



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

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www.stmadeleine.org.au

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



30th December 2018
Feast of the Holy Family



Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2: 41-52

“A happy family is but an earlier heaven.” —George Bernard Shaw

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I believe you had a joyful celebration of Christmas with family and friends! I pray that we may continue to sustain the spirit of joy and love all through our days. We are about to say goodbye to the year 2018. Thankfully we lift our praises to God for having blessed us in unimaginable ways even in the midst of pain, loss and problems which are but part of our lives. On the last Sunday of the year, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family which reminds us that as the basic unit of the society and of the universal Church, each family is called to be ‘salt of the earth’ and ‘light of the world’. I would like to give you the thoughts of John Littleton on this feast day.

The family is universally regarded as the nucleus or basic unit of society, whether secular or religious. It provides the foundation for the introduction of individual human beings to the wider community and society. Thus the family acts as a buffer or intermediary between individuals and the groups they join. This is why the family is important.

There are different understandings of what exactly the human family is and how it is structured. Traditionally, at least in Western civilization, the family has been defined as a group of persons who are related by marriage or blood and which typically includes a mother, father and children. The group lives and works together for the common good of all the members and the relationships between members are central — the family offering security and support which nurtures the self-esteem and appreciates the dignity of each member.

Therefore, the family transmits a sense of belonging and its values to the members. The specifically Catholic understanding of the family maintains that the marriage between one woman and one man, which is at its core, is a sacrament which is celebrated and lived for life. Not surprisingly, then, marriage is regarded as being permanent and indissoluble.

However, there are many broken marriages in our society where one spouse and the children live apart from and are sometimes unsupported by the other spouse. Consequently, some children are reared in homes in which the father or the mother is absent or only occasionally present because of separation or divorce. Some family structures are made even more complicated by second or subsequent relationships which are now a common feature of society. The number of single-parent (that is, unmarried as distinct from widowed) families continues to increase. Sometimes children may not be aware of their father’s identity. Obviously these family units are not within the parameters of the traditional family image.



A multitude of factors contributes to this changing situation. Life in modern society is particularly stressful. There is a general acknowledgement of society’s increased demands on the family unit and the resulting increase in anxiety levels. Economic factors such as unemployment and poverty contribute immensely to the pressures on family stability, while emigration compels families to separate.

There are also contributing social factors. High levels of violence result in court convictions and prison sentences which threaten family structures and relationships. Domestic violence in its various forms — physical, mental and emotional — has devastating effects on most family members. Certain groups within society, such as the homeless and short-term fostered, rarely experience continuous family living. Others, perhaps through personal choice or because of their age or state of health or vocation, live alone or in community groups. In addition, religious faith is increasingly less important in the lives of many people.



There is an urgent need to renew family life. Research indicates that, when family members live together in harmony, the home provides the best environment for both social and faith development. That is why the family home may be accurately described as the domestic church. We read in Luke’s Gospel that, in the family home in Nazareth, Jesus ‘increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour’ (Luke 2:52) with God and other people. On the Feast of the Holy Family we pray and work for the renewal of family life in our Church and in society.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND GOD’S BLESSINGS!

Fr. Vince



You are invited to Mass on Tuesday,
1st January at 9:00am, in celebration of the
Feast of Mary, Mother of God
Come start the new year in celebration
as a community!

**Our daily 9:15 Masses (Tues-Fri) resume on
Wednesday, 2nd January. See you there!**

If you are interested in pledging an item for the new church, please ring the office—96542260—to have a chat with Fr Vince, or send an email to stmads@yahoo.com.au. Thank you for your generosity!



THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

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

- ◇ Asia Bibi still strong
- ◇ Cathedral gets an Armenian gift
- ◇ Summer Reading guide
- ◇ Charged for their faith
- ◇ Movie review: *They Shall Not Grow Old*

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the dearly departed

James Leo Houston, Michael I Dunnion, Frenk Piperata, Domenico Piperata, Annino Piperata, Setna & Jim Mulvihill, Helena & Joseph Culligan and the deceased of the Mulvihill and Culligan families, Karen Draddy, Felician Sabellano, Pietro Ceccato, Jed Manning, the Ferraro family, Antonio Ceroli, AnnaMaria "Mary" Spina, the deceased of the Portelli and Buttigieg family, Aidan Bradley, Aldo Joseph Tallon, Rosa Trinsledi, Paul Spina, Giuseppe Vumbaca, Salvatore Murdocca, Maria Rosa Murdocca, Raffaele Murdocca, Ross Arico, Norman & Chahade Hajje, Sheaddy & Chahade Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Mary Merhi, and Eddy Takchi



For healing of the sick

4-mo old Florence Smith, Maria, Tricia, Rob, Michael Foley, Trish Takahashi, Samuel Abella, Doris Mendoza Quiroz, Harper Grace, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Anis Nicholas, Peter Balnaves, June, Dorothy Green, Pat D, Neil Rogers, Karen Bligh, Marlon Sabellano Alumios, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Vanessa, Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Sarah Bilford Beattie, Giuseppe Grasso, Faye Willing, Annabelle, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Christy Sherlock, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo	Playgroup Coordinator: Grainne Barker	Property Maintenance Manager: Angelo Roia
Music Coordinator: Alexandra Mifsud	SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones	Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone
Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil	Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo	Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin	Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator: Peter Balnaves/Suzanne Kingston-Hunt	Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton	Adult Faith Formation: Careyanne Moylan	Finance Committee Chair: Michael Parslow
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry		

THIS WEEKEND		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Teresa Capaldi John & Maureen Burford	Michelle & John Romeo
	ACOLYTE	Len Gauci		Phyllis Hannah	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Mary Sammut Paul Cashman	Eileen Sherlock Gerry McArdle	AnnMarie Duncan Marietta Nesci	Simmy Cesamolo Jenny Naglic
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Kathy White Eileen Sherlock	Sandra Tabone Sue Martin	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	JUN MINISTERS	Monica & Dom Bruggeling		James Whittle	Thomas & James Barker
	MUSICIANS	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, & Matt	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	*****		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
FLOWERS	Denis Secco, arr'd by Mari & Maureen		ALTAR LINEN	Frances Sanders	

5/6 JANUARY 2019	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Lesley & Rick Gangemi
	ACOLYTE		Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Jacqui Nisbet Trish Maidens	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Marian Piper CareyAnne Moylan	Tereza Barisic
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima Emilie Mifsud	Olivia Easton	Christian Maait	Tiago Gregory Elizabeth Cauchi
	MUSICIANS		Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, & Matt	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	Frank & Ivana Valencic		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
	FLOWERS	*****		ALTAR LINEN	Frances Sanders

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this country on which we worship