



St Madeleine

Sophie Barat Parish

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www.stmadeleine.org.au

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



27th January 2019

**Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO BE COMPASSIONATE. YOU MUST ACT.

– The Dalai Lama

The story is told about an old man who was asked: “At your age, what would you prefer, Parkinson’s or Alzheimer’s?” He said: “I’d rather have Parkinson’s. Better to spill half of my wine than to forget where I kept the bottle!” Many of us go through life vacillating between commitment and selfishness. Human as we are, we often hold back, calculate, and play safe. This is where the Holy Spirit can empower us, if we only allow Him. Perhaps if we allowed the Holy Spirit to work in us more, we would be less selfish, and live more committed lives.



In today’s Gospel (Lk. 1, 1-4; 14-21), Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the spirit, fully aware of who He was, and fully committed to His mission in life. Jesus had neither Parkinson’s nor Alzheimer’s when it came to His person and purpose in life. Neither fear nor praise prevented Him from fulfilling His mission, the mission of



liberating the people at all levels. The good news to the poor is that they don’t have to accept poverty as a virtue, but have to do something to free themselves from the clutches of poverty. There are churches and organisations trying to empower the poor, the downtrodden, and the oppressed, involving them in projects that will raise their dignity and give them a sense of self-worth. Jesus in his keynote address speaks about the freedom of the captives. The captives do not necessarily refer to those in prison or detention centres, but people imprisoned by fear, enslaved by drink, drugs, money, status, prejudices, self-destructive attitudes, a wrong image of God and what real religion is all about etc. God’s preferential option for the poor and the marginalized and those who have little status in society is the key revelation of the gospel of this Sunday.

Jesus invites us to think differently, radically. It is a revolutionary call and not a call to private piety or simple good deed-doing. It is grounded in the Exodus experience – empowering slaves to claim their freedom and walk out of Egypt. The Greek word translated as ‘oppressed’ literally means ‘shattered’. It evokes images of asylum seekers in both on-shore and off-shore detention centres and of the hundreds of thousands of people displaced by typhoons and cyclones. It evokes the pain of the Earth itself and the other-than-human inhabitants of our planet, suffering the effects of climate change and ecological destruction. If the gospel message is to be well-grounded in our times, the ‘destitute’ and ‘shattered’ of our Earth community must find the ‘release’ of which the gospel speaks.

A disciple came up to his Master and said, “I am a wealthy man and have just come into a large fortune. How best can I use it so it will redound to my spiritual benefit?” Said the Master, “Come back after a week and I shall give you an answer.”

When he returned, the Master said with a sigh, “I am at a loss what to say to you. If I tell you to give it to your friends and relatives, it will do you no spiritual good. If I tell you to give it to the temple, you will only feed the avarice of the priests. And if I tell you to give it to the poor, you will take pride in your charity and fall into the sin of self-righteousness.” Since the disciple pressed the Master for an answer, he finally said, “Give the money to the poor. At least they will benefit from it, even though you will not.”

If you do not serve, you injure others. If you do, you injure yourself. Ignorance of this dilemma is the death of the soul. Freedom from this dilemma is eternal life. (Source duly acknowledged).

God’s blessings,

Fr. Vince

**NO ONE IS
FREE WHEN
OTHERS ARE
OPRESSED**

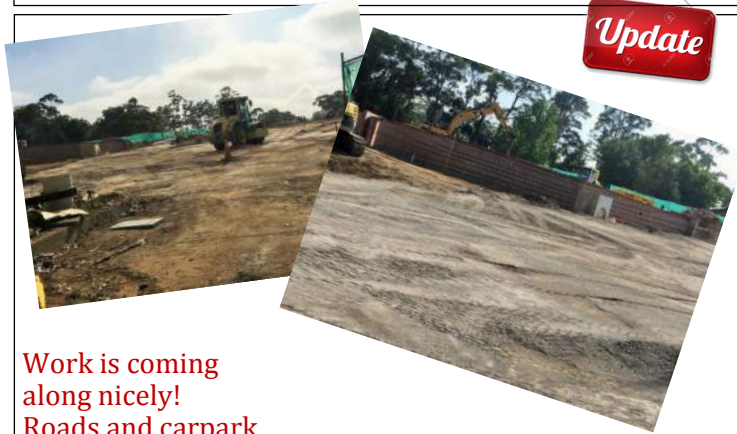
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PICTUREQUEST

“Catholic schools prepare every student to meet the challenges of their future by developing their mind, yes, but also their body and their soul and spirit” . David Vitter

The countdown has begun as schools are preparing to welcome back the students and teachers for the year 2019. Welcome to St Mad's Primary and Marian College! May it be a year for the students to empower themselves and reach their potential with the quality support of the teachers, and of course the challenges lying ahead of them! I invite all the families to involve themselves in all the activities of the parish and the school so as to make God's Kingdom a reality in our midst. With your cooperation and your generosity, we will have a new church before the third term of this year. United, let us build up our community in faith, love and justice!

~Fr.Vince



Work is coming along nicely! Roads and carpark will be open soon!

- ◇ If you are interested in pledging an item or contributing financial assistance 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!
- ◇ If you have any questions about the construction, please feel free to ring Angelo Roia on 98991948, or email the construction committee: stmadsconstruction@gmail.com

Mass for the Newly-baptised and New Families on Sunday, 10th February at 10am!

Please attend to welcome the families who had children baptised in 2018 and families that registered to become part of our parish in 2018!
Special morning tea to follow!
Please bring a plate to share.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1269

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$ 2009.30 **Loose** = \$ 951.80

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2107

TOTAL = \$ 5068.10 (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!

Let us offer our prayers for Nicholas Carlino and Lily Anne McMahon as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend!

BAPTISM PREPARATION:

The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **2nd February at 4:30-5:30pm**

at the St Joseph Centre.

To book, please call the parish office on 96542260. Thank you.



RCIA talks to resume on Wednesday, 6th February at 7pm



Everyone is welcome to join the **CHRIST'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP.**

They meet every Wednesday morning in the chapel after the 9:15 Mass.

For more information ring Pauline Camilleri, 0407 417 039

Mark your calendars for the NORTHERN DEANERY ST PATRICK'S DAY PICNIC on 17th March, Sunday, at 11:30am in the school oval!

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Gloria Gotauco, Hayley Gangemi

For the dearly departed

Patrick Joseph Bradley Snr, Domenico Papandrea, Estela & Alfonso Juanengo, deceased of the Pintado family, deceased of the Cartwright family, Marcello Pellizzon and family, Ubaldo Turcato and family, Francesco & Filomena Corcoglioniti, Caterina Musso, and Ivan Ceccato

For healing of the sick

Patrick Breen, Jacqueline Kelly, 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



There was once a hard-working and generous farmer who had several idle and greedy sons. On his deathbed he told them that they would find his treasure if they were to dig in a certain field. As soon as the old man was dead, the sons hurried to the fields, which they dug up from one end to another, with increasing desperation and concentration when they did not find the gold in the place indicated.

But they found no gold at all. Realizing that in his generosity their father must have given his gold away during his lifetime, they abandoned their search. Finally, it occurred to them that, since the land had been prepared they might as well now sow a crop. They planted wheat, which produced an abundant yield. They sold this crop and prospered that year.

After the harvest was in, the sons thought again about the bare possibility that they might have missed the buried gold, so they again dug up the fields, with the same result. After several years they became accustomed to labor, and to the cycle of the seasons, something which they had not understood before.



Now they understood the reason for their father's method of training them, and they became honest and contented farmers. Ultimately, they found themselves possessed of sufficient wealth and no longer to wonder about the hidden hoard.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

POSITIONS VACANT

Parish Office Manager (Part-Time) – Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes

More details at: www.olqp.org.au

Head of Social Services Operations – CatholicCare Social Services

More details at: www.ccss.org.au

FOLLOW OUR PILGRIMS ATTENDING WORLD YOUTH DAY PANAMA!

The Diocese's World Youth Day 2019 will take place 15 January to 1 February 2019. The Diocese of Parramatta has 171 pilgrims attending. Please remember pray for the pilgrims. Follow the pilgrim's progress online at parrawyd.org

WORLD YOUTH DAY IN-SYNC: 27 JANUARY

Catholic Youth Parramatta and the St Patrick's Cathedral Community invite families, friends and supporters of the Panama pilgrims to WYD2019 IN-SYNC. Sunday 27 January, 6pm Mass followed by food, music and original video footage from pilgrims in Panama. 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. RSVP by 22 January, Fr Paul Roberts connect@ifm.org.au or 9296 6369.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH, UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS: 10 FEBRUARY

We will be celebrating a special Mass on Sunday 10 February in Spanish. The Mass will take place at St Canice's Church, Katoomba at 12.00 pm, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL: 15-17 FEBRUARY

Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Parramatta is holding a "Restoring Reverence" event. From Friday 15 – Sunday 17 February at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. Further information can be obtained on 0404 093 118 or 0425 607 227. Entry by donation, Children's Ministry available, coffee and tea provided, BYO lunch.

COUNCIL FOR AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN: 22-24 FEBRUARY

The Council for Australian Catholic Women warmly invite you to join us on 22-24 February in Adelaide for our 2019 Colloquium. Everyone is welcome to attend the Colloquium and we hope women from across Australia will attend this important event. Details at cacwcolloquium.org.au.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Submissions to Plenary Council 2020 close on Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019. YOUR voice matters! Make a personal submission now or join a small group. Our question is for everyone: "What you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" To make a submission or to find out more visit: parracatholic.org/haveyoursayplenary2020/

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

9:15am - 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

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

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

- ◇ Sydney Youth, March for Life
- ◇ Jesus, the Bomb & J. Robert Oppenheimer
- ◇ Pill testing—For and Against
- ◇ Monica Doumit: We won't be silent
- ◇ Movie review: *The Kid who would be King*
- ◇ The Champion Way

Prayer should be
our support;
the relief of our hope.

-St Madeleine Sophie

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo

Music Coordinator: Alexandra Mifsud

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/Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

Adult Faith Formation: Careyanne Moylan

Property Maintenance Manager: Angelo Roia

Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone

Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman

Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle

Finance Committee Chair: Michael Parslow

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THIS WEEKEND		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Amira & John Campo	Helen Ross
	ACOLYTE	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Neil John	Jhun Javier
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Justin Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders Kay Brooks	Amira Campo Careyanne Moylan	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Dianne Millington Anne Kyngdon	Frances Sanders Margaret Steele	Sandra Tabone Adriana Kennedy	Tereza Barisic Trish Maidens
	JUN MINISTERS	Annabelle & Matilda Rogers Addison Bayly-Pike	Patrick McNeil	Lorena Campo	James Barker
	MUSICIANS	Lisa J	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(29 Jan) Paul Vella and Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
FLOWERS	Linda Boffo-Pellizzer		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio	

2/3 FEBRUARY	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Rick & Lesley Gangemi
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Adriana Kennedy Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Deb & Paul Copperfield	Careyanne Moylan Bob Burke	Lesley Gangemi Gael Carpani
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima Emilie & Keira Mifsud	Olivia Easton	Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	MUSICIANS	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, & Matt	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(5 Feb) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	FLOWERS	Linda Boffo-Pellizzer		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio