



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

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www.stmadeleine.org.au
Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



**21st Sunday
in Ordinary Time
27th August 2017**

**Isaiah 22: 19-23;
Romans 11: 33-36;
Matthew 16: 13-20**

FAITH IN GOD AND HIS VALUES: THE BED ROCK OF LIFE



Kelli was a third-year medical student, on a rotation in oncology. This particular day she was not her usual enthusiastic, upbeat self. She was having doubts.

“The *only* thing I have to offer is my compassion,” she confided to her supervisor. “But now I wonder what my words can mean as I look at Sheila. It’s all overwhelming. I’m not sure I can keep doing this.”

Kelli’s supervisor understood; her doubts are an occupational hazard for doctors and nurses who treat the terminally ill. But over the next month, Kelli had several opportunities to practice her “only” contribution.

Sheila was the 35-year-old mother of four whose husband, Michael, was a nurse at Kelli’s hospital. A persistent bout of “walking pneumonia” was finally diagnosed as metastatic lung cancer. Sheila began a demanding protocol of chemotherapy. Sheila was able to share with Kelli the full range of emotions common to all who struggled with cancer: fear, anger, sadness, joy at small successes, and gratitude. Kelli’s innate kindness and approachability helped Sheila get through those difficult weeks.

Another of Kelli’s patients was being treated for a condition called bronchiectasis. Quite unexpectedly, his cough worsened and he went into respiratory distress, requiring him to be put on a ventilator. The poor man was terrified as the medical team went to work. Kelli stayed with him the whole time and explained every step of the procedure.

“Now, Mr. Bernard, I know this tube is uncomfortable, but we need it to help you breathe. Hold my hand. I’ll stay with you.” And she did until he was settled and comfortable in the intensive care unit.

Sheila’s husband, Michael, was on duty in ICU when Kelli and Mr. Bernard arrived. Later in the day, at the end of rounds, Kelli and the other students were meeting with the supervising physician to review the day. During the conversation, Michael poked his head into the room.

“Is Sheila alright?” the doctor asked, fearing the worst. Michael seemed shaken and didn’t speak for a long time. “I just wanted to tell you,” he began, “all of you, how much Sheila and I appreciate the care she’s getting. It’s not just the medical stuff. I mean that’s important, and we know she’s getting the best medical treatment available. But, it’s the way you take *care* of her — and me — that makes it so different.”

He then turned to Kelli. “I was watching you hold that man’s hand. I listened as you talked to him and I tell you, do you know how long it’s been since I’ve held anyone’s hand in there, or thought about how it must feel to be on one of those things . . . I want you to know, Kelli, that you, and each of you, have reminded me of something I had long forgotten. And I won’t forget again to comfort those I take care of.” Sometimes compassion — the only thing we can offer — is the most important and remembered gift we give.

[From “Regaining Compassion” by James W. Lynch, Jr., M.D., Journal of the American Medical Association, May 13, 1998. A Connection Sampler

Kelli has learned that compassion is the “rock” of her work as a physician. We all need “rocks” that give meaning to life. In the life of Peter, we see his faith in Jesus that He believed in him and loved him was the bedrock on which Jesus wanted to build His Church (community of men and women). What is the “rock” of my life as a parent or as a teacher, as an employer or employee and in whatever position we are in? It is on our “rock” that Jesus establishes His Church. Our life in general is a struggle and much more our spiritual or religious life. It is never easy to be selfless and humble in the supercharged greedy world. For a few of us, forgiving others (even our own parents, spouse, children or relatives or friends so on) is a herculean task. Brothers and Sisters, it is in our struggle to forgive others with humility and to be content with what we are—children of God, loved and cared for by Him—that’s the true identity) and what we have, and in our often less-than-successful attempts to imitate the attitude of Jesus, we reflect the face of God to our near and far world.

What is the “rock” that we, the adults (parents, teachers and significant others) give to our young people — “a rock they can stand on in life which nothing can demolish”? Don’t you think that the rock to be given to the Y and Z generations is the strong and close relationship with God and His immortal values and especially this time the world is in the clutches of fear, terrorism, violence, intolerance and hatred?

God’s blessings, Fr. Vince

Let us pray for the children of our parish
who will be receiving their
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
on 9th Sept at 5:30pm, 10th Sept at 11:45am,
and 17th Sept at 11:45am.
Let us keep them and their families
in our thoughts and prayers.

*If you have the prayer card of a particular child, please drop your letter of encouragement for that child in the box in the foyer by next weekend (2/3 September). Thank you!!!

COME AND LOOK AT OUR PIETY STALL

Beautiful items are available at our piety stall for First Communion, as well as lovely gift items for Baptism, Confirmation, even anniversaries and birthdays! The stall is open after the 8am and 10am Sunday Masses, and during sacrament preparation sessions. For special orders, please contact Sandra on 0413272400.



FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

(BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY)

The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal, *The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy*, is held on Father's Day each year to support the Foundation. It is hoped to raise \$200,000 each year through this appeal.

Last year, through your generosity we reached the target with donations totalling \$205,000 and the Foundation thanks you for this contribution. This year the appeal in the Diocese will be held at the Masses **next weekend, September 2-3**.

A third collection will be held on this weekend at each Mass. Special envelopes will be available and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you wish to claim a tax deduction, please tick the box and write your details clearly on the envelope. Appeal envelopes will be available next week for those who will not be here on the Father's Day weekend. If you wish you can make online contributions at csfparra.org.au using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference your name, and send e-mail to csf@parra.catholic.org.au with your details so receipts can be sent, which we usually do in January. Thank you!!!

Do you know anyone who has expressed interest in exploring and **embracing the Catholic faith**?
Would they perhaps like to **ask a few questions** before committing to any formation program?
Please let them know that Fr Vincent would love to **have a chat** with them. Just ring the office—96542260—to organise a time.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1497.60

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$ 1311 **Loose** = \$ 1269.75

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$1935

TOTAL = \$ 4515.75 (target = \$5577)

Thank you for your generosity!

If you donate to the parish and have recently changed your credit card, please phone the parish office on 96542260.

Congratulations to
Sienna Teresa Jacobs, Amelia Tomasic
Egan Howell, and Owen Howell
as they receive the
Sacrament of Baptism this weekend!



The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **2nd September** at **4:30-5:30pm** at the St Joseph Centre.

To book, please call the parish office on 96542260.

Baptisms are held on the 4th Sunday of every month at 11:20, or within the Mass at 10am on other Sundays.

Are you thinking of becoming a catechist?

There will be a SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE) TRAINING COURSE beginning on 28th August, Monday, at Emu Plains. For more details, please ring Maureen Jones on 0419512252.

It's time to share your faith ...

As you leave today, PLEASE SIGN

PETITION to oppose the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017

"... We are particularly concerned that this bill or similar legislation poses a particular danger to the frail, aged, sick, mentally-impaired, vulnerable, and disabled in our state. We do not believe that such legislation can create and enforce safeguards. It is simply not possible to provide guarantees against potential abuse and exploitation of such laws as demonstrated in jurisdictions where assisted suicide and euthanasia have already been legalised..."

Let us continue to pray for our application
to build our long-awaited church!

May the Lord bless our plans
and dreams!



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Neville Moodie, Phyllis Dodd,
and Victor Rustia,

For other dearly departed

Giuseppe Lamacchia, Virginia Grieci,
Sarah Murray, Benito and Feliciano Sabellano,
Vincenzina Americano, Keith Byrne,
Norman and Chahide Hajje, Sheaddy and Chahid Hajje,
Hanna and Raymond Chiha, Mary Merhi,
Youssef and Emily Maait

For healing of the sick

Teresa Masiello, Ivan Ceccato, Johann, Joe Gelonesi,
Desmond Grogan, Louise, Tony, Vanessa, Ben Johnson,
Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, Harriett Rogers, John Donnelly,
Louise Lambert, Rosanna Ceroli, Charlie, Frank Tabone,
John Lippman, Donard Doyle, Sarah Bilford Beattie,
Giuseppi Grasso, Faye Willing, Annabelle, Patrick,
Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths,
Catherine Bourke, Christy Sherlock, Tina, Marie, Joe,
Charles Vencyel, Maisie Hughes, and Christine Wilson.



"CHILD MIGRANTS, THE VULNERABLE AND THE VOICELESS"

(Message from Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen
for Migrant & Refugee Week; 21st-27th August)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pope Francis has chosen the theme, "Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless", for the 103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on the last Sunday of August 2017.

Pope Francis reminds us that, "Migration today is not a phenomenon limited to some areas of the planet. It affects all continents and is growing into a tragic situation of global proportions. Not only does this concern those looking for dignified work or better living conditions, but also men and women, the elderly and children, who are forced to leave their homes in the hope of finding safety, peace and security.
(Pope Francis, Message 2017) ...

Whenever we speak about children and child migration, we must always remind ourselves and declare that the best interests of the child must always come first. Where children can flourish the most is first and foremost within their own families. Therefore, when migrant and refugee children come to Australia attention needs to be paid to assisting parents and helping them to settle and integrate into Australia. By helping families, children will have the best possible chance of succeeding in their new home ...

Unaccompanied children migrants are an increasing phenomenon within parts of the world due to instability and conflict. These children are particularly vulnerable to extortion, kidnapping, threats, forced labour, and even sexual exploitation... Pope Francis reminds us of the stark reality that, "the most powerful force driving the exploitation and abuse of children is demand. If more rigorous and effective action is not taken against those who profit from such abuse, we will not be able to stop the multiple forms of slavery where children are the victims..."

We need to raise awareness of those issues which face vulnerable, and particularly trafficked children. We cannot remain silent. Raising awareness and as a community bringing about concrete change will help child migrants in all situations grow and flourish...

Issues of the Catholic Weekly are available in the foyer for \$2 each.



OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON "SAME-SEX MARRIAGE" ANNOUNCED

The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include "same-sex marriage". Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to www.aec.gov.au/enrol/ before the cut-off date of Thursday, 24 August. Vote No, to keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man.
(from the Diocese of Parramatta)

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta: HIGH SUPPORT NEEDS CLASSES

Kirinari, Xavier College, Llandilo Wiyanga, St Patrick's Marist College Dundas are accepting enrolments. Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta provides an inclusive education for students, recognising that some students with a moderate intellectual disability may need additional support. High support needs classes provide students with an alternate platform that addresses their learning needs. Direct enquiries to Alma George, Manager Diverse Learning Needs, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta on 0407233622 or Alma.George@parra.catholic.edu.au by Wednesday 30 August 2017.

OLMC PARRAMATTA OPEN MORNING TOUR

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team. The College is now enrolling for 2019. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can become a Mercy Girl.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

All Married couples are invited to celebrate their Wedding Anniversary with other couples and family members at the 11am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta on Sunday, 24th September, 2017. The Very Rev Bishop Vincent Long will celebrate the Mass and will host a light lunch following Mass. Please contact your Parish Secretary to register your names by 18th September, 2017; or call the Life Marriage & Family Office on ph. 8838 3460 or email lmf@parra.catholic.org.au

SILENT RETREAT

Discover the "Treasure in Earthen Vessels", through a guided silent retreat given by the Verbum Dei Missionaries: Friday 22nd September (6pm) - Sunday, 24th Sept (2pm finish) in Bowral. For more information contact Kylie 0403453620 or verbumdeisydney@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed

Kimberley Catholic Volunteer Service: The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church in the Kimberley. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months. We are currently seeking volunteers for the Balgo, Bidadanga and Warmun for the wet season. Accommodation and food is provided. For further details on how to be a part of this unique experience, and an application form, please contact: Volunteer Coordinator: Anneliese Rohr 08 9192 1060 Email: volunteers@broomedioocese.org Web: www.broomedioocese.org

Great hearts, generous hearts, are required in the family of God's Heart, because the difficulties in the way of doing good increase day by day.
-St Madeleine Sophie

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo
Eucharistic Ministers Coordinator:
Eileen Sherlock
Music Coordinators:
Barbara Mathias and Joan Sattler
Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin
Baptism Preparation: Angeliqe Easton
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry
Playgroup Coordinator: Grainne Barker
SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones
Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo

Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator:
Peter Balnaves
Property Maintenance Manager: Dan Doyle
Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone
Altar Linen Coordinator: Pat Brush
Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Michael Parslow

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest:
Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Parish Secretary:
Lisa Echevarria

Sacramental Coordinator
Sally Coppini

St Madeleine's Primary School

Phone: 9654 6751
Principal: Mrs Jeanette Black

Marian College
Phone: 9654 6700
Principal: Mrs Jayne Campbell

St Vincent de Paul 1800 606 724

Parish Services

Weekend Masses:
Saturday 5.30pm
(Eucharistic Adoration at 4:45)
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00 am, 5.30pm

Children's Liturgy

10am Mass during School terms

Weekday Masses:
9:15, Tuesdays to Fridays

Playgroup –Tue 9:00am
at St Joseph Centre during school terms
Prayer Group: Wednesdays after the
9.15 am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm
Baptisms: Every 4th Sunday at 11:20,
or during 10am Masses
Weddings: By appointment

Popular Dr Selina Leow and Dr Darren Calleja

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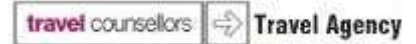
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Adult cost: \$4800 / Children 5-11 years cost: \$3900
For full itinerary information or to book please contact:

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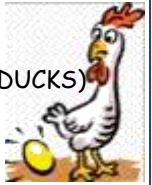
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THIS WEEK		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Rose & Ian McMichael	Helen Ross
	ACOLYTE	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Neil John	Jhun Javier
	READERS	Maria Aiossa Colleen Dunlop	Catherine Diekman Kay Brooks	Amira Campo Justin Sebire	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Trisha Keating	Gerda Doherty Frances Sanders	Ann & Mark Lee	Gael Carpani Bev Hermens
	JUN MINISTERS	Jasmine & Olivia Kenna	Johnny Polifroni	Lorena Campo Maya McMichael	Kiane Claps Clarissa Vumbaca
	MUSICIANS	Lance	Joan and David	Merle	Youth Group
COUNTERS	(29 Aug) Belle Craig and Sandra Tabone		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Deb Rankin	

2/3 SEPTEMBER	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Margaret Thornton	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Lesley & Rick Gangemi
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS	St Mads Primary	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Deb Rankin Jacqui Nisbet	Margaret Foley & Gael Carpani
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Bob Burke Marian Piper	Pauline McAlary Teresa Barisic
	JUN MINISTERS	Akash Arnold Monica Bruggeling	Sarah Eastman Olivia Easton	Christian Santelmann Christian Maait	Josh Fogarty Tiago Gregory
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby, Matt, and Mark	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(5 Sept) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Sandra Tabone		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Ann Marie Duncan
	FLOWERS	Ann Langham; arrgd by Joy Rogers & Carmel Heinrich		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio