



**St Madeleine**  
Sophie Barat Parish

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**26th January 2020**  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Isaiah 32: 15-18  
1 Corinthians 12: 4-11  
Matthew 4: 12-23

## “Be the light that helps others see.” - Anonymous

Bushfires are not uncommon in the land of Australia. But, this year, the catastrophic fires have ravaged millions of acres of land, taking away the lives of many animals and human beings and burning hundreds of houses into ashes. Various agencies are taking all the measures to rebuild the lives of the victims of fire and give support to them in many ways. The portrayal of Australia by overseas media is indeed giving a distorted image of Australia and affecting our tourism industry. But time will cure and we believe that everything will be back to normal soon enough. The Spirit of Australia will not die in the face of any setback. We bounce back with the power and strength of God who is in perfect control of everything.



As John Paul II said during his visit to Australia, “Look, dear people of Australia, and behold this vast continent of yours. It is your home. The place of your joys and pains, your endeavours and your hopes. And for all of you, Australians, the Way to your Father’s house passes through this land. Jesus Christ is this Way.” Yes, indeed, Jesus is the Way!

As we celebrate Australia Day this Sunday, I would like to quote the TV and radio commercial: “This is the Story of Australia – the story of an extraordinary nation. The Story begins 60,000 years ago. New chapters are written every day. On Australia Day, we reflect on our history, its highs and its lows. We respect the stories of others. And we celebrate our nation, its achievements and most of all, its people. We’re all part of the story”. Isn’t it beautiful! As Judith Lynch (Cath Blog - A reflection for Australia Day Published: 19 September 2011 ) puts it “God has written a sacred story across our land – Uluru’s red heart, crumpled brown earth, now and again rivers, green paddocks, ancient purple mountains, cities that hug the coastline and blink-and-you’re-through-them towns. Our religious and spiritual journeys are set against a backdrop of Australian landscape. Whether you are drawn to the sea, a river, the bush or the outback, whether your favourite places have been ravaged by flood, fire or drought, these are the places and spaces where God has written and painted your story”. God wants every one of us to be a part of this story through our bonding with Him and with the big family of Australia.

The Scriptural readings of this Sunday are anchored on the theme of God’s involvement in human history manifesting Himself as “The Light bringing abundant joy and great rejoicing” (*Isaiah 9:2*) It became real in Jesus’ presence. It continues to be real in and through us, who are called upon to be the ‘salt and light’ in a broken world today. This dynamic is expressed through Jesus’ call of the first Apostles in the Gospel of this Sunday. Faced with God’s sudden interruption in their lives He invited them to abandon the nets and trust themselves totally to the Lord for a new ‘catch’, a new definitive horizon. At the Last Supper, the end of His earthly life, Jesus reminds His disciples “You did not choose me, no, I chose you.” (*John 15:16*).

Rekindled in our bonding with God and with the big family of Australia, let us give meaning to our lives. Let us be a part of the story of Australia!

**God’s blessings!**

**Fr. Vince**



## Social Justice @ St Mads

26 January - Australia Day or Survival Day? How will you be spending 26 January? Sandie Cornish from Social Justice Trends, a publication of the Office for Social Justice (an agency of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference) invites us to spend some time reflecting on the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council's 2019 statement on 26 January.

- A majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics feel that Australia Day is not for them.
- NATSICC endorses the call to change the date of Australia Day and suggests 27 May as a starting point for conversation.
- A 'True History' educational program should accompany Australia Day to educate and promote understanding of the story of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Every Catholic School in Australia should teach this history. The next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are carrying lots of pain and anger because of things like Australia Day.



~Sue Martin

## Bushfire Response

The Australian Bishops have announced that special collections will be taken at Masses this Australia Day weekend to support affected communities. They have also urged Catholics to pray constantly for those affected, for those fighting the fires and for an end to the bushfires.

To access prayer resources or for more information, visit [www.catholic.org.au/bushfires](http://www.catholic.org.au/bushfires)

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$1638.10

**2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$1835.00

**Loose** = \$1698.00

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

**TOTAL** = \$5640.00

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!**

## Welcome Back to School

"The purpose of education is to make good human beings with skill and expertise. Enlightened human beings can be created by teachers" - A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

I wish the students and teachers of St Madeleine's Primary, and Marian College good luck in all their undertakings. Let us strive to build our community on our bonding with God and with one another. Let us have a twenty-twenty vision of accomplishing what God wants of us! - Fr. Vince

## Caring and Compassionate at the Car Park

With a sad note, I pen these few lines that one of our parishioners rang me last Sunday that she was shocked to see her car damaged as she went to pick up her car after the morning Mass without any notice of who had done it. May I earnestly urge to exercise caution and compassion in our car park! Let us be caring for one another even in the car park. - Fr Vince

## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

### For the recently deceased

Louis Sammut, Tony Votano, Michael Nincevic, James Gregory, Zoren Galea and James Raj

### For the dearly departed

Dominico & Teresa Papandrea, Giulio Ceccato, Noeleen Hennessy, Stana Lovekovic, Joseph and Aldo Tallon, Frank Piperata and Mrs. Thelma Lopez

### For healing of the sick

Adeline Lotze, Vince Luca, Tony Boffo, 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, Giuseppe Grasso, Faye Willing, Annabelle, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel

### For the intentions of

Geraldine Alumios Durango



THIS WEEKEND		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Terry & Carol Scott Amber G, Brendan F	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Helen Ross
	ACOLYTE	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Joe Touma	Jhun Javier
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Trish Keating	Nigel Saunders Kay Brooks	John & Maureen Burford	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Trish Keating Lidia Ceccato	Frances Sanders Margaret Steele	Ann & Mark Lee	Tereza Barisic Trish Maidens
	JUN MINISTERS	Annabelle & Matilda Rogers Addison Bayly-Pike	Patrick McNeil	Kerstin Grima Jack Treak	Thomas & James Barker
	MUSICIANS	Bev	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	ON BREAK
	FLOWERS	From the Votano Family		ALTAR LINEN	Peg Grogan
1/2 FEBRUARY	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Rosa & Tona Carlino Maureen & Rick Jones	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Lesley & Rick Gangemi
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Geoff & Jacinta Mifsud	Catherine Diekman Gerry McArdle	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Lidia Ceccato Dianne Millington	Deb & Paul Copperfield	CareyAnne Moylan Bob Burke	Lesley Gangemi Gael Caparni
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima Emilie Mifsud	Bailey & Casey Gambrell	Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	MUSICIANS		Joan & David	Anucia & Friends	Bobby
	COUNTERS	Franc & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	FLOWERS	Teresa Capaldi, arr'd by Mari & Maureen		ALTAR LINEN	Peg Grogan