



## St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

**1st November 2020**

31st Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Rev 7: 2–4, 9–14

1 Jn 3: 1–3

Mt 5: 1–12

**“If we look to the saints, this great luminous wake with which God has passed through history, we truly see that here is a force for good that survives through millennia; here is truly light from light.”**

- Pope Benedict XVI

This Sunday, we celebrate All Saints. When we speak of ‘all the saints...’ what comes to our mind are our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary, St Peter, St Paul, St Joseph, St Mary Mackillop and other men and women celebrated officially in the Church’s liturgical calendar. But this is not so much their day as they have their own feast days. This day is for all the countless holy women and men who have given their lives for others, those who taught us the wonders of life through their brave struggle to live, and those who stood for the cause of justice, who have left no other mark on the world than their love of God in their love for others. The saints are a living presence among us, sources of inspiration and guidance as we make our way, one day, into their company.

The wonderful thing about this feast is it celebrates our communion with them. The word communion is similar in meaning to community but is much deeper. We celebrate today that we are all in communion... with God, yes, and with each other. Every time we gather as a church, we truly are IN communion with all those present, with all those around the world celebrating the Eucharist and also all the holy women and men who have ever lived and now are in the presence of God. This feast celebrates that the treasure we have today goes well beyond the limits that mere time and place imposes on us.

This Sunday’s gospel, the Sermon on the Mount has been a source of inspiration for world leaders of various religions such as Mahatma Gandhi.

The values outlined by Jesus in this part of teaching contrast with the values that we see playing out in parts of our contemporary culture where greed, prestige, power, security, wealth, status and the like are often assumed to be signs of success and happiness. This world tells us that life is all about success, wealth, popularity, comfort and convenience. The Beatitudes, on the other hand, tell us that there is meaning and blessings in our sorrow, poverty, persecutions and deprivations. The gospel message is clearly “counter-cultural.” The saints we remember were truly counter cultural in their time and in the given socio, religious, political situation. The Eight Beatitudes do not describe eight different people such that we need to ask which of the eight suits us personally. No, they are eight different snapshots taken from different angles of the same godly person.

POOR IN SPIRIT: in contrast to self-reliance and competence; SPIRITUAL MOURNING in contrast to pleasure seeking and hedonistic outlook; MEEKNESS in contrast to Pride; SPIRITUALLY HUNGRY in contrast to well to satisfaction; MERCIFUL in contrast to selfishness; PURITY in contrast to adulteration in broad sense of the term; PEACEABLE in contrast to aggressiveness; PERSEVERANCE in contrast to giving up easily...

The saints are the role models in terms of living the Sermon on the Mount. The saints are the role models in making our life meaningful.

*There is a story about a man who arrived in 1953 at the Chicago railroad station to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. He stepped off the train, a tall man with bushy hair and a big moustache. As the cameras flashed and city officials approached with hands outstretched to meet him, he thanked them politely. Then he asked to be excused for a minute. He walked through the crowd to the side of an elderly black woman struggling with two large suitcases. He picked them up, smiled, and escorted her to the bus, helped her get on, and wished her a safe journey. Then Albert Schweitzer turned to the crowd and apologized for keeping them waiting. It is reported that one member of the reception committee told a reporter, "That's the first time I ever saw a sermon walking."*

*Tiger Woods didn't become the greatest golfer in the world because he took as his golfing role model the guy at the local country club who had a lot of handicaps. He became the greatest golfer in the world because he made Jack Nicklaus his golfing role model. Nicklaus is recognized by most to be the best golfer of all time. Nicklaus set the golfing standard for Woods—and that has motivated Tiger to become a great golfer himself (sources duly acknowledged).*

Let us apply this to our spiritual lives: If we allow the real saints to inspire us, then we will probably become as hungry for heaven as Tiger Woods is for the Masters title every year. Not in terms of sports, but in terms of emerging as a merciful, compassionate man/woman well founded on the values enlisted in today’s Gospel.

May God bless us, and may God give us peace and joy as we celebrate the fact that we are all one in Christ and united with God and each other... in the here and now... and beyond... linked to all those whose lives have gone before us.

God’s blessings,

Fr. Vince



*Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ's love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.*

# PARISH NEWS

During the month of November, we will offer our prayers and Masses for the eternal repose of the souls of our beloved ones who have gone before us. You are invited to write down names of your loved ones in the Book of Life.

Envelopes for Mass intentions are available in the church. Mass will be on All Souls Day, 2nd November at 9:15am.



## Social Justice @ St Mads

World Day of the Poor – Sunday 15th November: Pope Francis has released his message for the 4th World Day of the Poor. The theme for this year is "Stretch forth your hand to the poor".



As we start getting ready for Advent, our St Mad's Vinnies Christmas appeal is coming. We will have our own donation page. We are planning for a Christmas hamper appeal, with hamper mass planned for December 13th. If you have a charity you would like us to consider, let us know by emailing sue@kcj.net.au. Save the date for our prayer day at Annangrove 13th December. Parishioner, Pat Shirvington, has written Three Dancing Frogs children's book. Our Hills Reconciliation group next catch up is Monday 16th November. Email ann@stjosephscentre.org.au if you would like to attend via Zoom.

Book Club is continuing via zoom. We are reading a thought provoking book called The Universal Christ, Part 2, by Richard Rohr. In this radical message of hope, Rohr shows how "Jesus" + "Christ" reveal the divine wholeness at the heart of things--and what that means for every one of us. If you would like to join our Zoom group on Tuesday 24 November at 7.30pm send me an email to register. careyanmoylan@hotmail.com



Come join us 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 careyanmoylan@hotmail.com or 0438 791 813



Our parish is a community gathered to worship God, bring His light to the world and care for his body. We have responded to this by creating the **St Mads Care Group** whose mission is "to bring Christ's light through giving hope and service to others." Our aim is to "provide to members of our parish practical support and care such as meals, transport, shopping and assistance". If you are interested in joining us, would be willing to cook an occasional meal for those in need or know of anyone who needs assistance, please contact us through Bernadette, 0418 248 256



## Congratulations to the newly baptised!

1st November 2020  
Violet Rezo



*Congratulations to the children who will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist in the following weeks. Please continue to pray for them.*



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



Join us for live-stream Masses on Sunday at 10 am on

**ON AIR**

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses>

## 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:** 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

## BAPTISM PREPARATIONS

The next baptism preparation session will be on **Saturday, 7 November at 4:30pm** in the function centre. Please ring or email the office to book in:  
9654 2260 (Tue-Fri, 10am -4pm)  
[stmads@yahoo.com.au](mailto:stmads@yahoo.com.au)

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



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$450.00  
**2nd Collection** (for Parish) Envelopes = \$1306.00  
Loose = \$676.00  
Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000  
**TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$3982.00**

If you would like to donate to the parish or have recently changed your credit card, please phone the parish office on 9654 2260.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Prayer for the dearly departed

In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters. In this life you embraced them with your tender love; deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest.

The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.



## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

### For healing of the sick

Murphy Family, Kerry Rogers, Michael O'Conner, Aureen Dunn, Nancy Anne Kazzi, Aura Krakowski, June Brennan, John Spencer, Keith Dawson, 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, Tricia, Michael Foley, Samuel Abella, Harper Grace, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Anis Nicholas, 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, Giuseppe Grasso, Sarah Bilford 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.*

## PARISH TEAM

### Parish Priest:

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

### Assistant Priest:

Rev Jessie Balorio

### Parish Secretaries:

Jay-Ann Gutierrez

Yvette Jacobs

### 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

TBA

### Weekday Masses

9:15 - Tuesdays to Fridays

9:45—10:15 Fridays - Adoration

**Prayer Group:** Wednesdays after the 9.15 am Mass

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5.00pm

**Baptisms:** Every Sunday at 11:20  
(Must make a booking)

**Weddings:** By appointment

### Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

**Solemnity:  
2 November**



The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. "If we had no care for the dead," Augustine noted, "we would not be in the habit of praying for them." Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of prayer for the departed members.

In the middle of the 11th century, Saint Odilo, abbot of Cluny, France, decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on November 2, the day after the feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Roman Church.

The theological underpinning of the feast is the acknowledgment of human frailty. Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the prayers of the living can speed the process of purification.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/commemoration-of-all-the-faithful-departed>



# DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

## Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains have COVID-Safety plans in place requiring social distancing, maximum attendance figures and other safety measures. We also highly recommend wearing masks to Mass and other services. You are encouraged to check with your parish on what measures they have in place before attending. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website [www.parracatholic.org/covid19](http://www.parracatholic.org/covid19)

## Office for Worship Short Formation Course for Readers

The Office for Worship will be running a short formation course focussing on the practicalities of Reading at Mass with guest presenter Br Michael Dredge cfc. It will be held over three dates:

Saturday 7 November – 10am-12noon at St Oliver Plunkett Parish, Harris Park

Thursday 12 November – 7-9pm at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith

Thursday 19 November – 7-9pm at Institute for Mission, Blacktown

If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org)

## Call for Nominations for the Diocesan Pastoral Council

Bishop Vincent is calling for nominations for the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Working with the Bishop, the Diocesan Pastoral Council assists with the pastoral governance of the Church. The Council are seeking a cross-section of people from across the Diocese with different backgrounds and experiences. For more information, or to fill out the nomination form, please visit [parracatholic.org/advisorycouncils/](http://parracatholic.org/advisorycouncils/).

Applications close Monday 2 November.

## Social Justice COVID-19 Food and Toiletries Drive

Jesuit Refugee Service and House of Welcome are dealing with a 400% increase in emergency assistance calls and are needing to feed over 1,000 people facing destitution each week. You can help by running a food and toiletry drive or donating yourself. For more information, contact Patrice Moriarty 0409 399 505 or, House of Welcome [office@houseofwelcome.com.au](mailto:office@houseofwelcome.com.au) or [JRS.amelia.savage@jrs.org.au](mailto:JRS.amelia.savage@jrs.org.au)



It's World Mission Month – the one time in the year when the entire global Church comes together to support mission. The Catholic Mission Facebook page offers daily inspiration, stories and reflection for everyone all year round. Please like this page to ensure that you don't miss out on this wonderful channel and all it has to offer: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicmission/>

To see mission in action today, take a look at this wonderful reflection on gentle leadership from the compassionate Jesuit

Bishop Enrique Figaredo Alvargonzalez. Bishop 'Kike' is the driving force behind Catholic Mission's 2020 Cambodia Project appeal. His mission is simple: that everyone has the opportunity to live life to the full, to have hope, joy and happiness. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=247534566329493>

## THE 11TH ANNUAL iWitness CONFERENCE AWAKE, O SLEEPER

DECEMBER 10-13, 2020 | AGES 18-35

THE TOPS CONFERENCE CENTRE, STANWELL TOPS

iWitness is an annual, summer conference drawing together 100s of young (18-35 year old) Aussie Catholics for a summer weekend of prayer, formation and fun.

The iWitness Conference was established in the spirit of World Youth Day Sydney 2008. It has always sought to help Australia's young people engage with and be inspired by the Catholic faith - and this year is no exception.

iWitness promises to be an unforgettable weekend of formation, fun and faith, just as it always is. There will be daily Mass, 24 hour (perpetual) adoration, loads of games, amazing speakers, plenty of fresh air, and more!

iWitness and the venue have a COVID-Safe plan. Full refunds will be issued if the event is cancelled.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:**

[HTTPS://WWW.IWITNESSCONFERENCE.COM/](https://www.iwitnessconference.com/)



## Aid to the Church in Need

### ACN AUSTRALIA

**Red Wednesday.** On 25 November the Pontifical Foundation Aid to the Church in Need is asking Catholics around the world to commemorate Red Wednesday and pray in solidarity with those who are persecuted and suffer unjustly for their faith. Find out more: [www.redwednesday.org](http://www.redwednesday.org).

Have a bit of a laugh!

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, 'Stop— Acts :38!' (...turn from your sin...). The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, 'Why did you just stand there? All she did was yell a scripture to you.' 'Scripture?' replied the burglar, 'She said she had an AXE and two 38's!'

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31 OCT/1 NOV		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Rosa & Tony Carlino Helen & Charlie Harb	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Belinda Da Ruos Colleen Dunlop	Gerry McArdle Nigel Saunders	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Bailey & Casey Gambrill	Christian Maaait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	Donated by Diane Bennett Arranged by Maureen, Mari and Pauline		ALTAR LINEN	Kathy Fenech
7/8 NOV	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Darren McNeil	Phillys Hannah	HJS—Akash Arnold
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Tony Hooper Belinda Da Ruos	David Hall-O'Dwyer Adriana Kennedy	Simmy Cesamolo Frederick Kyngdon
	JNR MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington	Bailey & Casey Gambrill	Christopher Kang	Saniya Arnold
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Zakia Touma		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	Donated by Vince Luca Arranged by Maureen, Mari & Pauline		ALTAR LINEN	Frances Sanders