



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

18th September 2022

25th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Amos 8:4-7

1 Tim 2:1-8

Luke 16:1-13

Most people fail to realize that money is both a test and trust from God. ~ Rick Warren



'Money makes the world go round'. So sang Liza Minnelli in the popular 1972 musical, Cabaret. Certainly, money features strongly among the most prominent of human concerns. According to Daniel Kahneman, 'Money may not buy you happiness, but the lack of it will certainly buy you misery'. Money – its uses and abuses – is the main theme of our readings today.

Our first reading from the prophet Amos, underlines the abuses to which greed for money gives rise. Amos lived in the eighth century BC, one of those rare periods when Israel was relatively peaceful and prosperous. Ideal opportunities for trading had triggered 'an economic miracle', leading to undreamed of riches for some people. Behind this success story, Amos sees a world of injustice. Wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few, who mercilessly exploit the many poor farmers and labourers. The wealthy commercial barons and merchants cannot wait for the Sabbath to be over before continuing their lucrative but dishonest business: cheating on weights and measures, tampering with scales, inflating the value of goods and deflating the value of money. What they are doing is 'buying up the poor for money' (Amos 8:6). How frighteningly contemporary all this sounds! Fearlessly, Amos castigates those who engage in such practices, 'who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor' (Amos 8:4). He tells them that God 'will not forget a single thing you have done' (cf. Amos 8:7).

The responsorial psalm underscores the message of Amos and reminds us that God is on the side of those exploited by the rich and powerful, and will intervene on their behalf: 'From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the dung-heap he raises the poor to set him in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people'. This affirmation echoes the familiar words of Mary's Magnificat: 'He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty' (Lk 1:52-53).

In our gospel reading from Luke, Jesus refers to money as 'tainted' but instructs his disciples to use it 'to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, you will be welcomed into the tents of eternity' (Lk 16: 9). Certainly, Jesus is not saying that we can buy our way into heaven! Indeed, the message of the gospel seems, at first glance, rather puzzling and even disconcerting. Jesus tells his disciples a parable about a dishonest but shrewd steward who, having squandered his master's property, takes immediate steps to secure his own future. He uses his position to buy favours from his fellow servants who happen to owe his master money, so that they will be obliged to help him when he is sacked. And he does this by cheating his master.



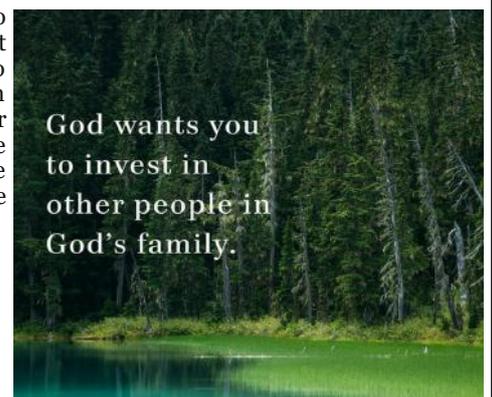
The behaviour of this unjust steward is self-serving and reprehensible, and Jesus is not putting him forward as an example to be followed, but rather as a lesson from which we may have something to learn. And the lesson to be learned is that, in our service of God and his reign of love and justice, we must be as decisive as the steward was in the pursuit of his own interests. But instead of acting dishonestly, like him, we must take those actions that serve God's purposes and that lead to a more human and just world and thus win us eternal life. Service of God is incompatible with service of wealth. We 'cannot be the slave both of God and of money' (Lk 16:13).

The abuses to which money gives rise are all too evident in our world today, creating a society where the rich grow richer and the poor struggle for survival. In the words of Pope Francis, 'the worship of the golden calf of old has found a new and heartless image in the cult of money and the dictatorship of an economy that is faceless and lacking any truly humane goal'. The Pope deplores the tyranny of an unbridled capitalist system built on competitiveness, where there are some winners but many losers. The gross inequality created by this system is shocking and an abomination in the sight of our munificent Creator. Over the past two decades alone the wealth of the ten richest persons in the world has doubled while the income of 99% of humanity has reduced. Today 1% of the world's population have twenty times more global wealth than the bottom 50%. No wonder that Pope Francis is calling for financial reform along ethical lines that would produce, in its turn, an economy that benefits everyone. Money has to serve, not to rule.

Today's gospel speaks about stewardship. A steward is a person who is given responsibility to handle the goods and property of his/her employer. In the words of Joyce Meyer, 'We must remember that we are stewards of what God has provided for us, not owners. We have no absolute right to anything we have. So, the question that should concern us is not the question asked by Rod Tidwell in the 1996 movie, Jerry Maguire: 'Show me the money?' It is rather the question: 'How well am I using the resources the Lord has provided me with for his service and the service of others?' Am I using them to make the kind of friends Jesus refers to in the Gospel – friends who will welcome me 'into the tents of eternity' (Lk 16:9)? Michael McCabe SMA, Cork

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



God wants you
to invest in
other people in
God's family.

PARISH NEWS



PRAYER AT ST MADS

The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
Prayer Group	Wednesday after morning Mass at 10am in the St Madeleine centre
St Mad's Book Club	To register contact Careyanne on 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 at 7pm Via Zoom: Zoom meeting ID 840 2707 2956 Contact Kay Brooks & Lydia Ceccato 0400 372 561
Baptism Preparation	First Saturday of the month in the St Madeleine centre: Ring/email Parish office for booking 9654 2260 (Tues-Fri 10am-4 pm or stmads@yahoo.com.au)



PUBLIC ROSARY

Saturday, 15th October 2022
9am at the Church

MANDATORY SAFEGUARDING

TRAINING

Saturday, 24th September
10am—3pm

in the St Madeleine's Centre

Volunteers are asked to participate in this training to ensure our parishes are inclusive and safe for children and adults at risk. To register please contact Suzanne on 0410 936 108

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!

FUNERAL OF THE LATE KATHLEEN JOHN

Date: Friday, 23 September

At: 11am in our Church

Our prayers and condolences with the John family



The Burning Bush
Ex 3:1-12

Listen to the Voice of creation
SEASON OF CREATION 2022



HOPE FOR THE EARTH AND THE POOR

Explore with us the concepts of the Laudato Si Goals for our lives, parish, community and world, on Thursday night, 7pm, in the St Madeleine Centre. Join us for a cuppa.

Pray with us at our Laudato Si retreat on 1 October 9.30 - 3pm.

Contact: Sue Martin 0432716577

Careyanne Moylan 0438791813

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S: The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) is organising a Day of Action on climate change in solidarity with Pacific and Australian First Nations peoples. ARRCC will urge the Government primarily to stop approvals for new coal and gas projects and end public subsidies for fossil fuel industries. All-night prayer, meditation and fasting Vigils will also be held for those interested.

All are invited to attend a multi-faith service to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta Thursday, **13th October**, at 9.30 am Contact person: Thea Ormerod chair@arrcc.org.au or 0405 293 466 www.arrcc.org.au/f4cj2022

PRAYER GROUP AT ST MAD'S CENTRE

Wednesday Morning at 10am

Explanation of Sunday Mass Gospel,
Pray the rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For the dearly departed: Louis Sammut, Carmen Mifsud, Barry Ronald Jones, Joseph Galea, John Cavaco, Giovanni & Giuseppina Scarpin, Fulvio & Giulia Russo, Eduardo & Maria Piccoli, Domenica Scarpin, Harold & Olive Burns, Matthew Riordan, Robert Smith Marine Nasri, Mary Cumbo, Maria Aiossa, Engracia Corpuz, Andrew Vien Debetaz

Please pray for the sick: Krista Hulme, Margaret Martin, Emily Larsen, Antonia Desanti, and Jennifer Burgess

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: Carl Mathias

Welcomers Coordinator:

Safeguarding: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Deacon

Michael Tan

Parish Secretaries

Sandra De Nardi

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: Dr Gavin Hays

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

St Madeleine's Dinner Dance

Save the date!

Friday 4th November 2022

At Oatlands House

Tickets \$150 each

Tickets can be ordered via
stmadsdinnerdance@gmail.com

Please provide Table Name and no. of tickets

Payments can be made via

Kenthurst Catholic Church

BSB: 067 950

Acct number: 00000388

Reference Surname in payment details.

If you have questions or queries please email

Kim Parslow 0418 220 963

Sally Coppini 0407 942 986

stmadsdinnerdance@gmail.com

POPE FRANCIS'

PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

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



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St Madeleine's Centre at 10am to coincide with the

10am Family Mass during the school term

Deb Rankin

Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator

FIRST EUCHARIST

Preparation Sessions: Sundays 18 and 25

September at 4pm followed by Mass

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

Sandra De Nardi m.0410 587 735

St Padre Pio

Feast Day:
23 September



Born Francesco
Forgione, Padre Pio

grew up in a family of farmers in southern Italy. Twice his father worked in Jamaica, New York, to provide the family income. At the age of 15, Francesco joined the Capuchins and took the name of Pio. He was ordained in 1910 and was drafted during World War I. After he was discovered to have tuberculosis, he was discharged. In 1917, he was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo, 75 miles from the city of Bari on the Adriatic. On September 20, 1918, as he was making his thanksgiving after Mass, Padre Pio had a vision of Jesus. When the vision ended, he had the stigmata in his hands, feet, and side. Life became more complicated after that. Medical doctors, Church authorities, and curiosity seekers came to see Padre Pio. In 1924, and again in 1931, the authenticity of the stigmata was questioned; Padre Pio was not permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to hear confessions. He did not complain of these decisions, which were soon reversed. However, he wrote no letters after 1924. His only other writing, a pamphlet on the agony of Jesus, was done before 1924. Padre Pio rarely left the friary after he received the stigmata, but busloads of people soon began coming to see him. Each morning after a 5 a.m. Mass in a crowded church, he heard confessions until noon. He took a mid-morning break to bless the sick and all who came to see him. Every afternoon he also heard confessions. In time his confessional ministry would take 10 hours a day; penitents had to take a number so that the situation could be handled. Many of them have said that Padre Pio knew details of their lives that they had never mentioned. Padre Pio saw Jesus in all the sick and suffering. At his urging, a fine hospital was built on nearby Mount Gargano. This "House for the Alleviation of Suffering" has 350 beds. A number of people have reported cures they believe were received through the intercession of Padre Pio. He died on September 23, 1968, and was beatified in 1999.

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

25th ANNIVERSARY

Our Lady of Fatima FEAST DAY

WITH MOST REV ANTHONY RANDAZZO
BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY DIOCESE

Sunday 9th October 2022 at 12:30pm
At St Benedict's Parish Church
Cnr of Fagans and Arcadia Roads, Arcadia.

Beginning with a play about Fatima and recital of the Rosary in five languages, followed by a Procession and Holy Mass.

Anyone wishing to make special petitions to Our Lady, there will be a "PETITION BOX" at the foot of the statue. The petitions will be taken to the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal.

The day will conclude with the cutting of the anniversary cake, & the drawing of raffle prizes. All are invited for refreshments.

All Are Welcome
For Further Details: 0438 521 421

There will be a nine-day "NOVENA" held at 6.25pm in St Benedict's Church, starting Fri 30th September, followed by Holy Mass at 7:00pm (subject to priest availability).

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We URGENTLY need
PowerPoint operators for our
Masses and more singers

Please contact the Parish Office
if you can help as a reader,
welcomer, musician, providing
flowers, singing, sacristan
or with cleaning.



Positions Vacant

Business Operations Manager, Good Shepherd Parish, Plumpton

Business Operations Manager, Our Lady of the Angels, Rouse Hill

Applications close 10pm Monday 19 September. More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Pastoral Formation Sacraments Short Course: Starts 6 October

Are you passionate about deepening your appreciation of the sacraments? Want to enhance your sacramental vision of life? Over two Thursday nights (6 and 13 October), discover more with Sr Mary Louise Walsh from the Diocese of Parramatta's Worship team. Face-to-face from 6.30pm – 8.30pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre (1-5 Marion Street Blacktown). LIMITED SEATS. Register by September 21 via met@parracatholic.org OR via <https://pfparra.org.au/signup/>

Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass: 30 October

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 30 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at marriage@parracatholic.org by 21 October. Family and friends are welcome.



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Please contact the Parish Office
if you would like to advertise
your business

	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY	
17/18 September	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	John Walcott Nigel Saunders	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	
	JNR MINISTERS		Bailey Gambrell		
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella and Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Deb Rankin
	FLOWERS	Parish		ALTAR LINEN	Vicky Hooper
24/25 September	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Piety Rocha	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Justin Sebire	Eileen Sherlock Maria Fry	Sandra Tabone Sally Coppini	
	JNR MINISTERS	Matilda Rogers		Kerstin Grima	
	MUSICIANS			Merle and Doug	
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Vicky Hooper