



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

28 Annangrove Rd, Kenthurst, NSW 2156

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www.stmadeleine.org.au

Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



**32nd Sunday
in Ordinary Time
12th November 2017**
Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

-Benjamin Franklin



"It's mine and you can't have it." How often did we say those words as children, or worse, how often as adults do we still say them? They express control and selfishness. At first blush, it appears that this is the message being conveyed by the wise virgins in our Gospel today. In that Gospel we are told that there were five wise virgins and five foolish virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. *"The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps."* When the bridegroom arrived, *"all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No for there may not be enough for us and you.'"*

Were the wise virgins being selfish in not sharing some of their oil? In order to answer this question, we need to remember that parables were simple stories that Jesus used to tell us something about God or about our relationship with God. They were not meant to be taken literally. From this perspective the question, then, is what Jesus was trying to tell us in this parable. Well, I would suggest that Jesus was telling us that some things cannot be acquired at the last minute, and one very specific thing that cannot be obtained at the last minute is a relationship with God. At the end of our lives we can't turn to the person next to us and ask them for some of their relationship with God. We need to plan ahead and work throughout our lives to develop our relationship with God. (Fr. Bauer). As Christopher Parker says, "Procrastination is like a credit card; it's a lot of fun until you get the bill".

There is an old story of a jester who sometimes made very wise utterances. One day, the jester had said something so foolish that the king, handing him a staff, said to him, 'Take this, and keep it till you find a bigger fool than yourself.'

Some years later, the king was very ill, and lay on his deathbed. His courtiers were called; his family and his servants also stood round his bedside. The king, addressing them, said, 'I am about to leave you. I am going on a very long journey, and I shall not return again to this place: so I have called you all to say "Goodbye"'. Then his jester stepped forward and, addressing the king, said, 'Your Majesty, may I ask a question? When you journeyed abroad visiting your people, staying with your nobles, or paying diplomatic visits to other courts, your heralds and servants always went before you, making preparations for you. May I ask what preparations your Majesty has made for this long journey that he is about to take?' 'Alas! Replied the king, 'I have made no preparations.' 'Then,' said the jester, 'take this staff with you, for now I have found a bigger fool than myself.'



Are we vigilant or alert in preparing ourselves for the end of our times? Today's parable gives us the answer: The best way to prepare for the end is to follow the example of the wise virgins. The wise virgins took enough oil to keep their lamps burning. In the same way we should engage and persevere in good works to keep our faith alive in building our relationship with God and the community at large. That is the best way to make ourselves ready and prepared for the Lord, no matter when the Lord chooses to come.

God's blessings, Fr. Vince



Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults

The RCIA Journey has begun!

You are invited to share in the journey of members of our community and to learn more about our faith. We meet every **Wednesday at 7:15 pm in the St Joseph Centre.**

NEXT TOPIC (14th November): God in the Old Testament



Thanksgiving gathering for all parish volunteers

All volunteers from all the ministries are invited to attend a supper on **Friday, 17 November, 7pm** at the St Joseph Centre. Let us come together to meet other parishioners from the other Masses, to enjoy each other's company, and to simply give thanks for the hearts of service we are blessed with.

For catering purposes, please write your name on the sign-up sheet or ring the office (96542260) to indicate your attendance by **Wednesday, 15 November.**

Parish Working Bee

25 November, Saturday, from 8am

If you can spare an hour or so on this date, we could really use your help. This annual working bee is always a fun time to meet people, tidy up the church and its surroundings, clean around the parish house, get the church ready for Advent and Christmas, and then sit for a well-deserved cuppa! Sign-up sheets are in the foyer. See you there!

26 November, Sunday, 10am

At the 10am Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, we will be joined by the **SRE students of our local state schools.** They will take part in our parade of flags and the various parts of the Mass. Please come to share this wonderful day with them.

We will also have the **Children's Liturgy Christmas Party!** All children are invited to attend!

After Mass, we would like to invite everyone to take part in our **International Morning Tea.** You are invited to share a plate of something from your country of origin. Please write down what you will bring on the sheet in the foyer. SEE YOU THERE!!!

Christmas Goodies for sale! (25/26 November)

Watch for our delicious Christmas fruit cakes, fruit mince pies, and family apple pies!
Proceeds will go to our various parish ministries.

Friendship Group Healing Mass and Christmas luncheon for retired parishioners.

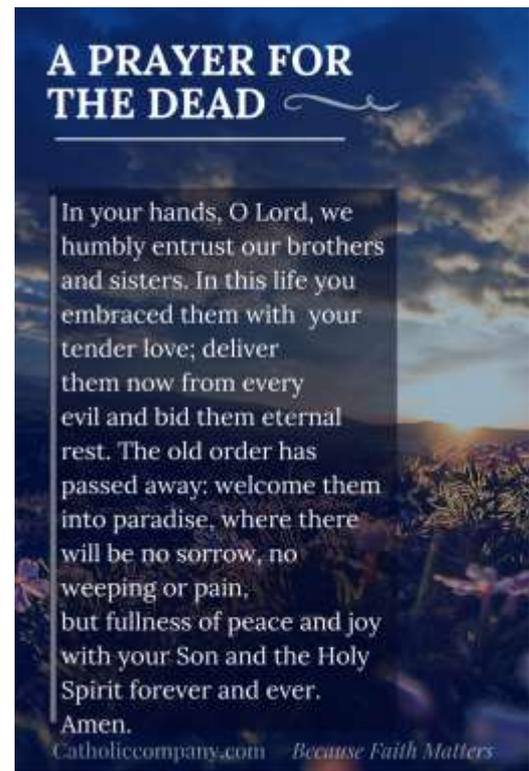
All retired parishioners are invited to this annual event, to be held on **Thursday, 30th November at 12nn.**

Please RSVP by 23rd November.

(Jenny - 96513330, Lesley - 96792022, ofc - 96542260)

Throughout the month of November, we pray and offer all our Masses for all our dearly departed, especially those mentioned in our Remembrance Book.

*Eternal rest grant upon them Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Marjorie Etherington

For healing of the sick

Ivan Ceccato, Dan Doyle, Tony Virgona, Bernadette McLoughlin, Karen Bligh, Elizabeth Graby, Marlon Sabellano Alumios, Teresa Masiello, Johann, Joe Gelonesi, Desmond Grogan, Louise, 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, Giuseppe 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.



For the special intentions of

Darryl Stuart Jon Armstrong, Emily Johnston, David Stuart Armstrong, Judy-Ann Addison Armstrong, Joan Addison, and John Addison



The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **2nd December** at **4:30-5:30pm** at the St Joseph Centre. To book, please call the parish office on 96542260.

(Baptism dates for 2017—19 November, 10 December)

St Madeleine's Kenthurst Gala Dinner

Preparations are underway for our fundraising event for our new church!

If you have any ideas for the evening — prizes, donations, sponsorships, etc — we would love to have you at the next planning meeting on Tuesday, 14th Nov, 7:30pm at the St Joseph Centre.



Let us continue to pray for our application to build our long-awaited church! May the Lord bless our dreams and plans!

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION APPEAL

We are pleased to announce the launch of The Catholic Foundation next weekend (18 & 19 November), when it will officially replace the Diocesan Works Fund as the central charity for the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta.

The Catholic Foundation will support the Seminary, CCD, the Ephpheta Centre and Catholic Care.

In support of The Catholic Foundation, our Parish will be holding a special collection next weekend. Appeal Envelopes will be provided at the Masses, and we invite all Parishioners to support the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta, by coming prepared and giving generously to The Catholic Foundation Appeal next weekend.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv statement on Manus Island

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop Delegate for Migrants and Refugees has issued a statement on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, following the closure of the Manus Island Centre. He states: "The policy of offshore detention has failed and it is time for us to deal with the issue of asylum seekers and refugees according to this nation's proud tradition and the best nature of its citizens. We can do a whole lot better, just as we did welcome "those who've come across the seas" after the wars in Europe and in Southeast Asia. The concern for maritime border security does not have to make us into a mean-spirited people. The policy of offshore detention has cost Australia dearly. But it has cost the detainees and their families even more. I appeal to the government and political leaders to act in accordance with our honourable tradition. It is time to find an alternative and conscionable solution, including accepting New Zealand's offer of resettlement and bringing the remaining detainees on Manus Island to Australia for further processing."



OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

OLMC PARRAMATTA OPEN MORNING TOUR

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, November 15, 2017- the last tour of the year.

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.

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.

HEALTH CARERS AND THE ASSISTED DYING BILL 2017

The proposed legislation to legalise assisted suicide and euthanasia will be debated in the Parliament of New South Wales on the 16 November. A similar bill has passed the Lower House in the Victorian Parliament. Such changes will place at risk the most vulnerable patients as well as undermining the relationship between patients and Healthcare Professionals which is based on trust and mutual respect. Rather than the legalisation of assisted suicide and euthanasia all Doctors, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals are asked to let your Members of Parliament know that you support increased access to better aged care and mental health services, disabilities assistance and excellent palliative care.

There is an open letter against the legalisation of assisted suicide and a petition which has been organised by concerned healthcare professionals. You are asked to add your name to their petition by going to the link: www.healthprofessionalsayno.info

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE OF GALBERT ALBINO: 25 NOVEMBER

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe with the Rite of Ordination to the Diaconate of Galbert Albino on Saturday 25 November 2017 at 6.00pm. The ordination will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes 2145. Light refreshments to follow. RSVP by 17 November 2017: For catering purposes please RSVP to parish secretary tel (02) 9631 8135, parishoffice@olqp.org.au.

VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS INFO SESSION: 29 NOVEMBER

Palms Australia is looking for people - such as teachers, health and community development workers - to volunteer in Catholic communities all over the world to mentor workers in their fields of expertise. Australian donors cover your costs and outstanding support is provided through the church's single biggest global volunteer mission agency. Information Session on Wednesday November 29, 5:45 - 7:00 pm. More information: www.palms.org.au/projects/.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL PILGRIMAGE MAY 2018

The 14-day pilgrimage is led by Fr. Peter D'souza from Broken Bay Cathedral, departing on 28th of May, 2018, featuring Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Meteora for an all-inclusive early-bird offer of \$5,690. To avail the early bird offer you can reserve your seats with an initial deposit of \$1000. This offer ends on 15th December, 2017. For further details or any queries please feel free to call Magi Pilgrimages on 03 8562 2246 or email: pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1565.35

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$ 2352.30 Loose = \$ 989.25

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$1935

TOTAL = \$ 5276.55 (target = \$5577)

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

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo

Music Coordinators:

Barbara Mathias and Joan Sattler

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin

Baptism Preparation: Angelique 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

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

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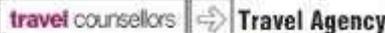
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Santiago de Compostela St James,
Lisbon the Hieronymite Monastery & Belém Tower.
Adult cost: \$4800 / Children 5-11 years cost: \$3900
For full itinerary information or to book please contact:

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E: deborah.bartolo@travelcounsellors.com.au
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		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
THIS WEEK	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina
	ACOLYTE	Vince Luca	Neil John	Phillys Hannah	Joe Touma
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Gerry McArdle Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	Youth Group
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Colleen Dunlop Maria Aiossa	Pat Lynch Tricia Spencer	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	JUN MINISTERS	Tara Coddington	Vincent Macdonald Henry Macdonald	Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Ellyse & Edward Noy
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(14 Nov) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
18/19 NOV	WELCOMERS	Judith Gauci	Maria & Steve Fry	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Margaret & Michael Foley
	ACOLYTE	Len Gauci	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli CareyAnne Moylan	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Lesley Gangemi Janelle Bawden
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Jack McNeil Patrick McNeil	Luke Masiello Sam Coddington	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, Matt & JMJ	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(21 November) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
FLOWERS	Denis Secco arr by Mari Gregory & Maureen Meryment		ALTAR LINEN		Barbara Madafiglio