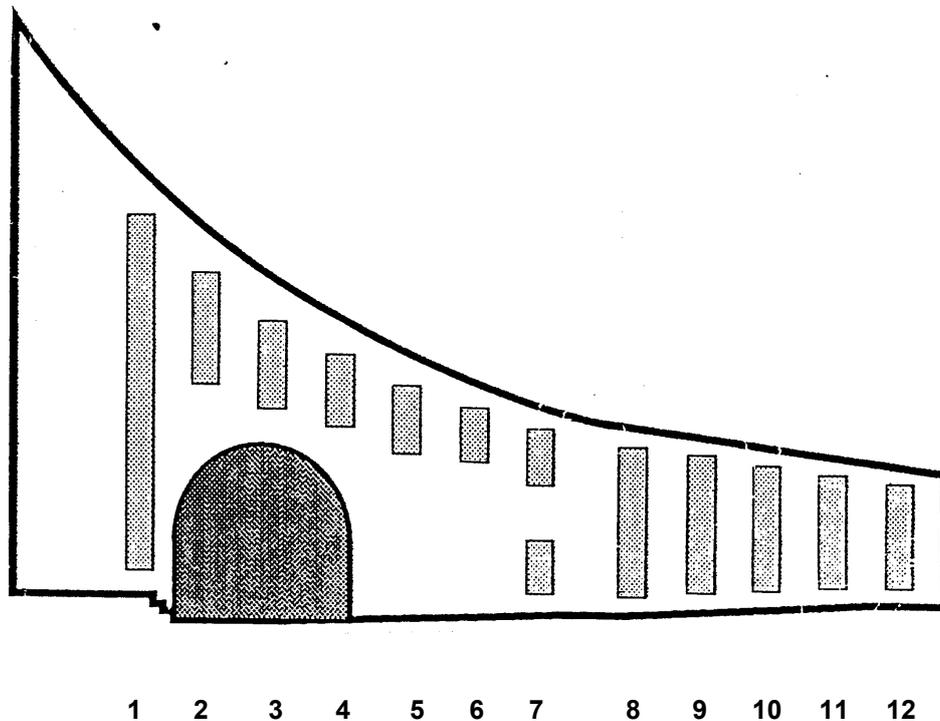


**THE WINDOWS  
of  
ST BRIGID'S CHURCH  
DUBBO**



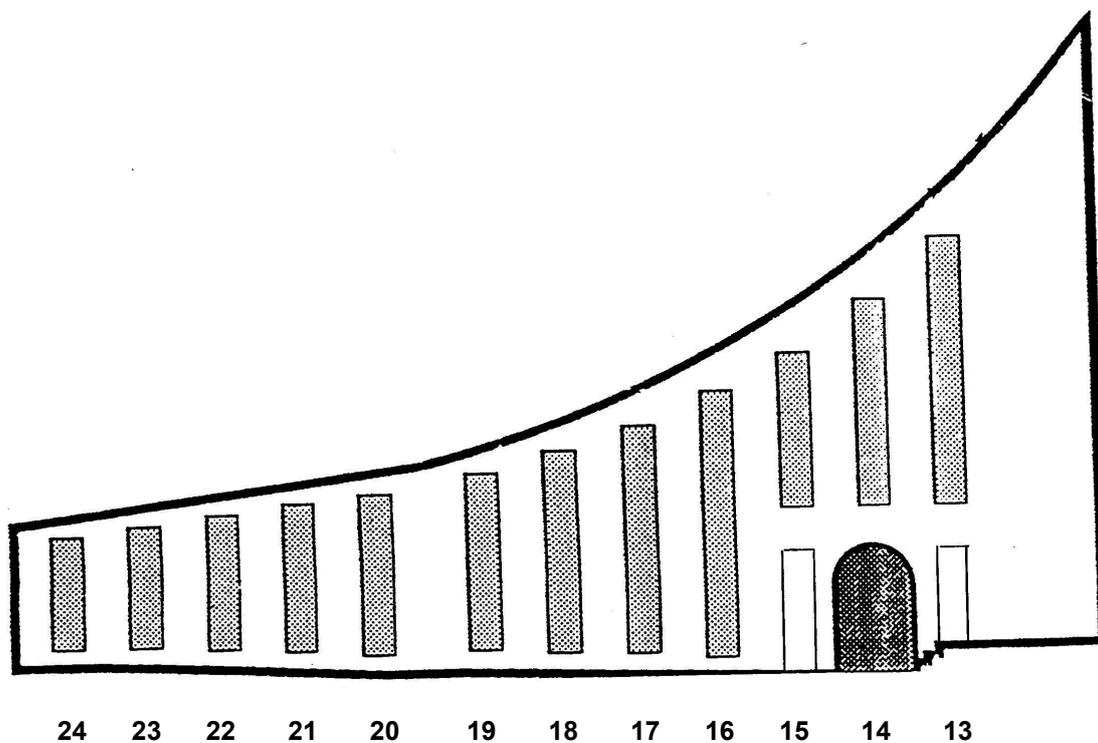


1. The bottom pane of this MAIN WINDOW symbolises the darkness over CREATION until (next pane) the two great lights and life are made by God. The middle pane shows the light of the INCARNATION of God in Jesus, who was CRUCIFIED on a cross to conquer sin and death. Jesus shares his risen life with all of humanity in the glory of the RESURRECTION. From this life of the Risen Christ (upper two panes) flow windows 2 to 7:

2. REDEMPTION as a gift for all people
3. FORGIVENESS of sins
4. HOPE in God
5. FAITH seeking God
6. A life of JUSTICE building the REIGN of God on earth
7. PEACE as a consequence of just living

7b - 12. ST BRIGID WINDOWS, referring to our parish parton saint. The colours are evocative of Brigid as a woman who was a leader in the early Irish Church through her learning, wisdom and peace-making. She was able to do this through her life in the Risen Christ (the GOLD of Window 1) which flowed into all aspects of her life. Brigid taught about Jesus with a CROSS MADE OF STRAW - a cross repeated in abstract forms throughout the windows. The WHITE refers to the above qualities of Brigid and in our early pioneers. The GREENS and BLUES of the lower panes remind us of Ireland and the MIGRATION of the Irish Catholics in the 1800's and those from Europe and Asia and other lands in the 1900's. PINK and MAUVE reflect feminine strength, compassion, morality, practicality and suffering lived by pioneering Irish Sisters of Mercy since 1880 in Dubbo, and by lay women during the early days as they helped to create Christian families and communities in the isolation of the Australian bush with all its challenges of droughts, floods, fires and economic depressions.

The CIRCULAR MOVEMENT in all the panes symbolises the cycles of the Church's liturgical seasons - the dyings and risings that are part of each life; the Gospel call of tolerance and inclusiveness for the many races who have made Australia their home; our regular need for prayer and reflection to counter the busyness of our days; the challenge to live the faith of our worship in actions of charity, justice, and service of others as we leave this holy place.



- 13 - 15** Symbolise the movement flowing out of the Resurrection of Jesus (Window 1 opposite), especially the gift of the Risen and Glorified Jesus in the EUCHARIST (Mass).  
 The BLOOD of the Lamb is poured out for us to bring forgiveness and healing when we celebrate Eucharist.  
 The contrite, broken HEART of the repentant disciple approaching God to worship with the community of faith.  
 The Bread of life - the BODY of Christ is broken and given to feed us as spiritual food for the journey of faith.

All this happens when the People of God gather to worship in the Eucharist:

- 16** Symbolise the INDIVIDUALS gathering to form the community of faith.
  - 17** The four colours of the Church's liturgical year - green, white, purple, red - expresses THE CHURCH at worship as the Body of Christ.
  - 18** We must be formed as a COMMUNITY OF FAITH living in unity, trying to imitate the perfect community of God as the Blessed Trinity.
  - 19** From this corporate worship the individual is sent out to be SALT and LIGHT in the society in which we live.
- 16 - 24** In the **bottom panes** are the gold and brown colours of the WESTERN PLAINS when the crops and grass ripen in summer and the soil is turned by the farmer for the autumn crop sowing. ROCK (Christ) is mixed with the earth as the foundation of our faith in God. The blue/ brown waters of the Macquarie RIVER flow over the plains as a reminder of the WATER which is essential to life.
- 20 - 24** CREATION, with the trees and birds in the natural environment, reflects to us the presence of the creative God. The evergreen gum trees echo the oak trees of St Brigid's homeland in the windows opposite.

The windows in the **BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** symbolise

- [1] the EUCHARIST present in the Tabernacle,
- [2] the faithful People of God gathered in PRAYER and, through receiving the Eucharist, being strengthened as the Body of Christ, and
- [3] the WHEAT and GRAPES of creation becoming the bread and wine for Eucharist.

The windows in the **ENTRANCE DOORS** symbolise the waters of Baptism through which we enter the community of believers called 'the church'.

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Heritage Decorative Glass