



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

14 February 2021
6th Sunday in Ordinary
Time, Year B

Lv 13: 1—2, 44—46
1 Cor 10: 31 — 11: 1
Mk 1: 40—45

To be successful is to be helpful, caring and constructive, to make everything and everyone you touch a little bit better - Norman Vincent Peale

Dear Sisters and brothers,

We are back to 2 square metre distancing indoors and we are free from using the face mask. I do hope that this will encourage more people to participate in the weekend Masses, especially during Lent. Using the face mask inside the church during the celebrations is not mandatory but is still highly recommended. We still need to register ourselves as we enter the church for any purpose and disinfect the seating places with the wipes available in the set spots. Thanks to every one of you for your kind understanding and cooperation.

The liturgical season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 17th Feb. We have two masses for the parish community at 9.15am and 7 pm. The primary school children will have a separate celebration.

On this 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the church continues to remind us that Jesus is a friend of all. So, He is willing to do the unimaginable to save us. Hence, the church calls us to make Jesus our role model by caring for the sick.

Our first reading and gospel have a lot in common. Both of them referred to the hopeless situation caused by leprosy. In Jesus' time, leprosy was a dreaded disease such as Ebola, Zika, HIV AIDS and the Coronavirus, which has killed many and paralyzed our world today. Contacting leprosy was a matter of life and death. Though it was a physical sickness, according to Jewish religious beliefs, leprosy was broadly associated with sin. That is, leprosy was a punishment for a sin committed by its victim.

Hence, the immediate consequence of suffering from leprosy was that the patient automatically becomes an outcast and isolated. "As long as the disease lasts, the patient must live apart." This is because it was believed that the person would contaminate others. Sadly, according to the law, the victim must identify and stigmatize himself by announcing "Unclean, unclean."

Is this different from the stigma we subject people to today? It seems that more sick people die due to stigma than from the actual disease they suffered. Yet, the truth is that apart from physical leprosy, because of our sins, we are all lepers and outcasts. However, Christ touches and heals us through his mercy.

In the second reading, Paul implores us, "Take me as your model as I take Christ." He presents himself to us as a model of sacrifice and care. Being a model means being close to people, especially in their weakness, sickness, and ensuring that they do not feel rejected. He is a model that rejects the gospel of exclusion, favouritism, racial segregation, profiling, stigmatization of the sick or anyone at all.

He is not a model that wishes the death of the sick for his comfort. Instead, He is a model of care, tenderness, and love for them. This is why Paul says, "I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious of my advantage, but for the advantage of everybody, so that they may be saved." This is precisely what Christ did. He offered himself in order to deliver us from all that enslaves us. Paul replicated this with his life and encourages us to do the same.

In the gospel, Jesus continues to heal. Today, He encountered a leper. Instead of avoiding or stigmatizing the leper, he touched and healed him. The humble petition of the leper touched him: "If you want, you can cure me." As a compassionate saviour and master, Jesus responded with both words and actions: "Of course, I want to be cured!" By healing the leper, Jesus makes a statement that the leper was not excluded, but that he was equally destined for salvation. Jesus was different from the Levitical priests whose duty was to pronounce judgment, stigmatize, and isolate the leper. On the contrary, He communicated the love and mercy of God in signs that speak more than words.

How should we treat the sick, the weak, the poor, and those rejected by society? We must show them mercy and help them as Jesus did. Through his mercy and compassion, Jesus is always ready to free us from whatever makes us unclean. (Fr. Njoku Canice Chukwuemeka, C.S. SP).

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



PARISH NEWS



Thursday Night Lenten Group

Take time this Lent to ponder the word of God, share your thoughts, and reflect on the year that was, and the year to come. Gather for just one hour each week of Lent.

Books available at Piety stall for \$8 but are not necessary.

When: Thursdays 7pm

Where: St Madeleine Meeting Room.

More info: Careyanne Moylan 0438791813 or careyanneoylan@hotmail.com



Stations of the Cross

During Lent, come and reflect on the passion of Our Lord every Friday during Lent at 7pm in the church.



Come and pray the rosary after Morning Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Lent!

Time: 9.45am

Contact: Kay - 0429965858



Please take home a **Project Compassion box** and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More". You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

The following are the dates for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

Enrolment and Commitment —

Tuesday 9 March: Please note one parent is to attend for each child.

Sessions for Confirmation will take place on Sundays:

14 March, 21 March and 28 March

Sessions will be held in the church for one child and 1 parent only.

Depending on enrolments, there may be a 3pm and 4pm session. Children in Year 5 and above can be enrolled for Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on:

Friday, 30 April at 7pm and Sunday, 2 May at 12 noon. There will be a practice session on Sunday, 18 April. Enrolment forms will be available online in the next week or so and will also be available on the Enrolment and Commitment night.

I can be contacted for any questions on 0410 587 735 or stmads.sacraments@gmail.com. A big thanks also to Sally for all her work and commitment to the sacramental process.

Please note the Sacrament for First Reconciliation will commence on 18 May this year.

Kind regards,
Sandra



Tap 'n' Go

As you enter the church, there are two Tap 'n' Go machines to financially contribute to the parish. You have the option of donating \$5 or \$10 each time. If you would like to tap more than once, please allow the machine 5 seconds to process.

Thank you for supporting our parish community!



Social Justice @ St Mads

This Saturday February 13th, we commemorate the historic apology to the Stolen Generations delivered by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in 2008. Our local event hosted by the Mt Druitt Reconciliation Group, is being held at 6pm at Emerton. This is an annual event which brings together First Nations peoples and non-Indigenous folk to hear the stories of survivors of the Stolen Generations and their families. A chance to remember and honour those who were stolen, their parents and their families. To acknowledge the impacts still being felt by survivors, their children and grandchildren. To encourage thought and discussion about our history and what we want for our future. So sad to hear that Patrice is moving on from the role of Social Justice Coordinator in the Diocese. You will be missed. A new initiative in our Inter-Faith journey www.thesydneystatement.org.au/



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$811.50

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$1739.00

Loose = \$914.00

Credit cards/Direct Debit avg weekly = \$2000

TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$4653.00

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!

BAPTISM PREPARATIONS

The next baptism preparation session will be on **Saturday, 6 March 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.



Our heartfelt condolences

To Trish Spencer and her family, who lost her husband, John Spencer, earlier this week. The Risen Christ and our prayers are with you!

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For recently deceased

Anne Langham, John Spencer, Suresh Hirudayanathan, Eileen Conti Zammit, Olive Burns, Tom, June Hanson and James Wilson



For the dearly departed

Nola Sorbello, Sam Sorbello, Michael Sorbello, Mary Ellen Bradley, Patrick Joseph Bradley, Enid & Laurie Riley, Shiela Lopez, Frank Sorbello, Mary Sorbello, Giuseppina Scarpin, Michele Vaccarella, Domenico Teresa Papandrea, Grazia Sorbello, Salvatore Sorbello, Louis Sammut, Jayde Donnelly, Antonio Votano, Esther Theuma, Rita Doyle

For healing of the sick

Imelda Pellison, Justin Ryan, Jasminka Medak, David Parslow, Maureen Burke, Murphy Family, Kerry Rogers, Michael O'Conner, Aureen Dunn, Nancy Anne Kazzi, Aura Krakowski, June Brennen, 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

Special intentions

Irene Haughey

**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

Music Coordinators: Alexandra Mifsud, Selina Calleia & Joan Sattler

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

Welcomes Coordinator:

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest:

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Parish Secretaries:

Jay-Ann Gutierrez
Susie Lee

Sacramental Coordinator

Sandra De Nardi

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



Book Club is continuing via zoom. We are reading a best seller, The Purpose Driven Life by Dr Rick Warren. It is a book of 42 short chapters, with ideally one chapter read daily. Leading us through to find God's purpose for us, we discover a deeper meaning of love, of communion, of reconciliation, of truth.

If you would like to join our Zoom group on Tuesday 23 February at 7.30pm, send me an email to register — careyannemoylan@hotmail.com



Beginning 2 February, come join us via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am 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



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page:

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Parish](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/
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St Madeleine's Primary School Enrolments 2022

Our Open Day is scheduled for Thursday 4th March 9am - 11am in the Hall. Come and hear from the school leadership team and experience a guided tour through our beautiful school. All welcome!

To register your interest in attending our Open Day please click on this link <https://www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au/>

We also have this link in the Forms sections of the St Madeleine's Skoolbag App.

Please encourage your family and friends to come to our Open Day!

Oakhill College Open Day

We warmly invite prospective students and families to the Oakhill College Open Day on Sunday, 7th March from 10.00am—2.00pm.

Join us for a student led tour around our beautiful campus and visit our subject displays, meet our staff and students, watch some of our co-curricular activities and a variety of performances.

Our Principal's Address is at 10.00am, 11.00am and 12.00pm.

Bookings are essential, so please register on our website and for any COVID-19 updates: www.oakhill.nsw.edu.au



Sts Jacinta & Francisco Marto

Feast Day:
20 February



Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese shepherd children from Aljustrel, received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria, near Fátima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. At that time, Europe was involved in an extremely bloody war. Portugal itself was in political turmoil, having overthrown its monarchy in 1910; the government disbanded religious organizations soon after.

At the first appearance, Mary asked the children to return to that spot on the thirteenth of each month for the next six months. She also asked them to learn to read and write and to pray the rosary "to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war." They were to pray for sinners and for the conversion of Russia, which had recently overthrown Czar Nicholas II and was soon to fall under communism. Up to 90,000 people gathered for Mary's final apparition on October 13, 1917.

Less than two years later, Francisco died of influenza in his family home. He was buried in the parish cemetery and then re-buried in the Fátima basilica in 1952. Jacinta died of influenza in Lisbon in 1920, offering her suffering for the conversion of sinners, peace in the world, and the Holy Father. She was re-buried in the Fátima basilica in 1951. Their cousin Lúcia dos Santos, became a Carmelite nun and was still living when Jacinta and Francisco were beatified in 2000; she died five years later. Pope Francis canonized the younger children on his visit to Fátima to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first apparition—May 13, 2017. The shrine of Our Lady of Fátima is visited by up to 20 million people a year.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saints-jacinta-and-francisco-marto>



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

NSW Health has advised that face masks will no longer be mandatory in places of worship. However, this practice is still strongly recommended, especially indoors.

The maximum number of people at places of worship and religious services will only be limited by the 2 square metre rule. There is no cap in numbers except based on the 2 square metre rule.

If a place of public worship has separate buildings, the maximum number of people in each separate building is subject to the 2 square metre rule. If there are separate buildings, each building should have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.

The cap of up to 300 people attending weddings and funerals remains, provided the 2 square metre rule is adhered to.

Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage Preparation Courses

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2021 are now available, with the SmartLoving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

Office For Worship 2021 Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office for Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be held again in 2021 in early February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar at your parish. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org.

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13/14 FEB		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino		Joseph Spina Belinda Da Ruos
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Peter Balnaves	Darren McNeil	Phyllis Hannah	
	READERS	Mary Sammut Paul Cashman	Belinda Da Ruos Tony Hooper	David Hall-O'Dwyer Adriana Kennedy	Simmy Cesamolo Frederick Kyngdon
	JNR MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington		Christopher Kang Monica & Dom Bruggeling	
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Zakia Touma		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
FLOWERS	Donated by Hills Family Funerals Arranged by Alica Garratt		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow	
20/21 FEB	WELCOMERS	Belinda Da Ruos	Maria & Steve Fry Carmel & Mike O'Connell		Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleoi	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Anne & Justin Kyngdon
	JNR MINISTERS		Patrick McNeil	Elizabeth Cauchi	Sara Sawaya
	MUSICIANS	Lisa Jacob	Joan Sattler	Anucia & Team	
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	LENT: NO FLOWERS		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow