



**St Madeleine**  
Sophie Barat Parish

28 Annangrove Rd, Kenthurst, NSW 2156  
Ph: 96542260, Fax: 96542261, Email: stmads@yahoo.com.au  
www.stmadeleine.org.au  
Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



**1st December 2019**  
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

**“Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.”**  
Matthew 24: 37-44

## The Meaning is in the Waiting

As well as being a theologian, Paula Gooder is also a mum. She weaves those two perspectives together in her book *The Meaning Is in the Waiting*:

“As I waited for the birth of my baby, I discovered that waiting can be a nurturing time, valuable in its own right. Until then, I had assumed that waiting could only be passive, that it involved sitting around, drumming my fingers, completely powerless to do anything until the moment of waiting passed and I could be active again. How wrong I was. The waiting of pregnancy is about as active an occupation as one can hope to engage in . . .

“One of the other things I learned during pregnancy was that learning to savour the time of waiting allows us also to appreciate the event when it comes. The loss of an ability to wait often brings with it the inability to be fully and joyfully present now. Instead, we are constantly looking backward to better times we used to know and forward to better times that may be coming. The more we do this, the more we miss the present . . .

”It [also] becomes hard to appreciate the future moment even when it does come . . . We live forever in the future, so that, when the future becomes the present, we are ill-equipped to deal with it and have lost the ability to be fully present, right now.

“One of the many reasons we wait in Advent is to hone our skills of being joyfully and fully present now. After a month of doing this, Christmas Day can gain a depth and meaning that would otherwise fly past in a whirl of presents and mince pies.”

The season of Advent calls us to such “pregnant waiting”: not passive, disengaged “waiting” for we don’t know what but waiting that anticipates the future in the present, that realizes that we make our futures now. The experience of waiting enables us to realize what we appreciate, value and cherish; waiting teaches us how to be present and attentive to family and friends; waiting opens up our vision and spirits to realize the love of God in our midst. This Advent season calls us to embrace the wisdom to be realised in “pregnant” waiting: to slow down and see the goodness of God around us that we rush by too quickly to see, to behold Christ in every moment of compassion, forgiveness and joy we experience in the everyday Advent of our lives.

(A Connections Sampler)



Please don’t miss our feature in the Catholic Outlook!

**“Kenthurst Parish’s dream finally a reality”**

Access the story and beautiful photos on:

<https://catholicoutlook.org/>



*Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ’s love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.*

## Social Justice @ St Mads

### Sew a Smile

For the past six years students at Marian Catholic College as well as our St Madeleine's parishioners have been sewing garments for Marian College's "Sew a Smile" endeavour.

(Huge shout out to the legendary Frances Sanders). We have sent thousands of girl's little cotton dresses and boy's shorts to countries in Africa and Asia, where we try to target children most in need. With this in mind, would any parishioners be able to fit some of these garments into their luggage should they be visiting orphanages or communities in need over the Christmas season?



We are also looking for more parishioners to sew garments should they have any spare time. We are able to supply the fabric and pattern for this, but of course, always welcome donations of colourful cotton fabric, bias binding and elastic.

Thank you everyone in advance for your support,

~Meg Thomas

Dear Parishioners

You are invited to join our lovely visitors from our neighbouring nursing homes for a Christmas Mass & luncheon in our beautiful new Church.



Tour of church & Mass 10.30 on Wednesday December 4th, followed by lunch in function centre. All are welcome!



Please mark your calendars for this year's **Friendship Group Healing Mass and Christmas Luncheon** for our retired parishioners!

This will be held on **Friday, 13th December at 12nn.**

Please indicate your attendance through the sign-up sheet by the doors or by ringing the office—96542260

**Come and have a look at the Piety Shop in its new location !**

2020 Columbian Calendars \$9

Magellan Christmas Cards \$7

"The Way" Advent reflection books \$4

Christmas Candles \$6

Are all now available



### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$ 3049.75

**2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 2122

**Loose** = \$ 4376.20

**Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = \$2107

**TOTAL** = \$ 6498.20

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!**

The RCIA journey has begun for members of our community.

All are invited to attend the sessions, to learn more about our faith, and to journey along with these brothers and sisters.

**Talks are held every Wednesday at 7pm in the new function centre.**

**TOPIC on 4 Dec: "Jesus": His Life and Mission**

Please feel free to ring the parish office —96542260— or email [stmads@yahoo.com.au](mailto:stmads@yahoo.com.au) for details!



**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**

### BAPTISM PREPARATION:

The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **7th December at 4:30-5:30pm** in the **new function centre**.

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



### BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL THIS WEEKEND

Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures.



### ADVENT. A TIME TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS !!

Come and join us on Wednesday morning at 9.45 am in the new function centre !!

For more Information, call Pauline 0407417039.

### ADVENT REFLECTION

May I encourage you to be a part of the **Advent Reflection** on **Friday, 6th December; 7 to 8 pm** in the **function centre**



Speaker : Deacon Jerome, Diocese of Parramatta  
Theme: The Incarnation- God's Giving and Humanity Receiving

~Fr.Vince

### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

#### For healing of the sick

Kylie Baker, Lara Sawaya, Candida Irugalbandra, Sheila Cañabano, Florence Smith, Gregory Borg, Maria Peach, Paul Byrne, Andy, Patrick Breen, Jacqueline Kelly, Maria, Tricia, Rob, Michael Foley, Samuel Abella, 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, Giuseppi Grasso, Faye Willing, Annabelle, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel





**Expressions of Interest —Bus Trip: The Lights of Christmas**  
 Bus trip to St Marys Cathedral on Wednesday 18th December 2019  
 Leaving Dural Country Club at 6.15pm

We will see the choir at 7.30pm and then afterwards the Lights on St Marys Cathedral  
 Price \$20 adults and \$15 children

I have also booked the restaurant Fedele's at Dural inside the club for anyone who  
 would like to have dinner there from 5.30pm at your own cost

For more information contact Sandra Tabone on 0413272400

If you are interested in going please sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer  
 by 1st December and stating whether you will be having dinner there too

~Kind regards, Sandra Tabone



**MARIAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE**  
**Open Evening**  
**Tuesday 18 February, 2020**  
 4pm or 6pm

There will be two information sessions to showcase the students and the learning experiences offered at the College.

Enrolment packages will be available at the Open Evening, or for collection from the College Reception. Information about the College is available online at [www.mariancollege.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mariancollege.nsw.edu.au)

**EACH SESSION WILL:**  
 Commence in the College Hall, where the Principal and students from Year 7 and 12 will provide information about school life at Marian Catholic College.  
 Be followed by guided tours of the school. Visitors will be able to view activities that will be showcased at the various tour stops.  
 Follow exactly the same format, so please come to the session time that best suits you (4pm or 6pm).

Applications for Year 7, 2021 close on Monday 2 March, 2020.

Please send enquiries to the Enrolment Officer: **9654 6700**  
[marianenrolment@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:marianenrolment@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**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

**OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND**

**ACBC National Prayer Campaign for Drought**

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national - and so should the response be national. Access resources and find out more at:

[www.catholic.org.au/drought](http://www.catholic.org.au/drought)

**ST MICHAELS / OLOL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH  
 THIS CHRISTMAS MORNING.....**

If you are a single person, a couple, or a family, you are warmly invited to share a Christmas Brunch with our St Michaels and OLOL Community. People from everywhere are welcome

We would love to share Christmas with you! Equally, if you know anyone who even might be spending Christmas by themselves, bring them along, and we'll celebrate together.

A delicious brunch will be served at 11am on Christmas Day, 25th December, in the St. Michael's Old Church at Chapel Lane Baulkham Hills, (no cost!!)

Transport can be arranged, just let us know when you RSVP if you would like a pick up or to be dropped off.

Please RSVP to David Dowling at [david.dowling@raywhite.com](mailto:david.dowling@raywhite.com) or on 0421 051029 .

**GERMAN CATHEDRALS AND OBERAMMERGAU PILGRIMAGE 2020**

Fr Chris Dixon is leading a pilgrimage titled "German Cathedral Pilgrimage and the Passion Play at Oberammergau", for 13 days leaving 25th August 2020 and returning 6th September 2020.

For more information and further details, contact Fr Chris at [annangrove@hotmail.com](mailto:annangrove@hotmail.com)

**CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM, 5-9 JAN 2020**

Youth aged 16-20 interested in history, literature, philosophy and theology are invited to register for Campion College's five-day Summer Program and get a taste of a Catholic tertiary education right here in Western Sydney. Free to attend thanks to Campion's generous donors (including meals, activities and accommodation on campus in Toongabbie) but spaces are limited!

Find out more and register at: [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://www.campion.edu.au/summer-program)

**FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL**

Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki,

Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 3N Cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email us [info@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:info@magiholidays.com.au)



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

- ◇ They walked with Him
- ◇ Christians on the brink warning
- ◇ The school that's a vocations powerhouse
- ◇ Persecuting Latin Mass backfires
- ◇ Movie review: *The Good Liar*
- ◇ Divorce & faithful

**We await all from the mercy of Jesus.**

*-St Madeleine Sophie*

**PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS**

**Welcomers Coordinator:**

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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belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au

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**ASA Football Soccer Starters Program**  
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<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	John Cice	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Rick & Lesley Gangemi
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	<b>READERS</b>	Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Deb & Paul Copperfield	Careyanne Moylan Bob Burke	Lesley Gangemi Gael Carpani
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Emilie Mifsud		Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	NO MUSICIANS	Joan & David	Anucia	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Lisa Gerrard
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Dianne Bennett		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Alice Garratt

<b>7/8 DEC</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Peter Balnaves		Phillys Hannah	Joe Touma
	<b>READERS</b>	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Tony Hooper Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	Simmy Cesamolo
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Colleen Dunlop Marie Coddington	Tricia Spencer Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Tara & Sam Coddington		Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Thomas Foxall Thomas Barker
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Sandra Tabone & Zakia Touma		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Sally Coppini
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Denis Secco, arr'd by Joy & Carmel		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Alice Garratt