



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

03 October 2021

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Genesis 2:18-24

Hebrews 2:9-11

Mark 10:2-16

"To be happy with a man you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all" ~ Helen Rowland

A married couple came to a marriage counselor for advice. No sooner were they seated, than they began speaking at the same time in a duel of criticisms. When they finally stopped for lack of breath, the counselor suggested that now they tell each other all the good they see in one another. There was a total silence. Then each one was given a ballpoint pen and a sheet of paper and told to write down something praiseworthy about the other. Neither of them wrote. They both sat and stared at the paper. After what seemed like a long time, the husband started to write something. At once the wife also began to write – fast and furiously. Finally, the writing stopped. There was silence again. The wife pushed her paper over to the watching counselor. He pushed it back signaling that she was to give it directly to her husband. She reluctantly shoved the paper halfway across the table. He took it and in turn, slid his paper towards his wife. Each began to read. The counselor watched. Soon a tear slid down the cheek of the wife. She crumpled the paper in her fist and held it tight. That proved that she treasured the sudden revelation of good things her husband had expressed about her. The whole atmosphere of the room changed. There was no need for anything to be said. Praise had healed a thousand wounds. The husband and wife left arm in arm.

So, it is true what Franklin P. Jones had said: "The difference between marital and martial is a matter of where you put the letter l."

In today's gospel, the Pharisees point out that the Mosaic Law allows an Israelite man to divorce his wife. A verse on marriage from the Book of Deuteronomy states that when a man finds in his wife 'something indecent,' he writes a bill of divorce, hands it to her and dismisses her from his house (24:1). It is like throwing garbage into the garbage can. How about if the wife finds something indecent in her husband, can she also write a bill of divorce and hand it to her husband? It is not stated. Jesus takes a clear and strong stand on the permanence of marriage. He is drawing the inspiration from the creation account that they should be equals, friends, soul mates to each other. They are one to the end. What God has united; man must not divide. That's why marriage is a covenant not a contract. But what we witness is something different. The permanency in marriage seems to be out of place in society and divorce is accepted as a way of life.

It is most disheartening that divorce and separation have wrecked many marriages. It has become a common phenomenon in our society as innumerable applications for divorce besiege courthouses on a daily basis just as marriage tribunals are getting busier every day. Today, people are getting married not for better and for worse but as long as the parties are finding it convenient. Problems and challenges are not strange in marriage unions. Adam and Eve who began this enterprise had their challenge at the time they ate the forbidden fruit and their eventual fall (Genesis 3). This did not set them apart as they went further to live together and to procreate.

In most marriages, couples are not living together, they are just staying and existing together. Some marriages at most have lost taste and vitality. Problems arise in marriages because from the outset some marry for the wrong reasons or the wrong persons. There is a story about two married women who went out for lunch break. While they were eating one of them discovered that her friend was wearing her wedding ring on the wrong finger, and she inquired: "Hey you are wearing your wedding ring on the wrong finger!" The other immediately replied "Yes because I married the wrong man!"

It is a fact that marriages are crumbling because those who went into it did so with some motives that have no relationship with love. Love here is not merely based on physical and material attributes (for instance what you see or feel) which are bound to fade. The love that we mean is the one St. Paul took time to examine in 1 Cor 13:1-13. Among other things St. Paul established that love is patient and kind, selfless, truthful, hopeful, it neither is jealous, irritable nor finds glory in evil things. (4-7). Life in general brings a lot of challenges. There are problems in life whether you are married or unmarried. The effective and efficient way of handling life's concerns is to get closer to God and to be stronger in faith, love and forgiveness. As the saying goes, "A happy and lasting marriage is the union of two forgivers". May we pray for all families, especially the ones struggling for one reason or another!

Just for fun:

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years. The Wizard says, 'Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you.' The old man says without hesitation, 'I now pronounce you man and wife.' (Sources are duly acknowledged)

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince



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

Saint of the Day

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska

Feast Day : October 05

Saint Faustina's name is forever linked to the annual feast of the Divine Mercy, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and the Divine Mercy prayer recited each day at 3 p.m. by many people.



Born in what is now west-central Poland, Helena Kowalska was the third of 10 children. She worked as a housekeeper in three cities before joining the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 1925. She worked as a cook, gardener and porter in three of their houses. In addition to carrying out her work faithfully, generously serving the needs of the sisters and the local people, Sister Faustina also had a deep interior life. This included receiving revelations from the Lord Jesus, messages that she recorded in her diary at the request of Christ and of her confessors. At a time when some Catholics had an image of God as such a strict judge that they might be tempted to despair about the possibility of being forgiven, Jesus chose to emphasize his mercy and forgiveness for sins acknowledged and confessed. "I do not want to punish aching mankind," he once told Saint Faustina, "but I desire to heal it, pressing it to my merciful heart." The two rays emanating from Christ's heart, she said, represent the blood and water poured out after Jesus' death. Because Sister Maria Faustina knew that the revelations she had already - *con't* - Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-maria-faustina-kowalska>

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>

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" & "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. Please email Maria Kervin on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org for training dates, registration and for Zoom meeting details - Fr Vince



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

READERS ROSTERS

03 OCT 2021

10 OCT 2021

Rosanna Ceroli
Belinda Da Ruos

Nigel Saunders
Adriana Kennedy

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.



POSITIONS VACANT

Human Resources Partner

Diocese of Parramatta

Human Resources Manager

Diocese of Parramatta

Digital Content Creator

Diocese of Parramatta

Applications close 10pm, Monday 4 October

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

POSITION VACANT

Religious Education (RE) Teacher
Full time, Stages 4-6

Oakhill College is an Independent Catholic Secondary School (conducted in the Anglican tradition) with an enrolment of 2,000 students, boys from 7 to 12 and girls from 10 to 12. Oakhill College is located in Castle Hill, and offers a wide range of subject choices and extra-curricular activities.

Due to growth Oakhill College seeks to appoint an innovative, experienced and highly skilled RE Teacher with excellent communication skills and classroom experience. The successful applicant will have knowledge of current developments in teaching and learning and a passion and enthusiasm for teaching. Applicants are invited from suitably qualified educators for this full-time position commencing in January 2022.

TO APPLY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
<https://www.oakhill.nsw.edu.au/about/employment>

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 & 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.**

"I cannot say again in every year, and you shall live"
(Ezekiel 37:5)
Biblical Theological Essays on the Pandemic



Joseph O. Lam

FOR WE CANNOT KEEP FROM SPEAKING about what we have SEEN & HEARD ACTS 4:20

In three weeks, Catholic Mission will share the essential mission work of Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, as they reach out to vulnerable mothers and their babies during their time of need.

You will have the opportunity to respond to this great work and help Sister Chalaad reach out to more mothers and their babies.

Please come with an open and generous heart.



catholic mission

Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/thailand



A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: That Catholic Shop is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From Sacramental gifts, statues, books, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of Aid to the Church in Need to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit www.thatcatholicshop.com.



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

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this country on which we worship



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

Thank you for caring for our retired clergy

Thanks to your kind and compassionate support, the [Clergy Support Foundation](http://www.parracatholic.org/retiredclergy) 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.

Young people of the Diocese – we are with you

"I am with you always" – Matthew 28:20. The Diocese has launched a new website in response to the mental health crisis impacting our young people. The website parracatholic.org/withyou contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families.

Join Bishop Vincent at Mass for the opening of the Plenary Council

On Sunday 3 October at 11am AEDT, you are invited to join Bishop Vincent as he celebrates a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit for the Plenary Council from St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Watch the Mass live on the St Patrick's Cathedral Facebook and YouTube channels. The official opening Mass for the Plenary Council will be celebrated by Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB from St Mary's Cathedral, Perth at 2pm AEDT. Watch the opening Mass via plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1

Season of Creation 2021

Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying and taking action for our common home during Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

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