



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

24 January 2021
3rd Sunday in Ordinary
Time, Year B
Jon 3: 1–5, 10
1 Cor 7: 29–31
Mk 1: 14–20

“Discipleship is a lifestyle filled with relationships; a life of pouring yourself out for others”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

- 26th January marks Australia Day. “Australia Day is a day to reflect, respect and celebrate the Australian spirit and the best of this country – our mateship, our sense of community and our resilience. We find optimism and hope as we look to the future”. Happy Australia Day!
- The teachers and children are back to school this week. We wish and pray that everything goes well for them in 2021. May they be guided by the Holy Spirit in their efforts to teach and learn respectively!
- I would like to remind you that the congregational singing during the Mass is not yet permitted. Only five singers are allowed to sing keeping the social distance from each other and the congregation. May I therefore request you to adhere to the restriction until we are allowed to glorify God through singing as a congregation. Your cooperation in this regard is very much appreciated.
- In a few weeks, we will begin the season of Lent, a time for renewal of our relationship with ourselves, families (communities) and God. We will mark this season with the Lenten activities and I pray that everyone of you is involved in various activities to make this ‘graceful time’ remarkable. You will be notified of the action plans in a couple of weeks.

Below is the reflection from Connections for this Sunday:

“My youngest daughter always had me kissing her boo-boos. I did it because, as every mother knows, it makes it feel better. What I never understood was the thought process behind the action.

“One day my daughter asked me to kiss her boo-boo when I was pressed for time, so I hurriedly obliged. She cried, telling me it wasn’t any good because my kiss didn’t have any love in it. I realized that kissing boo-boos was really about loving the pain away.

“This simple truth, along with the value of mindfulness my daughter taught me, has encouraged me to slow down, to become more aware and present in the moment. Slowing down is a conscious decision to live at a gentler pace and to make the most of the time I have.

“When my own mother passed away, I did not forget the love she gave me; it will live on in my heart forever. She gave me life, but beyond that, she gave me love . . .

“With that errant kiss, I realized it was my responsibility as a mother to watch over my child’s spiritual growth . . . By simply showing my child kindness through listening, I believe I have satisfied my child’s earliest spiritual needs. By being genuine — that is, personally connected and physically present — I have satisfied my child’s developing spirit.” [Mary Ann Rollano, writing in *Spirituality & Health*, November/December 2005.]

Christ entrusts to each one of us — whether we are a fisherman or a mum — the work of discipleship: to extend, in whatever our circumstances, the love of God to all; to proclaim, in our own homes and communities, the compassion, the forgiveness, the justice of the Gospel. As God is present to us in the person of Jesus, we are called to be present to one another in our love and care. To be the “fishers” that Christ calls us to become is to “cast the net” of God’s love that we have experienced upon the waters of our time and place, to reach out and grasp the hand of those who struggle and stumble, to “love” away the hurt and pain and fear of those we love.

Long time ago, there was a Buddhist teacher who was wise and compassionate. He had many bright students, he taught them meditation and other practices. They held him in high respect. But there was this one thing in the monastery that they couldn’t tolerate.

There was a young disciple who would often steal from his brother monks, he would steal their money, he would steal small things in the monastery.

Monks complained about him to their teacher "Master! He steals things from us, please advise him" The wise one said "Give him some time, he will learn. I'll talk to him". Wise one called the young disciple after everyone had left, "These things are puny, only right practice will give you what you crave for, work hard on your practice, stop stealing things."

The young monk prostrated before the wise one in respect and left. He was ashamed of his habit. He was determined to try and stop his habit.

Cont...



He was an intelligent and good person, like most people who come on the path, but it was too difficult for him to change his mental pattern (Isn't it often difficult for everyone?)

Few days passed without any trouble, but he could not resist the temptation for long. He fell and unfortunately for him he was caught again. Monks paraded again to the wise one taking the culprit along. The wise one dismissed them saying, "Give him some time, he will learn".

They caught him a few more times and brought him in front of the wise one for justice. He would simply dismiss them saying, "Don't mind him, do your practices. He will learn to behave". Monks were all growing impatient with their teacher for his strange behaviour. They couldn't understand why he wouldn't send him out of the monastery.

It happened once again. They submitted the young monk in front of him, and not surprisingly, he neglected the case without saying much. This time monks were determined; they wanted a permanent decision from the Guru's part. They said in chorus, "Master we can't take it anymore, you can keep us here or this thief, we will not stay here if he stays".

"Alright then, you all may leave. I'm not going to abandon him", came the reply. The monks were all surprised at the unexpected answer. "Oh master! O master! Please!" pleaded the disciples in gentle voice. "You are all good disciples; you will get admission into any monastery. But he won't be accepted anywhere else. I'm not going to leave him", said the compassionate one. The young monk who was watching all this commotion was touched by the compassion of the great one. His resolve was so strong that he gave up stealing thereafter for good.

We are called to be the disciples of love for only love can change even the toughest hearts.

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1169.75

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$1511.00

Loose = \$595.15

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2000

TOTAL OF 2ND COLLECTION = \$4106.15

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 February 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.



Congratulations to the newly baptized!

Dominic Monti
Sunday, 24 January 2021



PARISH NEWS

Social Justice @ St Mads

Lenten retreat: I will be leading a Lenten on-line retreat Finding God in a Leaf <https://jisa.org.au/retreat/finding-god-in-a-leaf-online-group-retreat-during-lent/> Other JISA retreats includes the Heart of Creation February 28th at Canisius, Pymble <https://jisa.org.au/retreat/heart-of-creation/>

A Laudato Si' action in a neighbouring parish. Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Seven Hills will offer its air-conditioned church and a nearby hall as venues that would become go-to places on high heat days for the local community to gather — with toilets, comfortable seating and cold water close by. A Blacktown City Council spokesperson said the program aims to ensure vulnerable residents without air-conditioning can access shelter from heatwaves. Blacktown City Council declared a climate emergency in February last year and is committed to zero net emissions by 2040.



Come and pray the rosary after Morning Mass on Thursdays!
Time: 9.45am
Contact: Kay - 0429965858
Lydia Ceccato - 0400372561



Sunday Gospel Reflections and Book Club will resume in February 2021! For more info details contact Careyanne at careyannemoylan@hotmail.com or 0438 791 813

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For recently deceased

Tom, June Hanson and James Wilson

For the dearly departed

Domenico Teresa Papandrea, Grazia Sorbello, Salavatore Sorbello, Louis Sammiut, Jayde Donnelly, Antonio Votano, Esther Theuma, Rita Doyle, Mulvihill & Culligan Family, Michelle Vaccarella, Pablito Corpuz, Antonio Ceroli, Portelli Family, Buttigieg Family, Felician Sabellano, Alf Barbagallo, Philomena Beresford, Giuseppina & Giovanni Scarpin, Giulia & Fulvio Russo, Ron Callanan

For healing of the sick

Anne Lingham, Jasminka Medak, 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 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

Welcomers 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

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

"Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive" - Pope Francis

What is Reconciliation?

Reconciliation (officially called the Sacrament of Penance, and also known as Confession) is a Sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in his love and mercy to offer us forgiveness for the times we have sinned and turned away from God. At the same time, we are reconciled with the Church because it is also wounded by our sins.

Every time we sin, we hurt ourselves, other people and God. In Reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and the Church. We express our sorrow in a meaningful way, receive the forgiveness of Christ and his Church, make reparation for what we have done, and resolve to do better in the future.

The forgiveness of sins involves four parts:

Contrition: A sincere sorrow for having offended God, and a firm resolve not to repeat our sin.

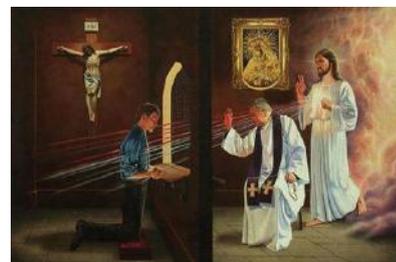
Confession: Confronting our sins in a profound way to God by speaking them aloud to the priest.

Penance: An important part of our healing is the penance the priest gives us in reparation for our sins.

Absolution: The priest speaks the words by which we are reconciled to God and are absolved from our sins.

To be continued...

Source: Diocese of Broken Bay



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parish Facebook page:

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St Thomas Aquinas

Feast Day:
28th
January



By universal consent, Thomas Aquinas is the preeminent spokesman of the Catholic tradition of reason and of divine revelation. He is one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church, honored with the titles Doctor of the Church and Angelic Doctor.

At five he was given to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino in his parents' hopes that he would choose that way of life and eventually become abbot. In 1239, he was sent to Naples to complete his studies. It was here that he was first attracted to Aristotle's philosophy.

By 1243, Thomas abandoned his family's plans for him and joined the Dominicans, much to his mother's dismay. On her order, Thomas was captured by his brother and kept at home for over a year.

Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great. He held two professorships at Paris, lived at the court of Pope Urban IV, directed the Dominican schools at Rome and Viterbo, combated adversaries of the mendicants, as well as the Averroists, and argued with some Franciscans about Aristotelianism.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings. One might expect Thomas, as a man of the gospel, to be an ardent defender of revealed truth. But he was broad enough, deep enough, to see the whole natural order as coming from God the Creator, and to see reason as a divine gift to be highly cherished. Cont...

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-thomas-aquinas>

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: As we begin a new year please remember the suffering Church. Your donation helps keep the faith alive during these difficult times. Visit www.aidtochurch.org



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Positions Vacant:

Parish Secretary – St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains and Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath – Applications close 12 February 2021

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. It is currently mandatory that masks be worn 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

Annual Legal Red Mass: 4 February

The Annual Red Mass, which gives thanks for the work of those who serve the law, will be held on Thursday 4 February at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm, followed by a light supper. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm a commitment to justice and faith. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by emailing events@stpatscathedral.com.au or by phone to (02) 8839 8411 by Friday 29 January.

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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23/24 JAN		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Dianne Millington	Carol & Terry Scott Amber G, Brendan F	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Lidia Ceccato Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Joe Touma	Jhun Javier
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Trish Keating	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
	MUSICIANS	Joan Sattler		Merle and Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
FLOWERS	Arranged by Mari, Maureen and Pauline		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt	

30/31 JAN	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating Belinda Da Ruos	Maureen & Rick Jones	Teresa Capaldi	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Phyllis Hannah	
	READERS	Mary Sammut Paul Cashman	Anthony Hooper Gerry McArdle	Annamarie Duncan Marietta Nesci	Joanna O'Neil Lidia Ceccato
	JNR MINISTERS	Monica & Dom Bruggeling	Bailey & Casey Gambrell	Christopher Kang	Thomas & James Barker
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler		
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS	Donated and arranged by Linda Pellizer		ALTAR LINEN	Vicky Hooper