



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

27th November 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:37-44

At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern. - St Mother Teresa



27th November 2022 marks the First Sunday of Advent this year. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to", and refers to the coming of Christ. Advent reminds Christians of the sacred meaning of Christmas, God becoming a Human Being, that is the Birth of Jesus. It is a time of preparation and celebration. The colours associated with Advent are purple and rose, representing penance and joy. As we begin this season, let us be mindful of, and open to, happiness in our lives because – following the words of Jesus – we do not know when "the flood" will come and "carry it away". (Mt. 24: 39)

'Stay Awake' is the clarion call of the first Sunday of Advent. In the first reading, the author describes the awakening of the people of Israel for God – the most significant person- to come once more into their lives. The absence of God in their lives made their lives empty and there

arose a vacuum only to be filled in by this significant person.

To me, 'be awake' means to 'be aware' - be aware of the beauty, goodness of God and that of the significant others in our lives even amid misfortunes of the world today. We may have taken many things, even persons for granted in our lives and thereby become dormant. Stay awake to appreciate the blessings of God in our families, communities, and society. Staying awake would mean deepening our connection to God, families and friends through prayer and acts of charity.

"Advent is also associated with secular preparations for Christmas: party season, buying presents, the return of family and friends and the hustle and bustle that society now correlates with the lead up to Christmas. Yes, it is true that these elements have fast become the priority of Christmas and perhaps overshadow its sacred meaning. However, perhaps the sharing of gifts, spending time with family and the writing of Christmas cards carries with them a sacred element. Jesus proclaims that "in the days of Noah, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage" (Mt. 24:37), all elements of a modern Christmas. Hence, giving and receiving of gifts can be equated to the liturgical proclamation of "peace be within you". (Psalm 122:8) Offering a gift to someone is the simple gesture of "peace", announcing to the recipient, "May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings". (Psalm 122:7)

As we enter the season of Advent, "let us walk in the light of the Lord" (Isaiah 2:5). In all we do, let it be in the name of the Lord, always preparing for "at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come". (Mt. 24:44)

Consequently, let us rejoice during this season, prepare for a celebration with family and friends, and support those who are alone, offering a peaceful and joyous gesture to all those you encounter. By putting "on the armour of light" (Romans 13:12) and avoiding "rivalry and jealousy" (Romans 12:13) during the season of Advent, there is an opportunity to combine both the traditional and secular elements of Christmas, as we await the birth of Jesus Christ" - Aishling Mulherin



Once upon a time a Cave lived under the ground, as caves have the habit of doing. It had spent its lifetime in darkness. One day it heard a voice calling to it. "Come up into the light, come and see the sunshine". But the Cave retorted, "I do not know what you mean. There is not anything but darkness." Finally, the Cave was convinced to venture forth. He was amazed to see light everywhere and not a spark of darkness anywhere. He felt oddly warm and happy.

Now, it was the turn for the Cave to invite the Sun and the Cave said, "Come with me and see the darkness". The Sun asked, "What is darkness?" The Cave replied, "Come and see!" One day the Sun accepted the invitation. As it entered the Cave it said, "Now show me your darkness." But there was no darkness! (Quiet Moments with God for couples).

If we carry the Light and love of Jesus with us, wherever we go and regardless of what may happen, we will spread only light... meaning to say, we will be very positive in our outlook. We are awake in the light and love of Jesus.

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



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: Explanation of Sunday Mass Gospel, Pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
St Mad's Book Club	To register contact Careyanne on careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
RCIA	For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office
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)



PIETY SHOP

Calendars \$10
Christmas Cards \$7
Christmas Candles \$5
Advent Reflection Books \$5



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 0413 272 400

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: Saturday, 24 December

5.30pm Carols followed by

Family Mass

8pm Mass

11.45pm Carols followed by

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day:

Sunday, 25 December

8am and 10am Mass



There will be no evening Mass

A **Communion Service** will be held each day from Tuesday, 27 December to 30 December at 9.15am

New Years Eve: Saturday, 31 December

5.30pm Mass

11.30pm Thanksgiving Eucharistic Adoration followed by New Year Mass

New Year's Day: Sunday, 1 January

8am and 10am Mass

There will be no evening Mass

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 weekend Masses or 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!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,050.80

2nd Collection (for Parish)

Envelopes = \$695 Loose = \$790.75

Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,874.23

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHRISTMAS PARTY

THIS SUNDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2022

St Madeleine Centre
directly after 10am Mass



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For the dearly departed: Robert Alberti, George Cascun, Shirley Swinnerton, Nedina A Ratliff, Rosina Mezzagosto, Mary Cumbo, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, June Brennan, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Salvatore Mercieca, Marie & George Portelli

Please pray for the sick: Sofia Viizzo, Margaret Martin, 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



1 December 7-8pm: Told from the viewpoint of Psyche's sister, Orual, *Till We Have Faces* by CS Lewis is a brilliant examination of envy, betrayal, loss, blame, grief, guilt, and conversion. In this his final, and most mature and masterful novel, Lewis reminds us of our own infallibility and the role of a higher power in our lives.

Join us on zoom

Meeting ID: 815 4470 1500

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

Hamper Mass will be December 11th, our donations will be for the families at Emerton.

This Advent sign up for the Ignatian Solidarity Network [Advent Simplicity](#)

[Challenge 2022 Registration - Ignatian Solidarity Network](#)

Thanks Suzanne and Stuart for organising a great night watching The Letter, with around twenty parishioners discussion was around not realising that the climate impacts were being felt across the world already. We also discussed what we could do as a parish, and this is ongoing, but we would like to see more solar panels on our Church roof and a community garden for the parish to share in. There was also a call to hold more film nights.



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 2nd and 4th Sunday
at 11:20am
(Must make a booking)

Saint Frances Xavier

Feast Day:
3 December



Jesus asked, "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honor before him. Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534, joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, obedience, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope. From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India. Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Xavier went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptize, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

*We stand before You,
Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are God's beloved children:
may our journey together
be marked by humble listening,
courageous speech, and lively hope.
Let us find in You our unity
as we seek to do what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and
time,
in the communion of the Father and
the Son, forever and ever.
AMEN*

Adapted from the original

*Congratulations to
Ryley and Tiarne
on their wedding*



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

for our retired parishioners

Tuesday, 6 December



11.30am Mass followed by Lunch
Please use the sign-in sheet at the Church
entrance to register or contact the parish office

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

on Sundays 10am Mass
Facilitators needed



Please discuss with Fr Vincent or contact the
parish office if you are interested



ADVENT 2022

Prayer Reflection

Every Wednesday 7pm

in the St Madeleine Centre

Facilitator: Rev Deacon Michael Tan

2nd Rite of Reconciliation (Confession)

7pm Tuesday, 13 December

7pm Thursday, 15 December

Reflection on The Plenary Council
with Sue Martin

Come & support our Marian students at Mass!

Marian students will be providing the music for
5.30pm evening Mass on

Sunday 11 December 2022.

We would love to see as many of our St Mad's
parishioners come along to this Mass to
support these young people and to welcome
their involvement in church!

Thankyou!

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

for Catholic Care's Assistance
with Care and Housing Service

 PARRAMATTA
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

**No one should be without
a place to call home.**

"Stretch out your hand to the poor."
Sir 7:32

Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal
yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

No one should be homeless or without support.

Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic
Care to give homeless people practical and
emotional support, and a safe place to call
home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor
and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal
envelopes, at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you for your prayers, heart-
felt compassion, and help to end homelessness.

Our Parish is proud to support Parramatta Catholic Foundation's Bishop's Christmas Appeal.
Your generosity will ensure that Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing service can
continue to help our homeless brothers and sisters to find place to call home.

The service was launched this February, and over 120 people have received support. With
increased costs of living and homelessness, demand for this service has soared, and we need to help more.
Please stretch out your hands in compassion for the poor. Please donate generously via the giving
envelopes. There will be a special collection at each Mass. Your kind prayers and support will enable
Catholic Care to provide practical and emotional assistance to our homeless brothers and sisters.



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



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ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

26/27 November		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Justin Sebire	John Walcott Maria Fry	Karla Quinn Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire		Kerstin Grima	Thomas & James Barker
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chacal
	FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Catherine Diekman

3/4 December	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Justin Sebire	Margaret Mieczkowski Tony Hooper	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire			
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Deb Rankin
	FLOWERS	Dianne Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Catherine Diekman