



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

12 September 2021

24rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

Spiritual identity means we are not what we do or what people say about us. And we are not what we have. We are the beloved daughters and sons of God ~ Henri Nouwen

We all have to answer crucial questions in life. When we're young, our grandmother asks, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" and we can say "a doctor", "an engineer", "a sports person", "a soccer player", "a fireman" etc. without following through. But, in time, the question "What will you do with your life?" requires a mature, thoughtful answer. Today, there are so many questions regarding Covid and the vaccination which each one has to answer sincerely from one's own heart in solidarity with the vulnerable and afflicted. In great faith and love of God, one has to make a choice that will enhance the wellbeing of the entire community and the world at large.

That famous question, "Who do you say that I am?" occurs in this Sunday's Gospel. It can be a very important discernment question because how we answer it affects everything. If you say Jesus was a good man who set a good example, that may be nice, but it doesn't necessarily call a person to any radical change. If you say Jesus is the one who will judge us in the end, then it might just make you anxious and act out of guilt. If you say Jesus is the creator of the universe manifesting in human form to teach us how to live and love, you might feel more drawn to respond with your life.

At a very personal level, we probably answer this question differently from others, and even for ourselves at different points in our lives. Because Jesus is also a 'person,' we are in a relationship, and relationships change over time. Jesus may not change, but our understanding of him and way of relating to him will. Some of the different answers I have had to this question: Jesus you are... my partner... my hope... a carer... a challenger... the one I take time with each night and morning... the core relationship in my life.

Discernment involves other people. But the strongest voice in becoming who I am, and discerning what I am called to do, is the voice of Jesus. It challenges us to examine ourselves, 'who we really are, and who we portray ourselves to be'. Do not forget, there's the "you" in you who others see but you don't; there's the "you" in you who both you and every other person sees; and there's the "you" in you who only yourself sees and knows. To me, this last one is the most important because that is who you really are. And so, today's message is an opportunity to take stock, and decide like the prophet Isaiah in the first reading (Is 50:5-9a), to yield to God at all times.

In our mobile, individualistic, therapeutic, technologically-driven culture "we develop our concept of self by watching how other people react to different versions of ourselves that we present" (Charles Horton Cooley). Our self-esteem and identity mainly come from what outside eyes see in us and what outside voices say about us. We are made "in God's image" and we are made to reflect Him. In our increasingly secular society, God, faith and service to others no longer serve as a means of identity. Our relationships have thinned out and our identities are more fragile. We are driven by 'image consciousness' and we do everything to keep our image without counting the cost. We allow others to determine who we are for us. Today's gospel invites us to walk with our God in deep relationship with Him and His people which gives us the true picture of who we are and helps us to live our Christian life even with the little we have and the little we can contribute, remembering that 'faith without good works is dead' (James 2:26). It is this identity that helps us in our difficult times and especially during this pandemic to submit ourselves patiently to God and wait for this Covid storm to pass.

Do not forget, the question is, before God and men, "who are you?" and who I am enables me to answer who Jesus is for me? (Excerpted from Sister Lorraine and Fr Uchendu Simeon)

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



PARISH NEWS

COOLING WITH LOCKDOWN

Living in lockdown is a very interesting concept, by and large there has been very little change in our lifestyle. Being retired we do not have the pressures of work, home-schooling or entertaining children all day. The one thing we miss very much is looking after our young grandchildren two days a week. We Zoom our grandchildren or FaceTime them when possible but with the network as it is, this can be difficult but rewarding. We have established a new normal "routine", up early, breakfast, Mass in the lounge room with a cup of tea, and listening to Father Vince. We were listening to the morning briefing by the Premier at 11am but after a while we decided that too much news was having a negative effect. We now just listen to the nightly news which is bad enough.

On the positive side we have become well acquainted with our house, painting, gardening and taking the time to enjoy each other's company over many cups of tea. Whilst outside we have noticed the number of different birds that frequent our backyard and garden, which is so delightful. So COVID has forced us to slow down, notice and enjoy our environment. We are fortunate to be a part of the Mass as the readers once a week and we are nourished by the Eucharist. We now know most of the neighbours by name and often talk, mask on of course, whilst walking around the area or if they happen to pass by. We Zoom with one of our grandchildren to assist with school work which we enjoy very much and often see the other occupants of her household. We have experienced many Zoom activities for example a birthday trivia with lots of family and friends which was a lot of fun and of course our team won which made it even sweeter. So, Zoom has become our new normal; wow, we did not know what Zoom was once! So, on balance we look forward to being able to see our friends in person, our kids in person and enjoy Mass as a community once again and to travel again, hopefully soon.



Steven and Maria Fry

INVITATION TO A ZOOM CATCH-UP SESSION WITH FR VINCE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,
How are you holding up in these troubled times? I believe you are resilient and hopeful that we will come back together soon once the restrictions are lifted. It has been 12 weeks since we last met...I hope you have been, and continue to join the live stream Masses at least on Sundays to grow in our connection with the Lord. I would like to invite you to join me in a Zoom meeting on Thursday for a quick catch-up! Looking forward to seeing you then!

Fr Vince

Date : Thursday, September 16, 2021
Time : 07:00 PM
Meeting ID : 833 3362 4071
Passcode : vbY9pq

ST MADS CARE GROUP

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



ON-LINE DIOCESAN TRAINING COURSE : SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS

Could I please request everyone who has a particular role in the parish to participate in the **Mandatory Safeguarding Training** conducted via Zoom by the Diocesan Professional Standards Office. The training relates to two diocesan documents: "Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults" and "Code of Conduct for Caring for Children" The training aims to ensure that all those who work with children and persons in positions of responsibility in our Parish have read and understand the documents. I do appreciate your readiness to resume serving our Parish community once the Covid restrictions are eased. Training dates presently available are 7pm on 12th October, 26th October & 9th November. Please email Maria Kervin on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org to register and for Zoom meeting details.

Fr Vince

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MADS

A combined Hills Christian community leaders had a visit with Minister Alex Hawke last Wed about the four asks that Micah has put together.

1. Welcome Afghan refugees in Australia.
2. Protect Afghans already in Australia.
3. Reunite refugee families.
4. Support NGOs & organisations working in the region.

Minister Hawke shared the amazing work that his office and those involved on the ground in Afghanistan have done to help get so many get out of Afghanistan before the airport closed. We as a Christian delegation offered to provide humanitarian support for Afghans in Australia and to continue praying for Afghanistan.

Season of Creation opportunity *Greening our Hearts retreat with Sue Martin*

Saturday, Sept 25th 9:30-11:30am. Register https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUvcu6urT4uHNNlwck_kIAU-8ldfPh1yb4u

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you so much for your ongoing support, which has been very vital to keep our Parish going strong. We continue to pay off the loan towards the construction of our beautiful church. May we ask of your generous contribution towards the upkeep of the parish with its various incidental expenses. You can drop off the envelopes at the parish office or you can do it electronically to:-

Account Name : Kenthurst Catholic Church
BSB : 067950
Account Number : 0000388

Please, include your name and envelope number in the reference description or simply state 'donation' if you have not joined the Planned Giving Program. You can specify if it is for the first collection (to the diocese for the maintenance of clergy) or second collection (for the upkeep of the parish). Your good will and support are very much appreciated.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new set of Planned Giving envelopes for the year (Sep 2021 - Aug 2022) are now available for pick-up from the parish office (Tue-Fri, 10am-4pm). Your continued generosity in supporting our parish is greatly appreciated.

SUSPENSION OF MASSES AND SACRAMENTS

All public Masses & Sacraments are temporarily suspended due to the current lockdown.

Join us for live streamed mass at 9am (Tues-Fri) and 10am on Sunday

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Masses-113377783718546/>



Our Parish Winter Appeal will be held once the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, those who love to contribute may do so by dropping in your contributions at our Parish Office

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For recently deceased

Engracia Corpuz, Barry McBride, Doris Jacobs, Kevin Cook, Joseph Galea, India, Fr Peter Caruana, Fran Sanders, Edith Irwin, Jim Shipley, Philomena Beresford, Lenard Gauci, Maureen McCartney, Romano Bandiera.

For the dearly departed

Marine & Mansour Nasri, Jack, Vincenzo Tonitto, Matty Maguire, Angelina Pardo-Adan, Mulvihill and Culligan family, Dermot Murphy, Emmanuel Galea, Ivan Ceccato, Helena Culligan, Laurie Riley, Tm Mulvihill, Maria Ceroli, Costantino Giudice, Sr Rona Collins.

For healing of the sick

John Burford, Margaret Doyle, Josh Kennedy, David Parslow, Maureen Burke, Imelda Pellison, Jasminka Medak, Murphy Family, Kerry Rogers, Michael O'Conner, Aureen Dunn, Aura Krakowszky, Nancy Anne Kazzi, 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, Pat D, Anis Nicholas, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Dorothy Green, 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, Patrick, Faye Willing, 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

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:

Sharyll Netto
Susie Lee

Sacramental Coordinator

Sandra De Nardi

St Madeleine's Primary School

Phone: 9654 6751

Principal: Mrs Barbara Young

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/>



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish>

PARISH ZOOM ACTIVITIES

Activity	Date	Time	Zoom Meeting ID / Contact Info
Sunday Gospel	Every Tues	10:30am	Contact Careyane on careyannemoylan@hotmail.com or 0438 791 813
Rosary	Every Mon Every Thurs	7:00pm 9:45am	Meeting ID: 840 2707 2956 Meeting ID: 884 0505 6508
Alpha Program	21 Sept 21	7:00pm	Contact : Suzanne 0410936108 or Careyane on 0438 791 813
Book Club	28 Sept 21	7.30pm	Get your free copy at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco-20150524-enciclica-laudato-si.html Contact Careyane on 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com

Kindergarten 2022

We are still accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2022 and welcome your application. Please check the school's website www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au to download the application and forward it to the school office as soon as possible.



READERS ROSTERS	12 SEPTEMBER 2020	19 SEPTEMBER 2020
	Nigel Saunders Adriana Kennedy	Gerry McArdle Sally Coppini

**Saint of the Day : Our Lady of Sorrows
Feast Day: 15 September**



For a while there were two feasts in honor of the Sorrowful Mother: one going back to the 15th century, the other to the 17th century. For a while both were celebrated by the universal Church: one on the Friday before Palm Sunday, the other in September.

The principal biblical references to Mary's sorrows are in Luke 2:35 and John 19:26-27. The Lucan passage is Simeon's prediction about a sword piercing Mary's soul; the Johannine passage relates Jesus' words from the cross to Mary and to the beloved disciple.

Many early Church writers interpret the sword as Mary's sorrows, especially as she saw Jesus die on the cross. Thus, the two passages are brought together as prediction and fulfillment.

Saint Ambrose in particular sees Mary as a sorrowful yet powerful figure at the cross. Mary stood fearlessly at the cross while others fled. Mary looked on her Son's wounds with pity, but saw in them the salvation of the world. As Jesus hung on the cross, Mary did not fear to be killed, but offered herself to her persecutors.

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

Pastoral Formation

DEANERY, DIOCESAN AND PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FORMATION AND TRAINING

SERVING CHRIST'S MISSION

Who is the neighbour that Jesus says we are called to love?
How can I listen to them and the signs of the times in our parish?
Being held on Wednesday, 22nd September 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm via Zoom
Please call 8838 3441 or contact Tanya Quinn at tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org for more information.
REGISTER AT [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/29RUZHU9](https://tinyurl.com/29RUZHU9)

Seeing how distressed his parishioners were at being locked out of their church, Fr Joseph (Joe) Lam, parish priest of St Finbar's Parish in Glenbrook has written a book of reflections to help them cope and even find goodness that might come from the pandemic. He's also donating the proceeds of the book, *I Will Cause My Spirit To Enter You And You Shall Live: Biblical Theological Essays on the Pandemic* to the **Diocese of Parramatta's Clergy Support Foundation**. For over 15 years, Fr Joe has lectured theology in Germany, Italy, Belgium, Africa, the US and Australia. He has authored six monographs and over 60 peer-reviewed articles in German, English, Italian and Spanish. **Costs \$AUD9.99 plus postage. It can be purchased directly from Fr Joe.**
To order a copy, email Fr Joe at joseph.lam@parracatholic.org.



Thank you for caring for our retired clergy

Thanks to your kind and compassionate support, the [Clergy Support Foundation](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) can continue to ensure our priests' physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing is nurtured. And, where needed, support our ageing priests' daily living, health care and medical expenses; along with home comforts and essentials for living well. The Clergy Foundation Committee is very grateful for your generous donations over the last few weeks, both via online portal or by mail, which have raised just over \$60,000 as of Thursday 9 September, about a third of our way to our target. Hopefully we will soon be able to hold the appeal in our parishes. Thanks again and if you haven't yet made a donation and would like to, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

**Volunteer in Australia and Overseas
The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco**

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close 30 Oct 21. Visit www.cagliero.org.au

Donate to Caritas' Emergency Response Appeal for Haiti

Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. There is immediate & urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground. Donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal by visiting www.caritas.org.au



A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: Education of Catechists
ACN supports the formation and training of catechists so that where there are no priests or sisters, catechists are trained and sent forth to nurture the Christian community. With the help of our benefactors, ACN supported the formation of 18,389 catechists and lay leaders in 2020. Can you help provide support and formation to catechists to help spread the Faith? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/catechists.



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Many parishes around the Diocese are celebrating Masses online. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

'The Well' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

World Day of Prayer for Creation & Season of Creation

Pope Francis has designated September 1 as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. Join Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying for and taking action for our common home on 1 September and during the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

Thank you for caring for our retired clergy

Thanks to your kind and compassionate support, the [Clergy Support Foundation](http://parracatholic.org/clergy-support-foundation) can continue to ensure our priests' physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing is nurtured. And, where needed, support our ageing priests' daily living, health care and medical expenses; along with home comforts and essentials for living well. Donations for the Father's Day Appeal can be made at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

Diocese of Parramatta launches Plenary Council resource website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. The first assembly starts in October, so visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.

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