



# St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



28 ANNANGROVE RD. KENTHURST NSW 2156  
(P) 9654 2260  
(E) KENTHURST@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG OR  
STMADS@YAHOO.COM.AU  
(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU  
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

9th January 2022  
Baptism of Lord

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7  
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

## We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ. -- Pope Francis

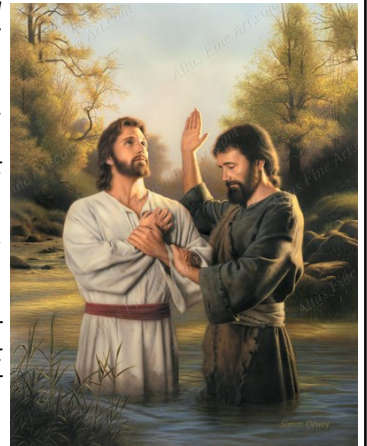
*A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother is author James McBride's best-selling memoir of growing up in a family of twelve brothers and sisters, raised by a white Jewish mother who was evasive about her Jewish ethnicity but steadfast in her love for her children.*

*As a boy in Brooklyn's Red Hook projects, James knew his "light skinned" mother Ruth was different — and wondered if he was black or white. When he asked her mother one day if he was black or white, she snapped "You're a human being. Educate yourself or you'll be a nobody!" For Ruth, education, not race or culture, was the realization of one's full identity.*

*But young James wasn't satisfied. So, he asked his mother, a very religious woman, whether God is black or white.*

*Mother Ruth sighed, "Oh boy . . . God's not black. He's not white. He's a spirit." "Does he like black or white people better?" "He loves all people. He's a spirit." "What's a spirit?" "A spirit's a spirit." "What colour is God's spirit?" "It doesn't have a colour," his mother said. "God is the colour of water. Water doesn't have a colour."*

*James writes that he "could buy that" and, as he got older, continued to appreciate more deeply and profoundly the many dimensions of his racial and cultural identity. On this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we see in the clear, life-sustaining waters of our own baptisms the "colour" of our identity as the "beloved" of God, the God who loves us, who cries with us and for us, who knows the pain and despair and anger we experience because he has experienced it all himself by becoming one of us. In the waters of baptism, we embrace the Spirit of God and that Spirit embraces us, as well: God the Creator and Father is present to us in all our tears and laughter, in all our struggles and triumphs, in our every grief and joy. In the waters of baptism, we attain the identity of God's children.*



In the baptism of Jesus, His sonship was publicly proclaimed by a heavenly voice: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22). The fondness of Christ's relationship with God is revealed as pleasing and delightful just as that of believers (Rom. 1:7, 1 John 4:10).



The reception of the Holy Spirit and divine anointing prepare Jesus for the ministry of justice (Luke 4:18). He dedicates his life to serving humanity, restoring the poor to a place of honour and dignity, rehabilitating those on the fringes of social life and relationship, and freedom for those whose experience of self-flourishing is controlled or denied in a social system that is designed to keep them out. Jesus reveals to us what happens to a believer who is anointed at baptism and receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. Just as Christ acknowledges that he must get on with doing the work of God (John 9:4), likewise our baptism prepares us to get involved and to share in the work of God for the salvation of the

world. We are called for the ministry of justice in the world as the prophet Isaiah said in the first reading (Isa. 42:3). Through our baptism in Christ and our relationship with God we become people of justice. Our experience of the reception of the Spirit of God prepares us for service in the saving plan of God for the world.

In Gaudete et Exultate (On the Call to Holiness in Today's World), Pope Francis reminds us that our union with Christ "entails reproducing in our own lives various aspects of Jesus' earthly life: his life in community, his closeness to the outcast, his poverty and other ways in which he showed his self-sacrificing love." Our lives of baptismal initiation in Christ invite us to uphold the dignity of every child of God, to express goodwill toward everyone—especially the poor and vulnerable—and to consciously care for creation.

To each one of us and to those whose baptismal initiation we witness, Pope Francis reminds us that our "identification with Christ and [the will of Christ] involves a commitment to build with him that kingdom of love, justice, and universal peace." Our baptism in Christ, therefore, invites us to uphold the life of each one in a dignified world. (Source: A Sampler Connections and Reflection from US Catholic)



God's blessings  
Fr. Vince

*Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ's love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.*

# PARISH NEWS



## PRAYER AT ST MADS

The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday Morning at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or <a href="mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com">careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</a>
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 <a href="mailto:stmads@yahoo.com.au">stmads@yahoo.com.au</a> .)



There is a story told of the machinist who worked years ago at the original Ford Motor Company plant in Detroit, Michigan. Over a period of years he had **“borrowed”** from the factory various car parts and tools which he hadn’t bothered to return. While the management never condoned this practice, nothing was ever done about it.

In time, however, the **“forgetful”** machinist experienced a Christian conversion and was **baptized**. More importantly, the man took his baptism very seriously and became a devout believer. The very morning after his baptism, the machinist arrived at work with his pickup truck loaded with all the parts and tools he had taken from the Ford Company over the years. He went to his foreman and explained that he never really meant to steal them and asked to be forgiven.

The foreman was so astonished and impressed by this act that he cabled Henry Ford himself, contacting the auto magnate while he was away visiting a European Ford plant. In his telegram the foreman described the entire event in great detail. Ford immediately cabled back this striking two-line response: **“Dam up the Detroit River. Baptize the entire Plant!”**

## SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MADS

A small number of Australian communities continue to experience entrenched and persistent disadvantage, the Dropping off the Edge 2021 report from Jesuit Social Services was recently released [www.dote.org.au/full-report](http://www.dote.org.au/full-report) Dropping off the Edge 2021 shows us that people in communities with high levels of public housing likely experience concurrent issues such as long-term unemployment, family violence and contact with the criminal justice system – demonstrating a complicated picture of multiple disadvantage. To understand and address disadvantage it is essential to engage with and listen to community members. Community members stressed the need for good community infrastructure, clear communication and coordination of resources.



## 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 : 00000388**

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

Thank you for your generosity!

## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

**For recently deceased :**

**For the dearly departed:**

Barbara Wood, Karen Draddy, Elizabeth Graby, Thea Crowe, James D’arcy, Keith Okey, Marguerita Rigby, Michele Vacearella, Pablito Corpuz, Felician 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,

**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.**



## 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  
Bible Diaries \$15



## CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

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



## 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  
**Welcomers 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



Stay in touch through our  
parish Facebook page:  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish](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](http://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](mailto:anne.stanton@parracatholic.org)  
or visit our website to download an  
enrolment form at [https://  
officeforworship.org.au/](https://officeforworship.org.au/)



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### A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

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Malawi? Your support will help  
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their people and aid their  
ministry to administer the  
sacraments and to keep the  
Faith alive. Visit  
[www.aidtochurch.org/  
monthlyproject](http://www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject)



## Mass in Mandarin—Our Lady of Angels, Kellyville

You are welcome to join the Mass in Mandarin every third Sunday in Our Lady of Angels, Kellyville

## 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](http://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**.



## Saint : Hilary of Poitiers

### Feast Day: 13 January

This staunch defender of the divinity of Christ was a gentle and courteous man, devoted to writing some of the greatest theology on the Trinity, and was like his Master in being labeled a "disturber of the peace." In a very troubled period in the Church, his holiness was lived out in both scholarship and controversy. He was bishop of Poitiers in France. Raised a pagan, he was converted to Christianity when he met his God of nature in the Scriptures. His wife was still living when he was chosen, against his will, to be the bishop of Poitiers in France. He was soon taken up with battling what became the scourge of the fourth century, Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ.



The heresy spread rapidly. Saint Jerome said "The world groaned and marveled to find that it was Arian." When Emperor Constantius ordered all the bishops of the West to sign a condemnation of Athanasius, the great defender of the faith in the East, Hilary refused and was banished from France to far off Phrygia. Eventually he was called the "Athanasius of the West." While writing in exile, he was invited by some semi-Arians (hoping for reconciliation) to a council the emperor called to counteract the Council of Nicea./ cont .

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-hilary-of-poitiers>



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](http://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](http://www.parracatholic.org)), on Catholic Outlook ([www.catholicoutlook.org](http://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](http://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](http://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/](http://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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	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY	
08/09 Jan	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Nicole Foxall Joseph Spina	
	<b>MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR</b>	Dianne Millington	Darren McNeil	Phillys Hannah	
	<b>READERS</b>	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Belinda Da Ruos Tony Hooper	David Hall-O'Dwyer Adriana Kennedy	Simmy Cesamolo Frederick Kyngdon
	<b>JNR MINISTERS</b>	Tara & Sam Coddington	Bailey & Casey Gambrell	Christopher Kang Monica & Dom Bruggeling	
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>		Joan Sattler	Merle and Doug	
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Sonali Arnold & Parish Team		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	To be announced
	<b>FLOWERS</b>			<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Vicky Hooper
15/16 Jan	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Belinda Da Ruos	Maria & Steve Fry Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Belinda Da Ruos	Joseph Spina
	<b>MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR</b>	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	
	<b>READERS</b>	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	
	<b>JNR MINISTERS</b>		Patrick McNeil	Elizabeth Cauci	Sara Sawaya
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>				
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	Paul Vella		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	To be announced
	<b>FLOWERS</b>			<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Vicky Hooper