



## St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



28 ANNANGROVE RD. KENTHURST NSW 2156  
(P) 9654 2260  
(E) KENTHURST@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG OR  
STMADS@YAHOO.COM.AU  
(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU  
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

**6th December 2020**  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Is 40: 1–5, 9–11  
2 Pt 3: 8–14  
Mk 1: 1–8

**“The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.”** H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Roads make a crucial contribution to economic development & growth and bring important social benefits. They are of vital importance in order to make a nation grow and develop. The road network is crucial in reaching out to the impoverished nations and helping them fight against poverty and other life-threatening matters. Those who have good roads enjoy direct access to the outside world. There is inflow and outflow of visitors who bring a lot of good things into the wide spectrum of life.

As we are entering into the second Sunday of Advent, in today's first reading the prophet Isaiah highlights the importance of good roads and interprets it in the light of the spiritual experience of his people. He brings a message of consolation to the people of Israel announcing the end of their sufferings at the coming of the Messiah. But the crooked way must be made straight, hills must be filled and mountains made low for the Messiah to enter and his glory revealed.

St. Peter in his second letter admonishes us to be living in holiness and righteousness as the ways of straightening the road within us.

John the Baptist did not hesitate to call on the Jews to prepare a way for the Lord and make his road straight. John set an example and prepared a way for Jesus by calling people for repentance and baptizing them as a sign of repentance.

Advent basically is a time for repentance because only repentant hearts shall receive the grace and gifts of the coming of Jesus Christ (Christmas). The signs of true repentance this Christmas must be seen in more giving, forgiving, mending the broken relationships, changing the unhealthy attitudes and behaviours and especially having a broad mind and heart to embrace everyone without any discrimination. The hearts that are not landlocked can receive Jesus and His gifts easily. As bad roads block good things from outside world so does a sinful soul blocks access to the grace and salvation that Jesus brings. When Jesus came in history, many did not recognize him. Now He comes in mystery (in the word and sacraments) many still are yet to let Him in. When He comes in glory would our hearts be ready receive him?

Let us scrape the rock of hatred, fill the potholes of prejudice, cut down the trees of pride, demolish the bumps of the flesh and the king of glory will have access to our hearts and save us. Be a road worker, always making a way for the Lord.

The challenge of Advent is to clear a straight path for God: to end injustices, to stop wars and the preparations for wars, to put discrimination behind us, or in the words of the opening prayer, to “remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy.” (Source: Catholic for Life)

*A working man was strongly drawn towards a beautiful vase he saw in a stall in the town market. He bought the vase and brought it home. The vase was so beautiful that it made the front room look drab, dull and indeed plain ugly. So, he got bright prints and transformed the whole room. He got colourful curtains to match the paint, a brightly patterned carpet, and even stripped down and varnished furniture. Because of the beauty of the vase, the whole room was totally transformed. When Jesus enters my heart, the areas in need of attention become, oh, so obvious. Holiness consists in discovering that I am a much bigger sinner than I ever thought I was! The closer I come to God, the more obvious the contrast!*

Let us create a path for Jesus to enter our inner world!

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince



# PARISH NEWS

## Christmas Masses

In compliance with COVID restrictions, we have organised **SIX masses for Christmas.**

**Christmas Eve:** 5pm Carols followed by **5:30pm Mass** in the Marian College Hall  
(Only 500 people are allowed to attend this Mass. Book here

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNKKF>)

**7pm, 9pm and Midnight Mass** in the Church (150 people can attend for each Mass)

**Christmas Day: 8am and 10am** (150 people can attend for each Mass)

In view of logistical arrangements, we ask you register your attendance before 20th December.

To book for the 7pm, 9pm, Midnight (Christmas Eve); 8am or 10am (Christmas Day)

Masses, please go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BNKKS> to register. Upon

registering, you will receive a ticket. Please print it and bring it with you to the Mass.

If you need some assistance in registering, please contact our office on 9654 2260

on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday between 9:45am—4pm in the weeks ahead.

**Please pass this information on to your family and friends so they may participate in the Christmas Masses!**

## Social Justice @ St Mads

Reminder our Hamper Mass is December 13<sup>th</sup>, 10am. Congratulations to Meg Thomas Social Justice coordinator at Marian College on the Return and Earn scheme established across the school. We can assist by dropping any Return and Earn vouchers into Marian College for the Social Justice group. Some dates coming up:

Hills Reconciliation with First Nations catch-up 15<sup>th</sup> December [ann@stjosephscentre.org.au](mailto:ann@stjosephscentre.org.au)

Diocesan Social Justice catch-up December 15<sup>th</sup> [Patrice.moriarty@parracatholic.org](mailto:Patrice.moriarty@parracatholic.org). Some

tips for Ethical shopping this Christmas: Ethica Founded by the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Ethica specialises in quality Fair Trade products crafted by artisans in Peru. Visit St Joseph's at Baukham Hills for gifts.

<https://ethica.org.au/our-story>; Buy from the Bush <https://www.buyfromthebush.com.au/>; The Ethical

Fashion Guide <https://baptistworldaid.org.au/resources/ethical-fashion-guide/> Each year, Baptist World

Aid produce an Ethical Fashion Guide to inform shoppers to become more thoughtful and ethical fashion

consumers. This year, they have put together a special COVID-19 edition, highlighting the challenges the

pandemic has brought to fashion companies and suppliers, and the steps brands have or have not

implemented to safeguard the most vulnerable workers in their supply chains.



Come and pray the rosary after Morning Mass on Thursdays!

Time: 9.45am

Contact: Kay - 0429965858

Lydia Ceccato - 0400372561



Join us for the Sunday Gospel reflections on Tuesday mornings from 10:30am to 11:30am. For more info and Zoom details, contact Careyanne at [careyannemoylan@hotmail.com](mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com) or 0438 791 813

## Women's Prayer Day

Join us for a day of reflection for Advent and healing. We connect with place, spirit, and heart to heal our world, refresh our minds and strengthen relationships.

Date: 12 December

Where: Annangrove; Time: 9.30 – 1pm and on.

Numbers limited. COVID safe.

Contact: Careyanne Moylan 0438791813 or [careyannemoylan@hotmail.com](mailto: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

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$534.00

2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$841.00

Loose = \$623.70

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000

**TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$3464.70**

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!**

## BAPTISM PREPARATIONS

The next baptism preparation session will be on **Saturday, 5 December 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.



## Congratulations to the newly baptised!

Sunday, 6th December 2020



## Housing

A parishioner is currently seeking a 2 bedroom granny flat or house for a mother and her son. Please contact our parish office on 9654 2260 if you can be of assistance. Thank you!

## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

### For recently deceased

Jill Margaret Tuttle, Giuseppina Scarpin and George Cascun

### For the dearly departed

Pietro Ceccato, Jed Manning and Ferraro Family

### For healing of the sick

David Parslow, Maureen Burke, Murphy Family, 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, Giuseppe Grasso, Sarah Biford 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 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

## PARISH TEAM

### Parish Priest:

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

### 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

## Our Lady of Guadalupe

### Feast Day:

12th December



The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady. Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/our-lady-of-guadalupe>



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>

## Bishop's Christmas Appeal

This Christmas, let us unite in demonstrating God's unconditional love and keep families together. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare's Project Elizabeth to support vulnerable families to build strong, loving relationships. You can help give people the emotional and practical support they need to live their lives in love and joy. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal: [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)

**We will be holding the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at all Masses for the 2nd Sunday in Advent, 5-6 December 2020. There will be envelopes in the church and a basket available to drop in your donations. Thank you for your kind support!**



We are calling for our parish community to help raise much needed funds and awareness as part of our 2020 Christmas Appeal.

The high cost of living, stagnant wages and unsteady jobs can push anyone into crisis. Especially the year we have had in 2020. Your support this appeal is vital in helping us provide essential care and programs to those in our parish community who need it the most.

This year we are taking donations through the following website up to the end of Dec 2020. Is live and ready to go!

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/2020-christmas-appeal-st-madeleine-s-parish-kenthurst>

Your donations will help us to assist those who are most in need with practical financial support including food vouchers, food parcels, clothing & household items, medical costs, accommodation, removal costs, petrol vouchers. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and your receipt will be automatically processed and sent via email. , If you are unable to donate online please feel free to put your donation in a marked envelope and drop into the Vinnies box at the left side of the church foyer.

We thank you in advance for your support

[fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au](http://fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au)



## DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

### Positions Vacant:

Sacramental Coordinator – Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes

Applications close Thursday 10 December

### 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)

### Catholic Outlook Magazine Summer 2020/21 Edition

Look out for copies of the next edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine in your local Catholic Church, Catholic school or Catholic office from early December. Catholic Outlook is an A4 magazine published quarterly with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta.

### Permanent Diaconate Information Session: 12 December

Couples considering a call to the Permanent Diaconate are invited to attend an information session on Saturday 12 December from 10am to 12noon at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown. Couples who decide to proceed with the discernment process will be asked to meet with the Vocations Committee in 2021. To RSVP, please contact Deacon Willy Limjap on 0428 332 619 or [wilmjap@gmail.com](mailto:wilmjap@gmail.com) or Deacon George Bryan on 0408 440 769 or [George.Bryan@parracatholic.org](mailto:George.Bryan@parracatholic.org)

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<b>5/6 DEC</b>		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Dianne Millington	Rosa & Tony Carlino Helen & Charlie Harb	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina Belinda Da Ruos
	<b>MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR</b>	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	<b>READERS</b>	Belinda Da Ruos	Gerry McArdle Nigel Saunders	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	<b>JNR MINISTERS</b>	Kerstin Grima	Bailey & Casey Gambrill	Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Parish Team		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	To be announced
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Donated by Denis Secco Arranged by Alice Garratt		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Catherine Diekman
<b>12/13 DEC</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Belinda Da Ruos Joseph Spina
	<b>MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR</b>	Dianne Millington	Darren McNeil	Phyllis Hannah	HJS—Akash Arnold
	<b>READERS</b>	Mary Sammut Paul Cashman	Anthony Hooper Belinda Da Ruos	David Hall-O'Dwyer Adriana Kennedy	Simmy Cesamolo Frederick Kyngdon
	<b>JNR MINISTERS</b>	Tara and Sam Coddington	Bailey & Casey Gambrill	Christopher Kang	Saniya Arnold
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Parish Team		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	To be announced
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Wedding		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Catherine Diekman