



# St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU  
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

**22 January 2023**  
**3rd Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time, Year A**  
Isaiah 8:23-9.3  
1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
Matthew 4:12-23

## Many people mistake our work for our vocation. Our vocation is the love of Jesus. St. Mother Teresa

A few months ago, I got into a heated argument on social media with a fellow Catholic. It's a familiar story in 2023, and it went badly. What started as a comment on a post rolled into a discussion over direct message and it was very clear we would never agree. While both of us loved Jesus and were trying to live our faith in that world, we came to two very different conclusions about how to do it. My instinct after dozens of messages back and forth was to throw up my hands and say, "This person isn't a real Catholic, otherwise they would think just like me!"



But an irritating question inserted itself in my conscience. Was I focused on loving this person or on being right? Was I seeing another brother or sister in Christ who loves the Lord with the same passion as I do? Or was the descent into the DMs bringing about the division that the apostle Paul so vehemently warns against in this Sunday's second reading?



If St. Paul wrote to me in 21st century America, he might ask me why I label myself as a certain kind of Catholic. He would remind me who it is that was crucified for my freedom and to whose name I bear witness in the world. He would say that if, in fact, I claim to love Jesus, I cannot create division and sow discord. I should see that the person making the comments on posts is infinitely more valuable than any argument I had against their conclusions—though, truth be told, St. Paul did love a good argument.

Jesus issues that same call to conversion in the gospel reading. His clarion call to repent points to the joyful tableau painted by the prophet Isaiah in the first reading. This new reality is one which relieves burdens, dispels gloom, and enlivens the heart. Christ's call promises liberation from what shackles us through the unbridled freedom of the Holy Spirit who is breaking into the world. It is a new and revolutionary reality in which we can live, if we repent and respond with a complete

reorientation of our lives.

And that reorientation is one which sees each individual person as the object of God's saving work in the world. When Jesus calls Peter and Andrew, he does not call them to an ideology or a political party, he calls them to fish for human beings. To love Jesus, to follow him, to join in the work of his kingdom, is to seek after people, to love people, and to put people above everything else.

And that is my challenge as I reflect on my social media interactions, my family life, and everything else I do: to listen to the irritating and irresistible voice of the Holy Spirit which asks me to love concretely, to place myself second, and bear witness to Christ first, so, as St. Paul says, that his life, death, and resurrection will never be emptied of their meaning. (By Shannon Wimp Schmidt. U.S. Catholic Reflections)

God calls you to make definitive choices, and He has a plan for each of you: to discover that plan and to respond to your vocation is to move toward personal fulfilment- Pope Francis

*Once upon a time a man had heard that in a foreign place, far away, there was a holy flame burning. So, he got up and left his home to find the holy flame and bring some of its light back home to his house. He thought: 'When I have this light, then I will have happiness and life and all the people I love will have it too.'*

*He travelled far, far away and finally found the holy flame, with which he lit his light. On his way back he had only one worry: 'That his light could go out.'*

*On his way home he met someone who was freezing and didn't have any fire and who begged him to give him some of his fire. The man with the light hesitated for a moment. Wasn't his light too precious, too holy to be given away for something ordinary like that? Despite these doubts, he decided to give some of his light to the one who was freezing in the darkness.*



*The man continued his journey home and when he had almost reached his house a terrible thunderstorm started. He tried to protect his light from the rain and the storm, but at the end his light went out.*

*To return the long way back to the place where the holy flame was burning was impossible, he wouldn't have had enough strength to go back this far - but he was strong enough to return to the human being whom he had helped on his way home.....and with his light he could light his own again. (Source Unknown)*

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 <a href="mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com">careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</a>
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 <a href="mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com">careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</a>
RCIA	For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office
St Mads Rosary	Thursday after morning Mass Monday Rosary Via Zoom—Resumes Monday, 30 January 2023 at 7pm 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 <a href="mailto:stmads@yahoo.com.au">stmads@yahoo.com.au</a> )



### CHURCH CLEANING—THANK YOU

We clean our houses quite often as a part of maintenance (Spring cleaning you might call) and so does the Church of God need a cleanup. That is what happened last Monday to Wednesday. I would like to thank **Frank D' Ambrose** and **Pierre Coppini** for organising this cleaning and making the church sparkling. God bless them and everyone else who is part of our church cleaning and maintenance. More volunteers are needed for these ministries. Please give it a consideration!  
Fr. Vince



### 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) = \$1,276.55  
2nd Collection (for Parish)  
Envelopes = \$872 Loose = \$1, 123.15

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

### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION—January

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

The ecumenical movement Common Grace promotes the Sunday before Australia Day (22 January) as Aboriginal Sunday. Common Grace provides free resources developed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Leaders to equip faith communities to act in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on this special day. You can find out more and sign up to receive the resources at [www.commongrace.org.au/aboriginal\\_sunday\\_2023](http://www.commongrace.org.au/aboriginal_sunday_2023). While commonly referred to as Australia Day, 26 January is known to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by many names, including Day of Mourning, Invasion Day, or Survival Day. As we approach 26 January, Common Grace invites you to pause to reflect and acknowledge this day in lament, prayer and action for justice. Learn more about the challenges and opportunities that 26 January can pose and explore ideas to mark this special day at [www.commongrace.org.au/january\\_26\\_2023](http://www.commongrace.org.au/january_26_2023)

Our prayers and condolences with **Sandra Tabone** and her family on the demise of her father-in-law **Joseph Tabone**

### PIETY SHOP

**God's Word 2023** is now available for \$20

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 for any special requests

### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

**For the recently deceased:** Keith Dawson, Joseph Tabone, Connie Vella

**For the dearly departed:** Giuseppe Carli, Roberto Motta Piretelli, Antonio Votano, Giulio Ceccato, Anthony Grima, Mary Cumbo, Lina Tabone, Filiciana N Sabellano, Michele Vaccarella, Giuseppina & Giovanni Scarpin, Giulia & Fulvio Russo, Eduardo & Maria Piccoli, Domenica Scarpin, Olive Burns, Ortensia Russo, Pablito Corpuz, Francesco Piperata

**Please pray for the sick:** Hoani Alexander Barker, 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**

### 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)

## 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

## PARISH VOLUNTEERS:

please provide current contact details by completing a form found online (use the QR Code).

Copies available in the Church.

Please also contact the parish office if you can help as a reader, welcomer, musician, or with providing flowers.



Faith and Formation session for  
**Catholic Health Care Professionals**  
Saturday 11 February 2023 9am-10.30am  
All-Saints of Africa Centre, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown  
Diocesan Mass with Anointing begins at 11:00am  
RSVP by 06 Feb to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)



DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA

### Sr Nathalie Becquart Sydney Public Forum and Lecture: 3 February

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCI, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February 2023. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3 February, presenting at a public forum at 4pm and a public lecture at 7pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Places are limited, so please register via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>.

### Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass: 11 February 2023

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

### SAVE THE DATE—Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita: 19 February

You are invited to the Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan, and victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking on Sunday 19 February at 2pm at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. We hope you will join us to commemorate the victims of modern slavery and human trafficking in Australia and worldwide and look forward to celebrating the legacy of St Josephine Bakhita with you.

### Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called SmartLoving can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

### Liturgical Ministry Formation courses 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

### 2022-23 Social Justice Statement "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse"

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2022-23 "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse" invites us to engage with a complex and challenging social reality: domestic and family violence and abuse. The Australian Bishops call for all people to take part in the individual and social transformation needed so all people can live in safety. Download the statement at [www.bit.ly/SJS22-23](http://www.bit.ly/SJS22-23)

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

## St Francis de Sales

### Feast Day:

24 January 2023



Francis was destined by his father to be a lawyer so that the young man could eventually take his elder's place as a senator from the province of Savoy in France. For this reason Francis was sent to Padua to study law. After receiving his doctorate, he returned home and, in due time, told his parents he wished to enter the priesthood. His father strongly opposed Francis in this, and only after much patient persuasiveness on the part of the gentle Francis did his father finally consent. Francis was ordained and elected provost of the Diocese of Geneva, then a center for the Calvinists. By preaching and distributing the little pamphlets he wrote to explain true Catholic doctrine, he had remarkable success. At 35, he became bishop of Geneva. While administering his diocese he continued to preach, hear confessions, and catechize the children. His gentle character was a great asset in winning souls. He practiced his own axiom, "A spoonful of honey attracts more flies than a barrelful of vinegar." Besides his two well-known books, the Introduction to the Devout Life and A Treatise on the Love of God, he wrote many pamphlets and carried on a vast correspondence. For his writings, he has been named patron of the Catholic Press. His writings, filled with his characteristic gentle spirit, are addressed to lay people. He wants to make them understand that they too are called to be saints. As he wrote in The Introduction to the Devout Life: "It is an error, or rather a heresy, to say devotion is incompatible with the life of a soldier, a tradesman, a prince, or a married woman.... It has happened that many have lost perfection in the desert who had preserved it in the world."

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



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# ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

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	WELCOMERS		Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Pat Waters	Eileen Sherlock Maria Fry	Sandra Bonello Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS		Bailey Gambrell		
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Tony Hooper & Sandra Tabone		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Resumes School Term 1, 2023
FLOWERS	Parish		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Vicky Hooper	
28 & 29 Jan		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maureen & Rick Jones	Teresa Capaldi	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Heidi Bou-Harb Pat Waters	Margaret Mieczkowski Nigel Saunders	Sandra Tabone Karla Quinn	Joanna O'Neill Tereza Barisic
	JNR MINISTERS				
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Parish Team		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Resumes School Term 1, 2023
FLOWERS	Parish		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Vicky Hooper	