



**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



**20th October 2019**

29th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13  
2 Timothy 3:14–4:2  
Luke 18:1-8

## The Everlasting Arms

There are two sides to Sunday's readings. One theme is "Do not get tired when you are praying." The other is, "Of course you will, but there will be support."

Most of us have experienced drowsiness when we try to pray. Even Moses gets fatigued as he is doing the equivalent of prayer in the First Reading. He stands on the top of a hill where he can see a fight going on below, one he has ordered. To give his general, Joshua, victory over enemy forces, he holds out what our reading calls "the staff of God" over the battle. He has to continue holding it out, straight-armed, until the combat is completely done because whenever he lowers his arms the enemy starts to win. This goes on for a long time and Moses' arms do grow exceedingly weary.



When I was an altar boy in the old rite I learned a bit about this by mindlessly holding the book out with extended arms for Father to read from. "Please, please, please read faster," my arms petitioned. Moses did have people to support his arms, Aaron and Hur. They even found a rock for him to sit on.

**The theme: go ahead and get tired, someone will help you.**



But in the Gospel, in order to illustrate why we should keep praying (asking for things) and not grow tired, Jesus tells a parable about the unjust judge and a widow who does not stop asking.

The widow, with very little to lose, comes to public court every single day and demands justice from the admittedly bored judge. Much like today's scene! After a while the judge thinks to himself, if I don't do something this woman will humiliate me in front of everyone. I give up. I will rule in her favour.

The point we are given for this parable is: how much more God—who certainly is not bored—will make sure we have what we need, even if it is only a very basic need. The widow's persistence is therefore an example for all of us.

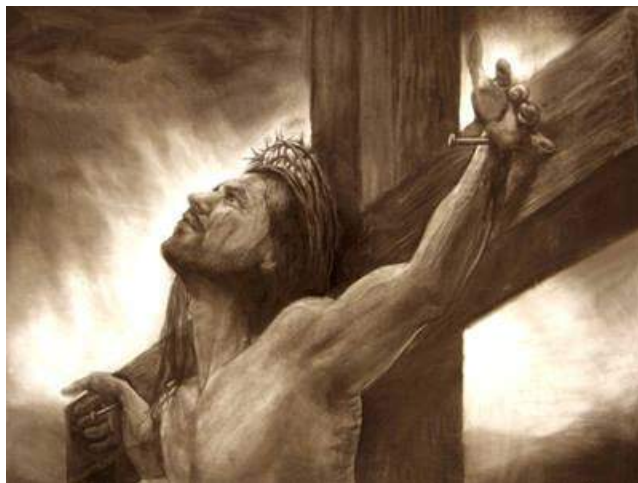
**Persistence.**

But did Jesus have someone supporting his arms as he spread them wide upon the cross?

No?

Even though Jesus was weary unto death and was no longer able to sense any presence of God whatsoever, he still prayed without ceasing. "Father, why have you abandoned me?" is one of the most riveting prayers in history. It set the stage for Mother Teresa's persistence and fortitude throughout a life devoid of consolation.

God's love was strong enough to bring Jesus (and Mother Teresa) through, when every assurance had been taken away. Jesus stretched out his arms in a position that came to be the medieval position of prayer (arms lifted to God), and won a great victory, just as the Old Testament Moses and Joshua had done. He opened his arms to us so that we can fall into them when we ourselves are so very weary and discouraged.



*"The eternal God is your refuge," Moses said. "Underneath are the everlasting arms" (Dt. 33:27).*

(John Foley, SJ)

**5 WEEKS TO GO!**



The Dedication Mass of the new church will be held on 24th November 2019, the Feast of Christ the King, beginning with a procession from the current church at 9:30am.

A celebration will immediately follow and all are invited!

We would appreciate any support you can give. Envelopes are available in the foyer for donations to go towards lunch.

Contributions of desserts will be most welcome!!!



Interested in becoming a Catholic?  
Or know someone who is?

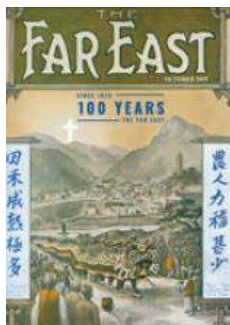
Please come to the **INFORMATION SESSION for the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)**

on **23rd October, Wednesday, 7pm, St Joseph Centre**

(Feel free to ring the office—96542260—for any questions)

### Social Justice @ St Mads

The Columban Fathers are getting ready to celebrate 100 years in the Far East, a wonderful milestone. Do you receive the Far East magazine? Visit publications on the Columban website for subscription details. The Far East magazine is published by St Columbans Mission Society 10 times per year. It features mission articles and photographs by Columban Missionaries from the countries where they work. We celebrate Mission Sunday today.



~Sue Martin



For the  
Dedication Mass

All are welcome to join! Come to ANY of these rehearsals:

Tuesday, 22 October – 7:30-8:30pm

Sunday, 27 October – 9-9:45am

Thursday, 31 October – 7-8pm

Wednesday, 6 November – 7-8pm

**Tuesday, 12 November – 7-8:30pm in the new church**

Sunday, 17 November – 9-9:45am

**Thursday, 21 November – 7-8:30pm in the new church**

*Congratulations to Willow Hewitt who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend!*

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION:

The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **2nd November at 4:30-5:30pm** at St Joseph Centre.

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



**COME VISIT OUR PIETY STALL!**

**Time to buy your 2020 Columban Calendars and Majellan Christmas Cards!!!**



**The CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL will be held at our parish on 1-2 November at all the Masses.**

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$ 1414.65

**2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1591  
**Loose** = \$ 1119.50

**Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = \$2107  
**TOTAL** = \$ 4817.50 (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 PRAYER REQUESTS:

**For the recently deceased**

Piercarla Lovisolo, Dudley Heiler, Howard Langham

**For the dearly departed**

Maria Agatha Dias, Feliciana & Benito Sabellano, Rose Ann McArdle, Paul Spina, Maryanne D'Anastasi, Norman Chahide Hajje, Sheaddy & Chahade Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Mary Merhi, Morris Khedair, Dan Doyle, May Qualter, Lenard Meryment, John de la Hoyde, Phyllis de la Hoyde and their deceased family and friends, Roberta Alumios, Giovanni Cristaldi, Orazia Cristaldi, Santo Cristaldi, Salvatori Campo

**For healing of the sick**

Lara Sawaya, Candida Irugalbandra, Sheila Cañabano, 10-mo old 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



## PLENARY 2020—ST MADELEINE'S DISCERNMENT SESSION

Last Saturday eight parishioners came together to discern, a process we learnt about from great videos on the Plenary website. The discernment process was about spending some time pondering what the spirit is saying and sharing and then discerning some more.



We came up with three concrete areas for our input to the national Plenary Council website on our theme **A Joyful Hope-Filled and Servant Community**.

We suggest the writing team should include

1. Leadership opportunities for parish invigoration, especially youth leadership
2. Resources for faith formation for all, the rosary was a focus, and
3. Better connection opportunities with other communities including Indigenous and refugees, the bookends of society.

We also focussed on local initiatives, and these will be shared with our parish council and the northern deanery pastoral council.

*The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020. There are many opportunities to engage in the "Listening and Discernment" phase by participating in small group sessions within the Diocese. For more information regarding session dates in parishes and deaneries, see posters in our foyer or contact the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3441.*

## OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

### HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHERE TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL?

The Personalised Tutorial System, pioneered in Australia by PARED (Parents for Education Foundation), ensures that each child has the guidance of a personal mentor, the Tutor. They meet one-on-one throughout the year to work on goals for academic and character development, in close partnership with the parents.

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- >Tangara School on Franklin Road, Cherrybrook (boys and girls from Reception to Year 1. All girls from Years 2-12)
- >Redfield College on Old Northern Road, Dural (all boys from Years 2-12)

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**TERM 4 OPEN DAY - WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER 2019**

**10.00AM TO 12.30PM (TANGARA)**

**9.00AM TO 2.30PM (REDFIELD)**

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### CYP LIFTED LIVE IN THE FORECOURT: 26 OCTOBER

Join Catholic Youth Parramatta, Bishop Vincent and over 1000 other youth and young adults as they celebrate the feast of St John Paul II during LIFTED Live in Forecourt at the St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct on Saturday 26 October from 7-10pm. There will be live music, food stalls, rides and entertainment. \$5 entry on arrival. For more information, visit <https://parracatholic.org/liftedlive/>

### ALPHA PROGRAM WEEKEND TRAINING: 8 - 10 NOVEMBER

The Pastoral Planning Office is running a training course in the Alpha Catholic program at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown. A sample Alpha evening will be held on Friday 8 November from 7pm to 9pm, before full-day training sessions on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 November. Morning and afternoon tea and lunch will be provided. To register, and for more information, please contact Lisa in the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3497 or [lisa.bright@parracatholic.org](mailto:lisa.bright@parracatholic.org)

### BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD® TEACHER TRAINING COURSE -

Saturday 9th November and Sunday 10th November, 2019,

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 26 Swanston Street, St Marys, NSW 2760

This is an opportunity for those interested in offering women and couples a reliable and scientific method of natural fertility management. Nurse practitioners, community health nurses and others interested in women's reproductive health will find the knowledge and skills gained through their participation in this course to be invaluable. To Register or to get more information: 1800 335 860  
Email: [manager@thebillingsovulationmethod.org](mailto:manager@thebillingsovulationmethod.org)

### POSITIONS VACANT

>Parish Coordinator of Ministries (part-time) - Parish of Richmond

>Volunteers - CatholicCare Mamre Creche

>Manager of Family Relationship Services - CatholicCare

[More details at: parracatholic.org/employment](http://More details at: parracatholic.org/employment)

### 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)

### 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

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY  
THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

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

- ◇ Aussie link to world's new saint
- ◇ Sydney teen takes seat at the UN
- ◇ Honorary Doctorate for prominent Catholic
- ◇ Agencies slam forced drug testing
- ◇ Movie review: Joker
- ◇ Fiji finding its faith

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

-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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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Judith Gauci	Maria & Steve Fry	Zakia Touma	
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Len Gauci	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	
	<b>READERS</b>	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer	Careyanne Moylan Phillys Hannah	
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Dom Bruggeling	Patrick McNeil	James Whittle	
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	NO MUSICIANS	Joan & David	Bobby and JMJ	
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Vince & Miranda Luca, arr'd by Mari & Maureen		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Catherine Diekman
<b>26/27 OCT</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Dianne Millington	Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Amira & John Campo	
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	John Puleo	Darren McNeil		
	<b>READERS</b>	Justin & Anne Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders Kay Brooks	Amira Campo Careyanne Moylan	
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Trish Keating Anne Kyngdon	Frances Sanders Margaret Steele	Ann & Mark Lee	
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Annabelle & Matilda Rogers Addison Bayly-Pike	Patrick McNeil	Lorena Campo	
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Lisa J	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Paul Vella and Belle Craig		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Vince & Miranda Luca, arr'd by Joy & Carmel		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Frances Sanders