



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

SOLEMNITY OF MARY , THE MOTHER OF GOD

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

“Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.”- Albert Einstein

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy New Year! May this year bring us glad tidings and renew the face of the earth! United, we pray that God will bless the entire world with His grace, joy, love, peace and justice! As we are moving from a turbulent and difficult year 2021, may the words of Pope John XXIII motivate us to embrace 2022 with a positive outlook.



“Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern not yourself with what you tried and failed in, but what it is still possible to do. Now is the time to put aside past and present setbacks and failures and look with confidence to the new day called tomorrow”.

Following is the sharing of Fr Phil Bloom for this Sunday:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Magi. One translation calls them astrologers - men who carefully studied the night skies. They were proto-scientists. As such they give us the opportunity to say something about science and religion.



We know that the perceived conflict between science and religion causes many of our children to lose their faith. Studies show that children as young as ten give up the faith because they conclude that "science disproves religion". Often, they are referring to a materialist theory of evolution that has no place for God. They see that science makes possible space exploration, medical miracles and cell phones. Religion by way of contrast, seems like "fairy tales".

First, as Christians we need to recognize that science is our daughter. Modern science developed out of the medieval university system founded by the Catholic Church. Most of the great scientists - including Copernicus and Galileo - were practicing Christians. For sure, there were unfortunate episodes like the silencing of Galileo, but overall, the Church honoured and promoted scientists. It's no accident that 34 craters of the moon and ten asteroids bear the names of Jesuit priests. Jesuits weren't the only priest scientists. George LeMaitre who first formulated the Big Bang theory was a diocesan priest - like me (although a little bit smarter). The "war of religion and science" is an imaginary war. I remember one telling me he had come to believe in God because the Big Bang theory fits so well with the book of Genesis.

We are blessed to live in a time with so many scientific advances. This has led people to practically worship science. But we should not worship science. We should use science. When my doctor told me I had an abdominal aneurysm, I had already made plans to go to Peru. I asked her the chances it would burst. She said statistically about 5% - over a year's time. I prayed about what to do. I could have taken my chances, but I made the decision to postpone Peru to address that medical issue. My point is that even though science and medicine offer great benefits, each person has to decide how he will use them. As Christians we do not worship science. We humbly and gratefully use science and medicine.

This brings up a big issue: the authority of science. Some people want science to govern our lives. They consider science the only valid knowledge. This view is called "scientism". As Christians we love science but we avoid scientism. We do not believe that only science offers valid knowledge. For example, in addition to science, history, literature and art deliver their own wisdom. Even fairy tales can communicate profound truths. Modern examples are Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter. Heck, a lot of the popularity of evolution comes from its "just so" stories, for example the ones that explain why men act the way we do and women the way they do. Truth (and distortion) come from a lot of angles. For us the greatest font of truth is the Bible and Christian tradition. Like other sources of knowledge, the Bible and Tradition have their own rules and guidelines. They have their own "science".

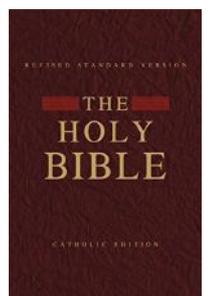
Science contains much truth. History and literature propose different kinds of truth. But the Bible offers truth you will find nowhere else: God's truth, practical truth to guide you here on earth and bring you to your eternal goal. Science is wonderful, but you need something more.

What does this mean for a young person who wants to discover life's purpose? First, recognize that science ultimately comes from God. Use science with gratitude, but do not worship science. Notice that when the Magi found Jesus, they realized they now had something greater than their science: "on entering the house they saw the child with Mary, his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage."

They continued to study the night sky, but now God spoke to them in another way. "And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way."

Pope Benedict expressed it this way: "To be sure, we do not possess the truth, the truth possesses us: Christ, who is the truth, has taken us by the hand, and we know that his hand is holding us securely on the path of our quest for knowledge."

The Magi used the best science they had, but in the end, they worshiped Jesus. Like them let's honour and use science, but as for worship, that belongs to God alone.



God's blessings
Fr. Vince

PARISH NEWS



PRAYER AT ST MADS

The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday Morning at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
RCIA	For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office
St Mads Care Group	Provide parish support and care such as meals, transport, shopping and assistance to members of our parish. Contact Bernadette 0418 248 256
St Mads Rosary	Thursday after morning mass & Monday night at 7pm Via Zoom Zoom meeting ID 840 2707 2956 Contact Lydia Ceccato & Kay Brook
Baptism Preparation	First Saturday of the month in Function centre. Ring /email Parish office for booking 9654 2260 (Tuesday—Fri 10am—4 pm or stmads@yahoo.com.au). Next session : Saturday 8 Jan 2022



Five Undeniable Facts of Life:

1. Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be Happy. So, when they grow up, they will know the value of things, not the price.
2. Best awarded words in London ... "Eat your food as your medicines. Otherwise, you have to eat medicines as your food."
3. The One who loves you will never leave you because even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find one reason to hold on.
4. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.
5. You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

Live every day

A group of students being a bit puzzled by problems went to one of their favourite teachers for advice. This teacher had gained their confidence because he seemed to have something the rest lacked. The teacher tried his best to help them, and in concluding said to them "Live the day before you die for God." "One of the boys objected, "How can we do that? We don't know the day we are going to die." "Then," smiled the teacher, "live every day as if it were the day before you die. It's as simple as that. Let 365 days of 2022 be filled with life and laughter!

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. 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

Parishioners wishing to donate or pledge their giving via direct debit, please pick up the form at the church and submit to Fr Vincent after completion

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$546.20
2nd Collection (for Parish)
 Envelopes = \$749.00
 Loose = \$820.50
 Credit cards/Direct Debit Ave weekly= \$2087.50

Thank you for your generosity!

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MADS



What is your New Year's resolution for 2022?? Alice Carwardine from Catholic Earthcare has created a year of goals that can be downloaded from Over Turn the Tables. www.overturnthetables.net/some-steps-to-ecological-conversion-1 Alice's says "my new years resolution is to do everything that I possibly can to help heal the environment and tread lightly on the earth". Tips from Alice to assist us as we become an Earthcare parish is to change the way we think about our possessions. Some things

Alice suggests we ask; Can I... Refuse? Reduce? Reuse? Refill? Rot? Recycle? Buy second hand? Buy local? Buy package free? Buy in bulk? Make something? Grow something? 2022 is the [International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture](http://www.internationalyearofartisanalfisheriesandaquaculture.org)

COVID 19 UPDATE

Wearing of the face mask in our church and Check -in using the QR code or registering your details upon entry is mandatory.



PIETY SHOP

Are you looking for a gift for a special person for Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptism & Birthdays? Come and have a look in the piety shop We have an ever changing array of gifts and religious items. Special orders are welcome too . We are open after every weekend mass. Contact Sandra Tabone on 0413272400 for any special requests.

COLUMBIAN CALENDARS AND MAGELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2022 Calendars and cards now available for purchase in piety shop
 Calendars \$10 and cards \$7



CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers for various ministries in our parish. Please contact Parish Office if you can help



For the dearly departed:

Barbara Wood, Karen Draddy, Elizabeth Graby, Thea Crowe, James D'arcy, Keith Okey, Marguerita Rigby, Michele Vacearella, Pablito Corpuz, Feliciana Sabellano, Setna Mulvihill, Mulvihill Family, Culligan family, Dominico Teresa Papaudrea, George Hajje, George Moit, Adel Abraham, Mila Lovric, Pero Lovric, Portelli & Buttigieg Family, Philomena Beresford, George Cascun, Josephine Cortis, Norman & Chahida Hajje, Sheaddy & Chahida Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Betty & Mary Merhi, Joe Galea.



For healing of the sick :

Rostmarie Huber

**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 Shop: 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:

Anastasia Abdipranoto
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 : Adrian of Canterbury

Feast Day: 09 January



Though Saint Adrian turned down a papal request to become Archbishop of Canterbury, England, Pope Saint Vitalian accepted the rejection on the condition that Adrian serve as the Holy Father's assistant and adviser. Adrian accepted, but ended up spending most of his life and doing most of his work in Canterbury.

Born in Africa, Adrian was serving as an abbot in Italy when the new Archbishop of Canterbury appointed him abbot of the monastery of Saints Peter and Paul in Canterbury. Thanks to his leadership skills, the facility became one of the most important centers of learning. The school attracted many outstanding scholars from far and wide and produced numerous future bishops and archbishops. Students reportedly learned Greek and Latin and spoke Latin as well as their own native languages.

Adrian taught at the school for 40 years. He died there, probably in the year 710, and was buried in the monastery. Several hundred years later, when reconstruction was being done, Adrian's body was discovered in an incorrupt state. As word spread, people flocked to his tomb, which became famous for miracles. Rumor had it that young schoolboys in trouble with their masters made regular visits there.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-adrian-of-canterbury>



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

Kindergarten 2022

We are still accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2022 and welcome your application. Please check the school's website www.stmadeleinekenthurst.catholic.edu.au to download the application and forward it to the school office as soon as possible. Come and be part of our beautiful community!



Liturgical Ministry Formation Course 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin early next year in February. For more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>



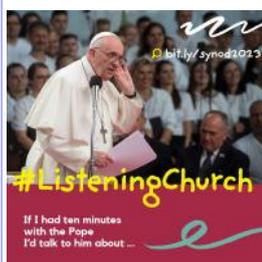
Aid to the Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

This month can you provide Transport for Pastoral Care in Malawi? Your support will help priests and religious to visit their people and aid their ministry to administer the sacraments and to keep the Faith alive. Visit www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject



Synod of Bishops 2021 – 2023 Response



Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to participate in the Synod of Bishops by responding to his call for a 'Listening Church'. The first step for Australian Catholics is participation in a discernment process, whereby they consider their thoughts individually or in groups of family and friends. There are resources to help them do this at the website we have created for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta which can be found at the link bit.ly/synod2023 Parishioners can then upload their responses onto a [portal operated by the ACBC](#). Responses will be accepted up until **27 February 2022**.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2021

Thank you for your generosity and support in participating in our Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2021. We have raised \$2700 to help us provide essential care and programs to those in our parish community who need it the most

fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au



DIocese of PARRAMATTA

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are opening their doors for private prayer, Reconciliation and for the celebration of Mass and sacraments such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. Please contact your local parish to check Mass and liturgy times and the COVID-Safe arrangements in place.

Livestreamed Masses from across the Diocese of Parramatta are still available on the Diocesan website <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#online>. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org), on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org) and on our Diocesan social media channels. Merry Christmas from the Diocese of Parramatta.

Thank You for Supporting CatholicCare's Houses to Homes

Thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support over the last few weeks for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal. Your donation will help CatholicCare's Houses to Homes to provide a loving sanctuary for young mothers in crisis. Thank you for your compassion and generosity. For anyone who hasn't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

'The Well' offering on-demand spiritual nourishment

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement? 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. Our Pastoral Formation – Mission Enhancement Team have produced a series of workshops exploring synodality and what Pope Francis' Synod on Synodality means for the life of the Diocese. Visit www.thewell.org.au today.

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. Beyond the First Assembly of the Plenary Council, visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more as we move into a time of prayer, reflection, maturation and development.

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Dural at 8331 6144



ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

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	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY	
01/02 Jan	WELCOMERS		Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Paul Cashman Belinda Da Ruos	Gerry McArdle Nigel Saunders	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Bailey & Casey Gambrell	Christian Maaht Elizabeth Cauchi	Tiago Gregory Hannah Tran
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Belle Craig		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	FLOWERS			ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt
08/09 Jan	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Nicole Foxall Joseph Spina	
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Darren McNeil	Phyllis Hannah	
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Belinda Da Ruos Tony Hooper	David Hall-O'Dwyer Adriana Kennedy	Simmy Cesamolo Frederick Kyngdon
	JNR MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington	Bailey & Casey Gambrell	Christopher Kang Monica & Dom Bruggeling	
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	To be announced
	FLOWERS			ALTAR LINEN	Vicky Hooper