



# St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

**15th November 2020**

**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Prov 31: 10–31**

**1 Thes 5: 1–6**

**Mt 25: 14–30**

## **“GOD GIVES EVERYONE THE INGREDIENTS TO A GOOD, HAPPY LIFE. IT IS UP TO US TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF THEM”**

Every one of us wants to live our life to the full! Why then, many of us are easily disappointed? Could it be because we set ourselves impossible goals? Or is it because we neglect opportunities offered to us?

*Two men went fishing. One was an experienced fisherman, the other wasn't. Every time the experienced fisherman caught a big fish, he put it in his ice chest to keep it fresh. Whenever the inexperienced fisherman caught a big fish, he threw it back. The experienced fisherman watched this go on all day and finally got tired of seeing the man waste good fish. "Why do you keep throwing back all the big fish you catch", he asked. The inexperienced fisherman replied, "I only have a small frying pan"*



Sometimes, like that fisherman, we throw back the big plans, big dreams, big jobs, big opportunities that God gives us. Our faith is too small that we fail to walk confidently into what God brings our way.

Jesus is laying down a challenge in today's gospel reading. The religious leaders of the time, the Scribes and the Pharisees, had become obsessively cautious. Any change, any development, any alteration, anything new was anathema. Their approach had induced a religious paralysis which Christ was determined to challenge. For Christ, there is no place for the closed mind in religious thinking. His statement is that to each has been given different abilities which will contribute to the growth of the Kingdom - to one is given five, another two, and another one. Each one receives what the master thinks one is capable of working with. Although people are not equal in talent, it is expected that they will be equal in effort – The first two took it as an opportunity, an adventure to be explored. They knew that what the master had given them could easily be lost, stolen or invested badly... but they took the risk anyway. Their risk taking was well rewarded by the master. The third servant on the contrary took it as a burden, a potential landmine to be feared. He knew that what the master had given him could easily be lost, stolen, invested badly but he opted for damage control.

Of all the gifts or talents, Faith is a wonderful gift given to us. Any one who has faith and a love for doing good work, or to anyone who does good, God will give a blessing, in order to increase that person's faith or good works or both. Our faith as St James would put it in his letter, "Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." (James 2:17) This 'dead' faith will be taken away from that person. This faith which is just in name, or just something intellectual, or formal, will be taken away from him.

The message stands out clear: one should never become paralyzed by fear of failure and as a result take risks and launch out into the deep. Nothing ventured, nothing gained! Jesus himself is the example of a risk taker since he followed his convictions and left his home town to embark on a public mission that brought criticism and condemnation. Just remember the proverb: fortune favors the brave, which puts us on notice that we cannot wait for opportunities to come along, we need to create them happen. And we should make use of the opportunities God offers our way whether it is small or big. Our belief in the values of the goodness and love needs to be actively promoted. That was particularly pertinent to Matthew's world when the early Christians had to face opposition for their commitment to Christ, but it is no less true for Christians today in a world that is cynical of the values of Jesus Christ. *(Sources duly acknowledged)*

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince

**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

**Time flies... Tuesday, November 24, marks the First Anniversary of the Blessing of our Church. Much as we want to celebrate this occasion in a grand manner, COVID has restricted us. Nonetheless, we shall mark this with a thanksgiving celebration of the Mass on Tuesday evening (24/11) 7 pm. I, therefore, invite you to participate in the Mass and make this memorable for our parish community.**

**In view of this, may I request you to register your names with the parish office that we might not go over the limit of people in attendance. Looking forward to celebrating the milestone of our parish life with you.**

Fr. Vince



# PARISH NEWS

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which individuals desiring to become full pledged members of the Catholic Christian Community opt for a new beginning through spiritual and personal formations. This process truly reflects the Mission and purpose of the Church - to draw people to the Father through Christ Jesus the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Who is the RCIA for?** The whole Church; Unbaptized adults seeking to become Catholic; Others experiencing Conversion; Baptized Christians; Even for Catholics to enhance the Christian Life. **The information session is on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**Kindly get in touch with Steve Fry on 0411 470 416 or parish office 9654 2260**

## Social Justice @ St Mads

Something to consider this Christmas, purchase a bicycle and give a child access to education. Visit Jesuit Mission's Gifts for Change program. <https://shop.jesuitmission.org.au> or call 02 8918 4109.

House of Welcome, a project of St Francis Social Services, and the largest provider of transitional housing in Sydney, is seeking a Housing Maintenance Volunteer. For more information email: [m.sneddon@houseofwelcome.com.au](mailto:m.sneddon@houseofwelcome.com.au) or by phone: 02 9727 9290.

This week is the launch of "Sacred People, Sacred Earth" Wednesday 18th Nov, 7 pm Sydney time, visit <https://www.arrcc.org.au/global> to register. Greenfaith is calling for a post-COVID recovery that delivers justice to the most marginalised and solutions to the climate emergency.

It was lovely catching up with the Earthkin team from Parramatta Mercy Institute who held a webinar on the 16th around Presence to Earth.



We call parishioners together to pray the Rosary as we ask Our Lady to intercede for God's blessing on us. On Thursdays, after mass, join us to pray the rosary, especially in this month of November for the souls in Purgatory.  
 When: Thursdays; Time: 9.45am;  
 Contact: Kay - 0429965858; Lydia Ceccato - 0400372561

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. [careyannemoylan@hotmail.com](mailto:careyannemoylan@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 [careyannemoylan@hotmail.com](mailto:careyannemoylan@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!

15th November 2020  
 Aaliyah Thurston



*Congratulations to the children who will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist this weekend. Please continue to pray for them.*



## 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.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$1016.75  
**2nd Collection** (for Parish) Envelopes = \$1683.00  
 Loose = \$1245.00  
 Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000  
**TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$4928.00**

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 those who are sick

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech You to behold, visit, and relieve our brothers and sisters who are sick for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy; comfort them with a sense of Your goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In Your good time, restore them to health, and enable them to be positive that You are with them. Please bless the hands of those who are treating them and who are taking care of them. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen!



## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

### 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, 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 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

### 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)

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## DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

### Positions Vacant:

Head of Mission Integration – Caritas Australia

For more details, please visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/about/jobs/positions-vacant>

### 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)

### 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)

### Welcome to The Well

The Diocese of Parramatta proudly announces its latest initiative – The Well. In what can be described as 'Netflix for Catholics', The Well is a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. Explore fresh offerings every week on topical issues that inform, entertain and challenge. Check it out at [www.thewell.org.au](http://www.thewell.org.au)



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).

**Masses for the Holy Souls:** During the month of November Aid to the Church in Need is encouraging the faithful to arrange Masses on behalf of loved ones and for the souls that have nobody to pray for them. Find out more: [www.aidtochurch.org/november](http://www.aidtochurch.org/november)

**Gifts of Faith:** A Gift of Faith is a Christmas present given in place of a material gift. You can arrange multiple Gifts of Faith for children, grandchildren, godchildren, siblings, cousins, co-workers, friends and parishioners.

### Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

**Feast Day:**  
17 November

In her short life, Elizabeth manifested such great love for the poor and suffering that she has become the patroness of Catholic charities and of the Secular Franciscan Order. The daughter of the King of Hungary, Elizabeth chose a life of penance and asceticism when a life of leisure and luxury could easily have been hers. This choice endeared her in the hearts of the common people throughout Europe.

At the age of 14, Elizabeth was married to Louis of Thuringia, whom she deeply loved. She bore three children. Under the spiritual direction of a Franciscan friar, she led a life of prayer, sacrifice, and service to the poor and sick. Seeking to become one with the poor, she wore simple clothing. Daily she would take bread to hundreds of the poorest in the land who came to her gate.

After six years of marriage, her husband died in the Crusades, and Elizabeth was grief-stricken. Her husband's family looked upon her as squandering the royal purse, and mistreated her, finally throwing her out of the palace. The return of her husband's allies from the Crusades resulted in her being reinstated, since her son was legal heir to the throne.

In 1228, Elizabeth joined the Secular Franciscan Order, spending the remaining few years of her life caring for the poor in a hospital which she founded in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. Elizabeth's health declined, and she died before her 24th birthday in 1231. Her great popularity resulted in her canonization four years later.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-elizabeth-of-hungary>



## 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/)

Have a bit  
of a laugh!

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" "That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies. After dinner, the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."



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14/15 NOV		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Belinda Da Ruos	Maria & Steve Fry Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Sandra De Nardi Belinda Da Ruos	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	JNR MINISTERS	Dom Bruggeling	Patrick McNeil	Elizabeth Cauchi	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
FLOWERS	Donated by Vince Luca Arranged by Rita Vumbaca		ALTAR LINEN	Frances Saunders	
21/22 NOV	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Carol & Terry Scott Amber G, Brendan F	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina Lidia Ceccato
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Joe Touma	Jhun Javier
	READERS	Justin Kyngdon Anne Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders Belinda Da Ruos	Sandra Tabone Careyanne Moylan	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS	Matilda Rogers Addison Bayly-Pike	Patrick McNeil	Kerstin Grima Jack Treak	Thomas & James Barker
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella and Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	Arranged by Linda Boffo-Pellizer		ALTAR LINEN	Pat Brush