



ST MADELEINE SOPHIE BARAT PARISH

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(02) 9654 2260
kenthurst@parracatholic.org
www.stmadeleine.org.au
Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 9am - 4pm



4th October 2020
27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Is 5: 1—7
Phil 4: 6—9
Mt 21: 33—43

'WHERE THERE IS LOVE THERE IS PAIN'- Catherine de Hueck Doherty

'What more could I have done for my vineyard?' This was the lament of someone who had done everything he possibly could but was met with nothing but ingratitude. A similar lament is often heard from parents, sometimes accompanied by tears. Here is a modern version of Christ's parable.

Life is lonely now for Peter and Anne Cahill, very lonely. They raised four children but they are now alone. They feel, not so much bitter as, letdown. Anne tells us why.

'We did everything we could for those children. We ourselves grew up in hard times, but we wanted our children to have the things we didn't have. Not that we spoiled them. We bought a good house. Peter had to do a lot of overtime to be able to keep up with the mortgage repayments. Times, as I said, were hard. Life was a continual struggle. Still, those children never lacked anything the other kids in the area had.

'Many nights I didn't get a wink of sleep because of them. They had a lot of illnesses when they were young but, thank God, in time they grew out of them. Though we saw some of our neighbours going to the pub several nights a week. we hardly ever went out. We saw others going abroad for their holidays, but we could never afford to do that. We were lucky if we could rent a caravan by the beach for a week or ten days. But we gladly sacrificed these things for the sake of our children.

'We sent them to the best schools available. They never lacked money for books or school outings. They were always well dressed. We taught them good values. We had a good family life. That came before everything. We taught them their religion, and we tried to give them good example. We said the Rosary every night. And just look at how they have repaid us. Look at what we got from them in return. They say that good example rubs off on the children. Well, in our case, it didn't.

'John (the oldest) quit university and went into the pub business. He works very hard, and they say that he is a very well-off man. But money has become his god. Though he sends us a couple of bottles at Christmas, we hardly ever see him.

'Anne, teacher, married a fellow with a big job. They don't believe in having children. They rarely come to see us, though we get cards from them from exotic places like the Costa de Sol and Miami. Peter seemed to be happily married with three children, when he suddenly upped and deserted his wife, and went to live with a young girl. He never shows up. Paul, our baby, is still unmarried. He's touring the world like a hippie. Doesn't believe in working or settling down. Last word we got from him, he was somewhere in Australia. As far as we know, not one of them goes to Church. Now what more could we have done for them? Do we deserve to be treated like this?'

Though some people will undoubtedly be able to identify with those parents, we must forget ourselves for a moment. The parable is trying to tell us how God feels towards his people. In spite of all the love he has shown them, all he gets in return is utter ingratitude.

Now what sort of fruits did God expect from his people? We are certainly not talking about grapes! We're talking about right living. A look at the first few chapters of Isaiah yields the following harvest:

God looked for peace from his people, and got war; for true worship, and got idolatry; for justice in their dealings with one another, and got injustice, corruption, and exploitation of the poor and the weak; for goodness, and got evil; for caring and sharing, and got greed and acquisitiveness (big houses, large properties, etc); for temperance, and got excessive eating and drinking; for community, and got exclusiveness and snobbery; for humility, and got pride; for wise and godly living, and got a pagan lifestyle.

This is our story too. Which of us would make so bold as to claim that we have made a full and adequate response to God's love, shown in and through Christ? Though God is loving to the point of foolishness, he does want to see a response from us, not for his own sake, but for ours. He wants to see us make use of the gifts and opportunities he has given us so that we can grow as his children. Our response must be free, and given out of love. Now is the time to start making a response. There's no point in waiting for the harvest time. That will be too late. Our response can be summed up like this: he wants us to live as Jesus, his Son, lived.

However, we must not see this parable merely on an individual level. It takes many vines and many branches to make a vineyard. God's vineyard is the Christian community. This is the vineyard Christ planted and tended with such care that he gave his life for it. He looks to his vineyard to produce the fruits of justice, love and peace. But of course, the vineyard can't be fruitful unless the individual vines are fruitful. *(Sunday Homily online)*

Life is all about fruitfulness to your immediate and extended families!

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince





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

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 or JRS amelia.savage@jrs.org.au

Catholic Youth Parramatta engaging young people in new ways

Catholic Youth Parramatta has established a dynamic schedule of networking opportunities, formation and resources to support ministry and engagement with young people of the Diocese in new ways. From inspiring quotes and scripture references on Mondays, to faith-filled live performances on Wednesday to launching new home-grown resources on Friday. Check out CYP's Facebook and Instagram pages and <https://www.parracatholic.org/cyp/> to download and share the resources.

Online Discernment and Prayer Afternoon: 10 October

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Schoenstatt Sisters and the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters warmly invite women aged 18-35 for an enjoyable afternoon of sharing and prayer on 10 October from 4pm. Each congregation will share who they are and impart wisdom on how to discern and pray. For more information, and to register, contact Sr Paula on 0449 656 406 or vocationscsfn@gmail.com

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

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

ON AIR

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses)

[St-Madeleines-Masses](https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses)



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish>

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

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

Amanda Gatt, Serena Spina

For the dearly departed

Teresa Maguire, Daniel Francis Doyle, Pietro Ceccato, Gloria Cabigting, Felician & Benito Sabellano, Roberta Alumios, Lamberto Alumios, Marlon Alumios, Ruperta Sabellano, Frank Piperata, Domenico & Aunina Piperata, Pedro, Sidro, Antonio, Lourdes, Juana, Salvador, Maria Dias, Howard Langham, Antonio Votano



For healing of the sick

Kerry Rogers, Michael O'Conner, Aureen Dunn, Nancy Anne Kazzi, Aura Krakowski, June Brennen, 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, Giuseppi 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.*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$541.50

2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$1583.00

Loose = \$399.85

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000

TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$3982.85

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!

St Faustina Kowalska

Feast Day: 5 October



Helena Kowalska was the third of ten children of a peasant family who lived in Glogowiec, Poland. She was simple, uneducated, and attractive. As a child she began to sense God's call, but she was twenty before she found it irresistible. In 1925, Helena entered the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She took the name Faustina and was assigned to domestic service.

On the evening of February 22, 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina. He wore a white robe, and two rays, one white and one red, flowed from his breast. In this and subsequent visions, Christ directed Faustina to propagate devotion to the Divine Mercy. He instructed her to make a painting of his image, promising that anyone who honoured it would be saved. He also told Faustina that he wanted the whole church to celebrate the first Sunday after Easter as the Feast of Mercy.

Faustina's first efforts met with ridicule, doubt, and only lukewarm support. However, after 1933, with the aid of her spiritual director, Father Michael Sopocko, she made good but slow progress. By 1935, thousands in Poland were participating in the Divine Mercy movement.

The Divine Mercy meant not only receiving mercy, but also giving it. With Faustina, we can pray that we too might become merciful:

Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbours' souls and come to their rescue. Help me, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbours' needs and not be indifferent to their pains and moanings. Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbour, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbour and take upon myself the more difficult and toilsome tasks. Help me, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbour, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness. My true rest is in the service of my neighbour.

Faustina died of tuberculosis in 1938. After her death, the Divine Mercy devotion has grown steadily. With the support of Pope John Paul II, it became popularly established throughout the entire church. Faustina, and other saints like Margaret Mary Alacoque, Joan of Arc, and even the Virgin Mary, were simple and unassuming young women. What makes them extraordinary is God's grace. He seems to favour ordinary folks with his mercy, which is very good news.

Source: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/saint-faustina-kowalska/>

Have a bit of a laugh!

I went to a mixed religion convention. A priest came, laid his hands on my hand and said, "By the will of Jesus Christ, you will walk today!" I smiled and told him I was not paralysed.

The rabbi came, laid his hands on my hand and said, "By the will of God Almighty, you will talk today!" I was less amused and I repeated that there was nothing wrong with me.

After the convention, I stepped outside and found my car had been stolen.



PARISH NEWS

Social Justice @ St Mads

Thank you to all those who contributed to our Northern Deanery Food Drive. Coming up is Anti-Poverty Week: 11-17 October 2020 – <https://antipovertyweek.org.au/>

This year the theme is affordable housing for all, as the best solution to reducing poverty and partnering with the Everybody's Home campaign. We call on all to support the Raise the Rate campaign led by ACOSS to ensure that unemployment payments never go back to \$40 a day.

Ride to worship day October 21st – Ride2Work encourages everyday people to jump on the bike and get active on their way to work.



Our Hills Reconciliation group is meeting again on

October 13th—Yarning with Terry Evans,

Ann@stjosephscentre.org.au. A great talk from Hornsby Council Library with Grace Karskens presenting her book 'People of the River' <https://youtu.be/hDgLNr1dz9s>

We call parishioners together to pray the Rosary as we ask Our Lady to intercede for God's blessing on us. Prayer helps us to slow down, calm our hearts, and enable us to rest in God's presence. Through Mary, we are led to a closer relationship with her son, Jesus. The Rosary is an invitation for us to present our needs to God and to love Him more. In this time of uncertainty, dealing with COVID restrictions, ill-health, financial concerns and anxieties, we turn to Mary. We will also be using the Mass Youtube site.

Date: 10 October 2020

Time: 10:30am. Where: St Madeleine's Church

Contact: Kay - 0429965858

Lydia Ceccato - 0400372561

careyannemoylan@hotmail.com



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

HELP NEEDED

There was a serious house fire in Glenhaven on Wednesday night. The house is residence to a single working mother and her 3 daughters who attend Marian College. They are immediately in need of meals, water, cleaning chemicals, handymen, tradies, etc. Please get in touch with Bernadette Huxley on 0418 248 256 to help.

Congratulations to the newly baptised!

Ashton Sakr
Ariana Foster
Mason Saliba
Brooklyn Samuel Tancred

Isabel Bates
Harry Wood
Alexandra Ellen Orianna Holmes
Abigail Moran



A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be assured that if any mischief occurred in their town their two young sons were in some way involved.

The parents were at their wits end as to what to do about their sons' behaviour. The mother had heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so she asked her husband if he thought they should send the boys to speak with the clergyman.

The husband said, 'We might as well. We need to do something before I really lose my temper!' The clergyman agreed to speak with the boys, but asked to see them individually. The 8 year old went to meet with him first. The clergyman sat the boy down and asked him sternly, 'Where is God?'

The boy made no response, so the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, 'Where is God?' Again the boy made no attempt to answer. So the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, 'WHERE IS GOD?'

At that, the boy bolted from the room and ran directly home, slamming himself in the closet. His older brother followed him into the closet and asked what had happened. The younger brother replied, 'We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it.'

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator:

Music Coordinator: Alexandra Mifsud

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin

Baptism Preparation: Angeliqe 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

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3/4 OCTOBER		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	Paul Cashman Belinda Da Ruos	Gerry McArdle Nigel Saunders	Jacqui Nisbet Michelle Eamer	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Bailey & Casey Gambrill	Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	Donated by Teresa Capaldi Arranged by Maureen, Mari & Pauline		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt

10/11 OCTOBER	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Sandra Tabone	Nicole Foxall 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	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 Nick Ceroli Arranged by Rita Vumbaca		ALTAR LINEN	Marian Piper