



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

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www.stmadeleine.org.au
Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



25th August 2019

21st Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30

When you live in the light of eternity, your values change

- Rick Warren

Venerable Bishop Fulton J. Sheen tells us that we will have three surprises in Heaven. The first surprise: We will be surprised to see that many people we expected to be in Heaven are not there. St. John of the Cross gives the reason why they are not there: "At the evening of our life, we shall be judged on how we have loved."

The second surprise: We will be surprised to see that the people we never expected to be in Heaven are there. That is because God judges man's intentions and rewards them accordingly.

The third surprise: We will be surprised to see that we are in Heaven! Since our getting to Heaven is principally God's work, we should be surprised that God somehow "went out of His way" to save us, simply because we showed the good will and generosity to cooperate with His grace.



The readings of this Sunday give a few pointers for one to merit the gracious gift of salvation, an eternal life. A follower of Jesus should be 'inclusive'; a follower of Jesus should strive to enter through the narrow gate; a follower of Jesus should not aspire to be on the top but at the lowest rung of the ladder (to be a servant). The revolutionary, spiritual, motivational and radical ministry of Jesus was very inclusive (though he was a Jew by birth) as he embraced Jews and gentiles, male and female, sinners and 'saints', righteous and un-righteous without any discrimination and distinction. His teachings and miracles eliminated any construction of social, cultural, and spiritual boundaries. Hence, following Jesus in the 21st century would mean deconstructing the set boundaries and categories in every aspect of life and creating an inclusive society where human beings are given dignity and divine affection. Easier said than done! That's why Jesus is urging the followers to 'strive to enter the narrow gate' - meaning the followers should embrace His values even to the point of enduring hardships of life. We need to strive because there are forces of evil within us and around us, trying to pull us down. The third pointer of gaining life is through humble service. Right from the beginning, it was always God's intention that His people should be a blessing for others. Jesus is the role model when it comes to service! His acceptance of death on the cross was a unique and unrepeatable act of love and self-sacrifice. We too are called to experience many 'little deaths' as we practice the discipline of serving others in small or big ways.



Barbara Hutton, the Woolworth heiress, was known as the "poor little rich girl." Since her mother died when she was five, Barbara Hutton described her childhood as an unhappy one. She said, "Though I had millions of dollars, I had no mother and no home." Nor was her adult life a happy one. She was married seven times and was a princess three of those times. A virtual recluse, she died in 1979 at age 66. A newspaper article summed up her life with the words: "Barbara Hutton died unmarried and alone, a symbol of the cliché that money does not buy happiness."

By way of contrast, consider the life of Dorothy Day. She was known as "the mother of the faceless poor of the city's off-scouring." She always felt she existed for a special purpose. She discovered that purpose when she became a Catholic at age 30 and dedicated her life to help the poor. Dorothy Day founded and edited the Catholic Worker newspaper, went to prison as a suffragist and pacifist, and established farm communes and hospices for the dispossessed. When she died in 1980 at age 83, Time magazine called her a "secular saint." Barbara Hutton and Dorothy Day illustrate somewhat the proverb cited by our Lord today: "There are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last." (Albert Cylwicky in His Word Resounds; quoted by Fr. Botelho).



Let us be challenged by the Word of God today, and be strengthened by the Eucharist, to be able to enter through the narrow door, so that we have life - eternal life!

God's blessings, Fr Vince



Thank you to everyone who has given donations for the new church building. If you would like to give your donation, please ring the office.



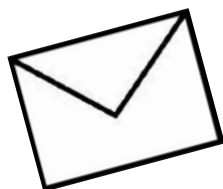
**The Blessing of the new church will be held on
24th November 2019, 10am
on the Feast of Christ the King!
13 WEEKS TO GO!**

All are invited to the next meeting of the Book Club on Tuesday 3 September in SJC. Our new book is *The Abbey* by James Martin (Dymocks \$21.99) Would love to see you there! Careyanne 0438791813



All are invited to a session on **"Christian Leadership"** with Fr Paul Roberts of the Institute for Mission, **on 4th September, Wednesday, from 6:45pm at the St Joseph Centre.** (All ministry volunteers are expected to attend.) Supper will be provided. To confirm numbers, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

PARISH PLANNED GIVING



New **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** are now available in the foyer. Please pick up your new box on your way out. If you could deliver envelopes in your area, that would be a big help to the parish.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1464.80
2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1792
Loose = \$ 1131.90
Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2107
TOTAL = \$ 5030.90 (target = \$5577)

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

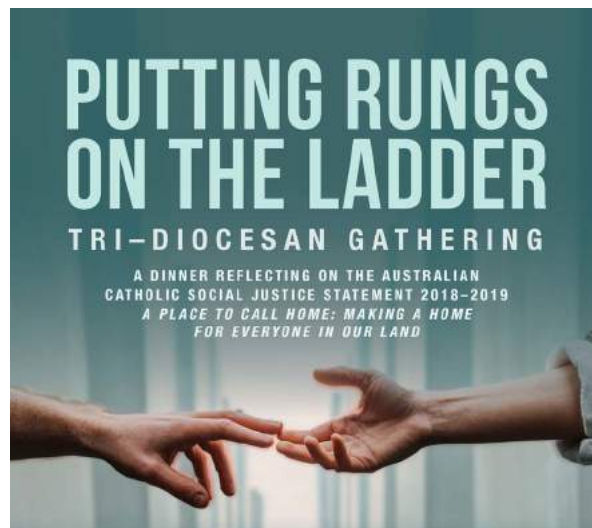
Thank you for your generosity!

Social Justice @ St Mads

It is Refugee and Migrant Sunday this weekend, the theme is **"It's Not Just About Migrants"**.

This week Parramatta Diocese has sent out a Social Justice newsletter. If you would like to receive a copy, email marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org. In the newsletter was an invitation to the Tri Diocesan Social Justice dinner in the Parramatta Cathedral hall 28th August. Contact Sr Louise if you would like to attend. louise.mckeogh@parracatholic.org

~Sue Martin



Congratulations to

Cara Smigliani

*as she receives the Sacrament of Baptism
this weekend.*

BAPTISM PREPARATION:

The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **7th Sept** at **4:30-5:30pm** at St Joseph Centre.

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

(Baptisms in September will be on the 29th, not the 22nd.)



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Margaret Holden, Laurie Patterson, Peter Kelly (Co Monaghan, Ireland), Francis Xavier Sacco and Pietro Colussi

For the dearly departed

Michele Vaccarella, Keith Byrne, John Hennessy, Immacolata & Oreste, Amministratore & Rosa Maria & Francesco Nati, Theresa Caruana, Anthony Vella, Nenu Zammit, Laurie Keating, Maree Weisemes, and Maria Aiossa

For healing of the sick

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 Sabelano 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

Special prayers for Joan Carroll



PLENARY 2020 - The Story So Far

In all times, in all places, our Catholic Church is called to "Listen to what the Spirit is saying." In response to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, our Australian Bishops have taken the courageous step of inviting us all into a time of deep listening, dialogue and discernment known as Plenary 2020. People were invited to engage with the question of "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" As part of **Phase One**, listening and dialogue sessions were held in 2018 and 2019 involving over 17,500 submissions and comprising of over 220,000 people.



There was a total of 17,457 submissions received. Individuals made 12,758 submissions, while a further 4,699 submissions were from groups or organisations. There were more than 209,170 people represented through these 4,699 groups, bringing the total number of participants to over 222,000. At least 35 individual submissions were received from every one of the 28 geographical dioceses in Australia. Parramatta Diocese had a total of 826 identified individual submissions and 212 group submissions, however many people did not indicate their diocese in their submission.

The report can be found on the National Plenary 2020 website or through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Plenary2020final>

On behalf of the Diocese of Parramatta, a big thank you to everyone who promoted and participated in the Plenary 2020 submissions.

In the coming weeks, members of our parish will be organising opportunities for communal discernment where all are welcome to participate and discern together. PLEASE WATCH THIS SPACE!

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY

The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal, *The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy*, is held on Father's Day each year to support the Foundation. It is hoped to raise \$200,000 each year through this appeal.

Last year, through your generosity we reached the target with donations totalling \$195,000 and the Foundation thanks you for this contribution. This year the appeal in the Diocese will be held on the **weekend of August 31- September 1.**

Appeal envelopes will be available next week for those who will not be here on the Father's Day weekend. If you wish you can make online contributions at csfparra.org.au using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference your name, and send e-mail to csf@parracatholic.org with your details so receipts can be sent, which we usually do in January.

DISCOVERING GLOBAL MISSION

How can our skills create better opportunities for disadvantaged people? Communities in Timor Leste, PNG, Samoa, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to build local capacity. These assignments are not quick fixes. Find out how Blue Mountains couple Lukas and Kristina increased and expanded services for people with disabilities in Dili, Timor Leste, and how sharing your skills can immerse you in a world of deep cultural discovery.

Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required.

Palms Meet and Greet: Sunday September 1st @ 10:30am

The Heritage Terrace Café, Westfield, 585 High St, PENRITH www.palms.org.au

2019 FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR: 30 AUGUST

American Catholic Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers is the guest speaker at The Life, Family and Marriage Office's 2019 Faith in Marriage Seminar on Friday 30 August at St Paul's Catholic College Hall, Greystanes from 7.30pm. Free entry and a light supper will be served afterwards. Donations are welcome. Please register your attendance to 02 8838 3460 or lmf@parracatholic.org

YEAR 10, 1969 CATHERINE MCAULEY WESTMEAD

We are organising an informal 50 year anniversary Year 10, 1969 Catherine McAuley Westmead 22nd September 2019 at 11am at Dooleys Lidcombe

Meet in the larger section of the Bistro.

Contact Gail née Folley at desmondg@tpg.com.au

Bring any school photos for some laughs and good memories.

Spread the word to anyone that you might still be in touch.

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

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
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Issues of The Catholic Weekly
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- ◇ Thousands march for life
- ◇ MPs stand up for faith
- ◇ \$30,000 scholarships on offer
- ◇ Mary: Full of grace
- ◇ Movie review: *The Angry Birds Movie 2*
- ◇ Trouble in Rome

Nothing blocks the spirit
of God as much as a life
of idleness.

-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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THIS WEEKEND		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Amira Campo	Helen Ross
	ACOLYTE		Darren McNeil		Jhun Javier
	READERS	Paul Cashman Pat Waters	Tony Hooper Gerry McArdle	Amira Campo Careyanne Moylan	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Trish Keating	Frances Sanders Margaret Steele	Ann & Mark Lee	Tereza Barisic Trish Maidens
	JUN MINISTERS	Monica & Dom Bruggeling	Patrick McNeil	Lorena Campo	James Barker
	MUSICIANS	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Ruby K and youth
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella and Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Annmarie Duncan
FLOWERS	Cosimo Murdocca		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold	

31 AUGUST - 1 SEPT	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Lesley & Rick Gangemi
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves		Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS		Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Careyanne Moylan Bob Burke	Lesley Gangemi Gael Carpani
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima		Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	MUSICIANS	Lisa J	Joan & David	Bobby & Mark	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	FLOWERS	Linda Boffo-Pellizzer		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold