



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



8th December 2019

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

“The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.”

– H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This is a time when preparation is everywhere in the air: preparations for holidays, for all the festivities, buying presents, attending and organising Christmas parties etc... Everyone is ‘getting ready’. Everyone is looking forward to the period around 25 December. ‘Looking forward’ and ‘getting ready’ are basic Christian activities. What are you looking forward to and what are you getting ready for this year 2019?



The key figure this Sunday is John the Baptist. He is calling everyone to get ready and prepare to bring back Jesus into one’s life. The preparation leading to this end is to repent. Repentance is more than saying, ‘I’m sorry.’ It’s also more than just not sinning anymore. Many people in the world break bad habits with no thought for Jesus Christ or believing in Him. Repentance involves change and applying Christ’s atonement to our life. The Greek word from which repentance is translated ‘denotes a change of mind, a fresh view about God, about oneself, and about the world. Since we are born into conditions of mortality, repentance comes to mean a turning of the heart and will to God, and a renunciation of sin to which we are naturally inclined.’ (Bible Dictionary). Repentance is not a one-time event. It is an ongoing process, something that is best done daily to help us through Christ to ‘be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.’ (2 Timothy 3:17).

A few years ago, a newspaper columnist reported on an unusual programme. It dealt with removing unwanted tattoos—especially gang-related tattoos—from the bodies of young people. A surprising thing happened after the column appeared. Over a thousand letters flooded in from young people all over the country, asking more about the programme. Because of this remarkable response, the Los Angeles School District and a local cable television company produced a film called Untattooed You. It told of the dangers of amateur tattooing and showed how difficult it was to remove small tattoos from arms and faces and larger tattoos from chests and backs. The stars of the film were young people themselves. They talked frankly about why they were tattooed in the first place and why they now wanted the tattoos removed. The film eventually won a national award and was distributed throughout the country. The story behind the film Untattooed You illustrates an important point. All of us have done things in our past that we now regret and would like to erase. This is not just true of young people. It is even more true of older people. The tragic thing about all of this is that so many people regret what they did but don’t know what to do about it now. So, they live with the mistake. However, just as young people rejoiced when they discovered a way to remove their unwanted tattoos, so we Catholics rejoice that Jesus gave us a way to remove our sins. Advent reminds us of the great gift Jesus made available to us, and it urges us to use this gift. Something can be done now about our mistakes. “Prepare a way for the Lord!” (- Mark Link)



Let us listen to the Scriptures and get ready for the joyful occasion of Christmas with repentant hearts and renewed lives!

God’s blessings, Fr. Vince

Social Justice @ St Mads

Thank you for contributing to the 2019 St Mad's Christmas hamper appeal. Our gifts will go to Hawkesbury Helping Hands and Holy Family Emerton. Some ideas for your Christmas planning, can it be more ethical, see the 12 days 12 ways for Christmas. Some of the ideas include considering if your gifts are from Fair Trade sources, can you waste less, can you give gifts of your time, so many great ideas.

www.ethical.org.au/consumer/ethicalshopper/christmas.html



~Sue Martin

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.

There will be a talk on Wednesday, 11th Dec at 7pm in the new function centre.

Then we take a break for the holidays and return on 5th February.

TOPIC on 11 Dec: New Testament



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

BAPTISM PREPARATION:

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

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



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

ADVENT.

A TIME TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS !!

Come and join us, **CHRIST'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP.**

on Wednesday mornings at 9.45 am in the new function centre !!

For more Information, call Pauline 0407 417 039.

The Lights of Christmas

Bus Trip payments due 8th Dec

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



~Kind regards, Sandra Tabone

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



We invite all angels and shepherds to come along to the Christmas Eve Family Mass. (carols at 5:30, Mass at 6)

Angels can wear a costume if they have one. Otherwise, anything white with tinsel around their head.

Shepherds can wear a costume if they have one but otherwise,

brightly coloured t-shirts with shorts and an old tea towel around their head.

Children wanting to join the choir can come! Wear Christmas colours RED-WHITE or GREEN.

More information will be available next week.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the dearly departed

Youssef and Tony Boustany, Setna & James Mulvihill, Helena & Joseph Culligan, Karen Draddy, deceased of the Mulvihill and Culligan families, Sam Bartolo, Assumpta Dickens, Mr & Mrs Paul, Mr & Mrs Santhiapillai, for the deceased of the Buttigieg and Portelli families



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

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1838.65

2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1824

Loose = \$ 1264.90

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2107

TOTAL = \$ 5195.90

Bishop's Christmas Appeal = \$4150.45

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

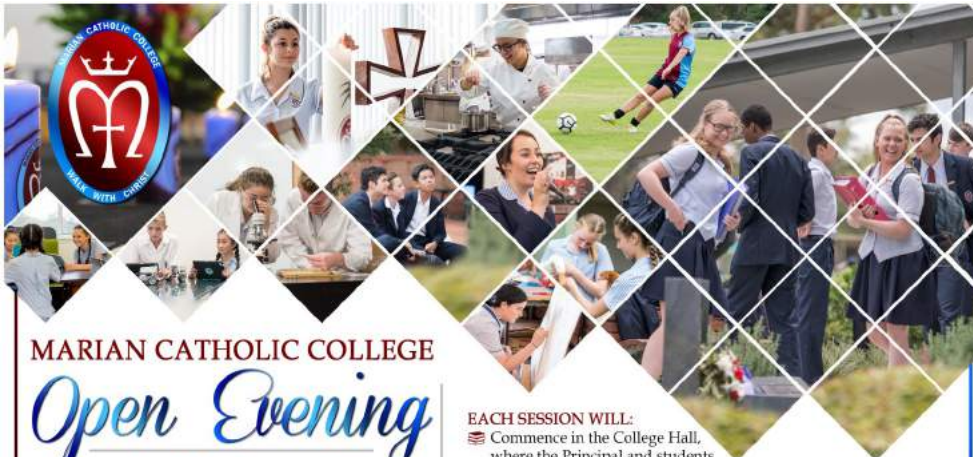
Thank you for your generosity!

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



This weekend, we are having our Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Envelopes are available for credit card donations and those requiring receipts. There are baskets near the doors for your donations!

We will soon be organising rosters for 2020! If you'd like to be a: **WELCOMER, READER, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER, SENIOR SERVER, JUNIOR SERVER, CATECHIST, MINISTER TO THE SICK** or if you would like to help with: **FLOWERS, ALTAR LINEN, PIETY STALL, CLEANING, MUSIC, CHILDREN'S LITURGY, FAITH FORMATION, SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM** please send an email with your details to stmads@yahoo.com.au



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

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

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK IS BACK!

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook is back. From Sunday 1 December 2019, you can get your own copy of the revised Catholic Outlook which will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta.

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 or on 0421 051029 .

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way. Registration and details at epiphanypilgrimage.org and facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage

POSITIONS VACANT:

Facilities Maintenance Officer - Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 16 December
Volunteers – Mamre Creche - CatholicCare
[More details at: parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

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:
Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone
Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
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
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00 am, 5.30pm

Children's Liturgy

10am Mass during School terms

Weekday Masses

9:15 - Tuesdays to Fridays
10-10:30 Fridays - Adoration

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 for \$2 each. Copies are in the Piety Stall.

- ◇ Cathedral lights up
- ◇ Australia targets Seal of Confession
- ◇ Environmental sin?
- ◇ Faithful in divorce
- ◇ Movie review: Green Eggs and Ham
- ◇ Make it a family Advent

The work of interior transformation is necessary in order to become a fitting instrument in God's hands, to work for God's glory.

-St Madeleine Sophie

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THIS WEEKEND		Sat 5:30pm	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Joseph Spina
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves		Phillys Hannah	Joe Touma
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Tony Hooper Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	Simmy Cesamolo
	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Colleen Dunlop Marie Coddington	Tricia Spencer Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	JUN MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington		Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	James Barker Thomas Barker
	MUSICIANS	Lisa J	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Bobby
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Zakia Touma		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
	FLOWERS	Denis Secco, arr'd by Joy & Carmel		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt

14/15 DEC	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Joseph Spina
	ACOLYTE		Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Berenice Hart-Gerometta	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Marian Piper Janelle Bawden
	JUN MINISTERS	Monica & Dom Bruggeling	Patrick McNeil	James Whittle	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	MUSICIANS	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, and JMJ	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	ON BREAK UNTIL 2020
	FLOWERS	Denis Secco, arr'd by Lesley & Ann		ALTAR LINEN	Kathy Fenech