground. Brigid knew of two nearby sisters who couldn't hear or talk and asked them to pour the mixture of blood and water onto their necks while praying for healing. One sister did so and was healed, while the other one was healed simply by touching the bloody water when she bent down to the ground to check on Brigid.

According to another story, Brigid healed a man afflicted by leprosy by blessing a mug of water and instructing one of the women in her monastery to help the man use the blessed water to wash his skin. The man's skin then completely cleared up.

Brigid was close to animals, and several miracles from her life involve them. It is believed that she once touched a cow that had already been milked dry and blessed it to help hungry and thirsty people. When the starving people milked the cow, they were able to get from it 10 times as much milk as they had expected.

Today, Brigid is one of the major patron saints of Ireland, and statues of her are found in homes across the country. Her Feast Day is celebrated on February 1.

By Whitney Hopler

*St Brigid of Kildare is the patron saint of babies, midwives, children whose parents aren't married, scholars, poets, travellers, and farmers. Pray for us.*



**La Biografia di Santa Brigida di Kildare**

(alcuni estratti)

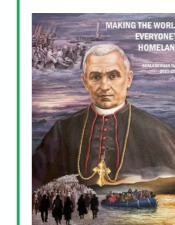
Brigida nacque nel V secolo in Irlanda da padre pagano, Dubhthach, un capo del clan Leinster. Sua madre Brocca era una schiava e una cristiana che era venuta alla fede attraverso la predicazione del vangelo di San Patrizio. Dalla nascita, Brigida è stata anche considerata una schiava e ha subito maltrattamenti dai suoi proprietari crescendo. Nonostante la sua educazione, però, ha sviluppato una reputazione per essere straordinariamente gentile e generosa con gli altri. Una volta ha dato via l'intera scorta di burro di sua madre a qualcuno in difficoltà e poi ha pregato Dio per rifornire la

scorta per sua madre. In risposta alle preghiere di Brigida, il burro apparve miracolosamente, secondo una delle storie sulla sua infanzia.

**Croce di Santa Brigida**

Un particolare tipo di croce conosciuta come "croce di Santa Brigida" è popolare in tutta l'Irlanda. Commemora una famosa storia in cui Brigida andò a casa di un capo pagano quando la gente le disse che stava morendo e aveva bisogno di ascoltare rapidamente il messaggio del vangelo. L'uomo era in delirio e sconvolto quando Brigida arrivò, non disposto ad ascoltare quello che aveva da dire, Brigida si sedette con lui e pregò, prendendo parte della paglia dal pavimento e tessendola a forma di croce. Gradualmente, l'uomo si calmò e chiese a Brigida cosa stesse facendo. Gli spiegò il vangelo, usando la sua croce fatta a mano come aiuto visivo. L'uomo allora giunse alla fede in Gesù Cristo, e Brigida lo battezzò poco prima di morire. Oggi, molti Irlandesi mostrano una croce di Santa Brigida nelle loro case, poiché si dice che aiuti a scongiurare il male e ad accogliere il bene. Santa Brigida. Prega per noi!

**Buona Festa a tutti!**



**Prayer to Saint John Baptist Scalabrini**

*O Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini, missionary of the Word of God, minister of the Eucharist and of the Church, man of charity and communion, most loving son of Mary, apostle of the catechism, and father to the migrants.*

*We rely on your intercession to receive God's blessings on ourselves and our beloved ones, on those who face migration and on all humankind. May the Holy Trinity, through your intercession, grant us the grace ... (pause for your intention) that we entrust to your fatherly love. Amen.*

**Saint John Baptist Scalabrini. Pray for us!**

**HAPPY ST. BRIGID'S FEAST DAY**



The Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo - Scalabrinians - [www.Scalabrini.org](http://www.Scalabrini.org)  
Ministering to the Parish and Migrants in St. Brigid since 1959

*Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.*

# Liturgical Calendar and activities

Day of the Week	Liturgical Celebration	Intention St. Mark	Intention St. Brigid	Parish Activity
<b>SATURDAY/SABATO</b> 11th February 2023 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year "A" VIGIL	<i>"Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord"</i> . 	<b>WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK</b> 	6.00pm <b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b> Francesco FLORIO (1 mth) 7.00pm Spanish Mass <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; color: red; text-align: center;"><i>Let us pray for all the victims of the Earthquake in Turkey and Syria. May the Lord give eternal rest to the deceased and strength and peace to the injured.</i></div>	<b>Wedding Celebration for Alana RUSSO &amp; Michele SCHIRENZIA</b>  <b>Baptism Celebration for Santiago &amp; Luna Sophia GUTIERREZ GELVEZ Jonathan GOTERA Maya SUAREZ SERNA Congratulations!</b>
<b>SUNDAY/DOMENICA</b> 12th February 2023 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year "A"	<i>"Beato chi cammina nella legge del Signore"</i> . 	8.30am <b>PRO POPULO</b> 	10.30am <b>ST. BRIGID'S FEAST DAY</b> <b>Berley &amp; Anthony LUPO</b> (6th wedding anniversary) <b>Gennarina MERCURI</b> (recently) <b>Carmelina CHIODO</b> (recently) <b>Pasqualina CASAURIA</b> (1st ann) <b>Maria Rosa VIGLIAROLO</b> (1mth)	<b>Baptism Celebration for Alessia FROSSYNOS Congratulations!</b> 
Monday/Lunedì 13th February 2023 Gen 4:1-15,25 Mk 8:11-13:	<i>Responsorial Psalm Offer to God a sacrifice of praise.</i>		9.15am 7.00pm <b>Memorial Mass for Maria Rosa VIGLIAROLO</b> (1 month anniversary)	
Tuesday/Martedì 14th February 2023 Gen 6:5-8,7:1-5,10 Mk 8:14-21: St Cyril, and Methodius,	<i>Responsorial Psalm The Lord will bless his people with peace.</i>		9.15am <b>St Cyril &amp; Methodius</b>  10.30am <b>Rosary &amp; Funeral Mass for Gennarina MERCURI</b>	<i>Our deepest sympathy to the family &amp; friends of Gennarina MERCURI. May she rest in peace.</i>
Wednesday /Mercoledì 15th February 2023 Gen 8:6-13, 20-22: Mk 8:22-26	<i>Responsorial Psalm To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.</i>		9.15am  7.30pm <b>Mass in honour to Our Lady of Perpetual Help</b> (Filipino Chaplaincy)	
Thursday Giovedì 16th February 2023 Gen 9:1-13: Mk 8:27-33:	<i>Responsorial Psalm From the heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.</i>		9.15am	
Friday/Venerdì 17th February 2023 Gen 11:1-9: Mk 8:34-9:1:	<i>Responsorial Psalm Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.</i>		9.15am <b>Gaetano CAFARELLA</b>  11.00am <b>Rosary &amp; Funeral Mass for Carmelina CHIODO</b>	<i>Our deepest sympathy to the family &amp; friends of Carmelina CHIODO May she rest in peace.</i>

<b>Parish Community</b> Parish Priest: Fr. Fransiskus (Frank) Yangminta, CS (03) 9489 6777  Migrant Chaplain to the Italian Community: Fr. Vito Pegolo, CS Tel: 0419 736 890	<b>Parish Office</b> Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm  Parish Secretaries Giovanna Bellissimo & Rachel Mamone Tel: (03) 9489 6777	<b>Comunidad Pastoral De Habla Hispana</b>  Chaplain Fr. Gesner Felix, CS Tel: (03) 9482 5362 Mob: 0432 214 910	<b>Comunidade Pastoral De Expressão Portuguesa</b>  Chaplain P. Fabio Esteban Duque Supulveda, CS Mob: 0410 001 462	<b>Filipino Pastoral Community</b>  Chaplain Mons. Joselito Asis Tel: (03) 9482 5349 Mob: 0404 261 228
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# Parish News... Notizie di casa nostra...

Liturgy of the word 18th & 19th February 2023	6.00pm Vigil St. Brigid	8.30am St. Mark	9.45 am St. Brigid	11.00am St. Brigid
I Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Volunteer	G. Piantella	M C Sisters	G. Catena /T. Toscano
II Reading	Volunteer	G. Piantella	C. Smith	P. La Marca
Prayes of the Faithful	Volunteer	G. Piantella	K. Chang	N. Oro


**RCIA EVENTS**  
Combined Rites of Acceptance and Welcoming to the Catechumens and Candidate, will be held on Sunday 19th February at 9.45am Mass .  
The Rite of Election will be held on Sunday 26th February at 2.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.


**Sacramental Program and Formation** will commence on Sunday 5th March 2023 after 9.45am Mass with Sr. Guadalupe MC in the Media Room.

**"LAMPS ALIGHT" - WOMEN'S RETREAT**  
Join the Dominican Sisters and Anima Women's Network for a one-day retreat to explore Pope St John Paul II's beautiful and profound thought on the dignity of women and the order of love. The retreat will feature Fr Paschal Corby OFM. There will be Mass at 9am, followed by adoration and an opportunity for confession. Talks and presentations will start around 10am. Lunch will be provided. Donations gratefully accepted on the day.  
For all enquires, contact Sr Mary Sarah at [melbourne@op-tn.org](mailto:melbourne@op-tn.org). **Saturday, February 18, 2023** (all day) St Mary MacKillop Church, 152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs

**PELLEGRINAGGIO IN ONORE DELLA MADONNA DI LOURDES**  
Domenica prossima presso il Calabria Club, 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla. Inizio alle **10am** con l'arrivo della statua e confessioni.  
**11.00am** S. Messa Celebrata da Pd. René Ramirez e Pd. Michele Cagna.  
**3.00pm**. Seconda Messa celebrata dai Padri Frank e Bruno, dopo la S. Messa segue processione e benedizione Eucaristica e benedizione per gli ammalati. Tutta la comunità é invitata a partecipare.

**LOURDES DAY MASS**  
**Saturday 18 February 2023, 10:30am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.** Those attending receive a blessing for good health and a bottle of Lourdes water for their personal use. All welcome!  
  
**St. Brigid & St. Mark Collections**  
1 Collection \$700 - 00  
2 Collection \$460 - 00  
Envelopes \$140 - 00  
*Thank You!*

**Offertory: BLESSED BE GOD**  
Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation  
Thanks to your goodness, this bread we offer  
Fruit of the earth, work of our hands  
It will become the bread of life  
  
**Refrain:**  
*Blessed be God, Blessed be God  
Blessed be God, forever Amen  
Blessed be God, Blessed be God  
Blessed be God, forever Amen*  
  
Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation  
Thanks to your goodness, this wine we offer  
Fruit of the vine, work of our hands  
It will become the cup of joy (Ref)  
Text: Aniceto Nazareth © 1984, Kevin Mayhew.  
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**Recessional: OUR LADY OF THE WAY**  
  
1. No man can live as an island.  
Journeying through life alone.  
Since we're most loved by a mother,  
Jesus gave us His own.  
*Be with us Mary along the way,  
Guide every step we take.  
Lead us to Jesus your loving Son,  
Come with us Mary, come.*  
2. Quando qualcuno ti dice:  
"nulla mai cambiera."  
Lotta per un mondo nuovo  
lotta per la verita.  
*Vieni o Madre, in mezzo a noi,  
vieni, Maria quaggiu:  
cammineremo insieme a te,  
verso la liberta.*

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA Support for Syria and Turkey is urgently needed.** Turkey and Syria have been struck by a devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake, which has caused thousands of deaths. Your support is needed now with prayers and financial help. Please donate through the parish, or online: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/turkey-and-syria-earthquake/>

**Moving with the times - Online Giving:**  
If anyone wishes to make a donation online to the parish this is the link to St. Brigid's Parish North Fitzroy or you can scan the bar code and it will take you straight to the link  
<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622453>  


**HOLY HOUR OF DIVINE MERCY**  
Everyone is welcome to **HOLY HOUR OF DIVINE MERCY EVERY 2nd, 3rd & 4th Friday at 6.30pm in St Brigid's Church North Fitzroy.**

**ST MARY'S PARISH - THORNBURY CELEBRATES 100 Years**  
To mark this special occasion, the parish will host a series of events: **Saturday 11 February (2-4pm):** musical prelude, followed by a talk on 'Our Lady of Lourdes: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow' by Professor Joan Barclay Lloyd **Wednesday 15 February (9.15am):** Italian Mass followed by lunch. **Friday 17 February (6.30pm):** twilight concert by Genevieve Bryant and co. and St Mary's students **Sunday 19 February (10am):** celebration Mass and blessing of the centenary flag by Bishop Terence Curtin. For all enquiries, email [thornbury@cam.org.au](mailto:thornbury@cam.org.au) or call 0408 470 114.

3. Si por el mundo los hombres, Sin conocerse van.  
No niegues nunca tu mano,  
Al que contigo esta.  
*Ven con nosotros al caminar,  
Santa Maria, Ven.  
Ven con nosotros al caminar,  
Santa Maria, Ven.*

**PASTORAL CARE APPEAL 2023 CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY**  
**This weekend is the Pastoral Care Appeal.** Donations from our Parish community will help Chaplaincy programs to support the most vulnerable people in our community. Please give generously.  
Envelopes are available in church, or donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 92875513.