



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

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Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



21st June 2020

12th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20: 10-13

Romans 5: 12-15

Matthew 10: 26-33

Fear can paralyse—whether that fear is based in reality or whether it exists only in our own mind

- Fr. Tony

“Do not be afraid; just have faith” (Mark 5:36). These four words, “Do not be afraid,” are spoken countless times throughout Scriptures. Fear results from various causes. The perception of some immediate threat causes sudden fear as a sort of defence mechanism. In fact, this could save our life if, for example, the immediate threat is a car swerving into our lane. Sudden fear compels us to take action and avoid a collision. However, fear can also result from other more remote factors that we experience as threats to our well-being. For example, one may struggle with fear over an economic downturn or loss of profit in a business especially now in the midst of Covid19. The fear may be, “How will I support my family?” Or one may have health issues and this causes increasing fear about the future, or a couple may go through rough patches in their married life which raises fear over the future of their children and of themselves. And the list could go on. Though some forms of fear are healthy (swerving to avoid a car accident), most others are not. Some fears do great damage to a person’s ability to stay calm, remain focused and think clearly. Most often, fear causes anxiety and worry, leading one to lose trust in God and His providence, and that’s why the Scriptures speak so directly regarding this important spiritual point. Fear must give way to faith and trust in God.

(Edited: Catholic Reflections)



A man just got married and was returning home with his wife. They were crossing a lake in a boat, when suddenly a great storm arose. The man was a warrior, but the woman became very much afraid because it seemed almost hopeless:



The boat was small and the storm was really huge, and any moment they were going to be drowned. But the man sat silently, calm and quiet, as if nothing was happening.

The woman was trembling and she said, “Are you not afraid?”. This may be our last moment of life! It doesn’t seem that we will be able to reach the other shore. Only some miracle can save us; otherwise death is certain. Are you not afraid? Are you mad or something? Are you a stone or something?

The man laughed and took the sword out of its sheath. The woman was even more puzzled: What was he doing? Then he brought the naked sword close to the woman’s neck, so close that just a small gap was there, it was almost touching her neck.

He said, “Are you afraid?” She started to laugh and said, “Why should I be afraid? If the sword is in your hands, why should I be afraid? I know you love me”. He put the sword back and said, “This is my answer. I know God Loves me, and the storm is in His hands.” (Anonymous)

The first reading of this Sunday speaks about the prophet Jeremiah who was sent by God to change the hearts of the Chosen People and their leadership five centuries before the coming of Christ. Turning a deaf ear to him, the people began to frustrate him with torments and persecutions. Jeremiah was tempted to relinquish the entrusted mission, but he trusted God and remained steadfast in being the voice of God to the people [Jer. 20:13]. Jesus in today’s gospel encourages us to place our trust in God who does not want destruction but development and peace in all sorts of ways and He urges to have trust in the people as well who truly care for us.

Life is not predictable. There are ups and downs in our journey. Many of us want to trust God. When times are good, it can feel easier. But when times feel difficult, it is even more important to trust God. God’s unchanging character can give us a firm foundation when things feel unsteady and uncertain. The fear of the coronavirus and its economic and other related consequences overpower us or cause us to fear and despair. The Scriptures for this Sunday invite us not to give up our trust in God come what may in our way. The abiding presence of God with us produces a supernatural confidence and trust in the midst of any and every struggle we face.

God’s blessings, Fr. Vince

First Reading (Jeremiah 20: 10-13)

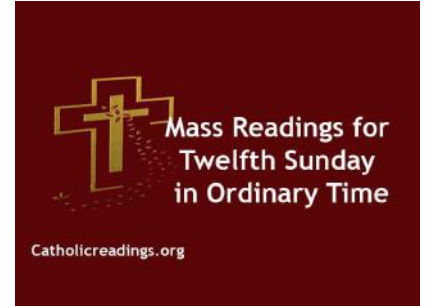
Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 68: 8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14)

(R.) *Lord, in your great love, answer me.*

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)
2. This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)
3. The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listen to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. (R.)



Second Reading (Romans 5: 12-15)

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 10: 26-33)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

Loving God, We pray for the world's refugees,

They have experienced trauma beyond our imagining. God of healing, bring them healing.

They endure the most trying of circumstances. God of strength, bring them strength.

They face an uncertain future. God of hope, bring them hope.

We pray for the countries from which refugees come,

They are experiencing conflict. God of healing, bring them healing.

Their people are torn apart by violence & other types of persecution.

God of strength, bring them strength.

They face a difficult future. God of hope, bring them hope.

We pray for refugees who have resettled in Australia. They have experienced great loss. God of healing, bring them healing.

They are building new lives in a foreign land. God of strength, bring them strength.

They are courageously carving out a future. God of hope, bring them hope.

We pray for asylum seekers living in Australia. They have experienced great loss. God of healing, bring them healing.

They may never see their families again. God of strength, bring them strength.

They have no certainty about their future. God of hope, bring them hope.

We pray for asylum seekers detained on Manus Island & Nauru. They are experiencing great pain. God of healing, bring them healing.

They live in harsh and difficult conditions. God of strength, bring them strength.

They are losing hope. God of hope, bring them hope.

We pray for our nation. We have hardened our hearts against refugees. God of healing, bring us healing

We have grown weary of caring. God of strength, give us strength

We need to find a better way forward. God of hope, bring us hope.

<https://ajustcause.com.au/a-prayer-for-refugees/>

We will continue to livestream Masses for the Saturday Vigil at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 10 am on <https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses>



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish>

Social Justice @ St Mads

I really enjoyed the seven day challenge the Jesuit Refugee Service created for Refugee Week, especially the www.fotografiska.com/ art exhibition.

<http://jesuit.org.au/refugee-week-2020-celebrating-the-year-of-welcome/>

The House of Welcome Facebook page encourages us to make Jamil's curry, see the recipe on the www.facebook.com/houseofwelcome/

Patrice Moriarty the Parramatta Diocese Social Justice coordinator shared, "Right now is an important time for the world and our country. Momentum is building as the Black Lives Matter cause is being brought more and more into the light. This is important not just for the US, but for Australia and our diocese." She organised a



1 minute silence at 4:32 last Saturday to signify the 432 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lives lost in Australia in custody since 1991.

Aunty Margaret Farrell from the Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation spoke about losing her youngest son in Brisbane 25 years ago, our heart is so sad for her loss.

Aboriginal Lives Matter -The Truth Will Set Us Free
~Sue Martin

The St Vincent de Paul Society is calling for donations to the Vinnies COVID-19 Winter Appeal, helping people doing it tough in our communities due to coronavirus.

Every dollar you donate will help people to feed their families, put petrol in the car and keep warm during winter – more important than ever during the current health crisis.

Please visit www.vinnies.org.au, call 13 18 12, or leave a donation in the poor box to make a contribution. Thank you for your kindness.

Mark Easton
St Mad's Vinnies coordinator

VINNIES COVID-19 WINTER APPEAL

You can help families impacted by COVID-19 to pay their bills, put food on the table and keep a roof over their head.

DONATE TODAY:

VINNIES.ORG.AU

13 18 12

All donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible

Vinnies
good works

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 805.90

2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$ 2475

Loose = \$ 720.70

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000

TOTAL = \$ 5195.70

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 are getting together via zoom on Tuesday mornings at 10.30 am for an hour to pray and discuss the coming Sunday's gospel.

If you would like to know more about the gospels, what it can mean to your life, pray with others, or just make new friends we would love you to join us. For more info and zoom details contact Careyanne at careyannemoylan@hotmail.com or 0438 791 813.

Book Club is starting again via Zoom.

I've read a great book about suffering called, *Where the Hell is God?* by Fr Richard Leonard, Australian Jesuit.

Only 67 pages it is thought-provoking, pastoral, original while stating opposing views, and examines the age-old question of how a kind God allows suffering.

If you would like to join our zoom group on Tuesday 30th June, 7.30pm send me an email to register.

careyannemoylan@hotmail.com



BAPTISM PREPARATIONS

The next baptism preparation session will be on **Saturday, 4th July, at 4:30pm** in the function centre.

Please ring or email the office to book in:

96542260 (Tue-Fri, 10am -4pm)

stamds@yahoo.com.au

Families who completed their preparations are welcome to get in touch with the office to schedule their child's baptism.



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Betty Toomey, Serena Spina

For the dearly departed

Norman Hajje, Chahida Hajje, Sheddy Hajje, Chahide Hajje, Mary Merhi, Youssef Moit, Hanna Chiha, Raymond Chiha, Philomena Beresford, Jim Mulvihill, the deceased of the Mulvihill and Culligan families

For healing of the sick

Aura Krakowski, June Brennen, John Spencer, Keith Dawson, Selina Calleia, Joe Fuda, India, Vince Luca, Kylie Baker, Lara Sawaya, Sheila Cañabano, Candida Irugalbandra, 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, Dorothy Green, Pat D, Neil Rogers, Karen Bligh, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Vanessa, Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Giuseppi Grasso, Sarah Bifford Beattie, Faye Willing, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel

***If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please let us know by email, phone call, or by dropping a note in the locked box outside the parish office.**



Unfailing gentleness with all, patience in bearing annoyances which arise in every direction, trust in God which does not allow us to doubt God's protection on any occasion that we fear: these are the fruits of fidelity to the Holy Spirit.
-St Madeleine Sophie

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

POSITIONS VACANT:

- *Human Resources Adviser – Diocese of Parramatta
 - *Family Services and Administration Manager
 - Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited
 - Applications close 26 June
 - *Service Establishment Manager
 - Catholic Diocese of Parramatta Services Limited
 - Applications close 26 June
- More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY OFFICE PRE-MARRIAGE WEEKENDS

The Life, Marriage and Family Office will recommence their pre-marriage education courses from the weekend of 24th and 26th July 2020. Social distancing and hygiene measures will be in place, with other arrangements to be made if government requirements change. To view course dates for the remainder of 2020 and to book and pay for your preferred pre-marriage course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

The six national writing groups have released their discernment papers.

Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

This is the next key step in our plenary journey. <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>. You are encouraged to take each of these papers in turn as an aid to your own discernment about how you are bringing to life a Christ-centred community in your area. We now look towards the development of the agenda for the council ahead of its first session in October 2021.

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest:
Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Assistant Priest:
Rev Jessie Balorio

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 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:

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: Rick Jones
Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone
Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Aaron Cauchi

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