



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

26 February 2023
1st Sunday of Lent, Year A

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

Every moment of resistance to temptation is a victory

Frederick William Faber



March 5, 2023 marks the “Clean up Australia Day” which demonstrates that the Aussies across the continent are willing to do something themselves and as communities for the protection and care for the environment. It can be a tiny awakening to newness and clarity. Cleaning is done for the wellbeing of everyone. Does that external cleaning guarantee the total wellbeing of the people? What about our mind and spirit that is as cluttered as our home or office or public places and social systems? As we deserve to be living in a clean environment, we deserve to and we should live a ‘wholistic’ life. I believe, the season of Lent, calls for ‘clean up oneself’ and “clean up family relationships” of all the ‘unwanted stuff’ ruling our life in the love and forgiveness of our Lord. Lent reminds us that just as our material ‘stuff’ is prioritized, we should balance our own emotional, spiritual needs with the needs of the people around us. In the light of the gospel of

this Sunday, the temptations of Jesus in the desert, the season of Lent calls us to leave behind our addictions, unhealthy behaviour, and the rubbish of selfishness, pride, anger, hatred, gossiping and self-justification etc and get cleansed or liberated by the ever-compassionate Lord. Our ‘desert time’ with God over the next 40 days will help us re-fill our minds and spirits with the wisdom and the grace of God. May I request our community to participate at least in a couple of Lenten activities which will help us reorientate our direction and focus to the person of Jesus and His Good News. Following is the reflection by TERE MCDOWELL OTT on the Gospel of this Sunday.

It’s not random that Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after he’d fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. We are more vulnerable to inner conflict, more likely to see our own temptations revealed after fasting. The fast is a spiritual emptying — a revealing practice of what is holding us captive, what we turn to for sustenance and support that is not the “Bread of Life.” In her book *Soul Feast: An Invitation to Spiritual Life*, Marjorie Thompson writes, “In a more tangible, visceral way than any other spiritual discipline, fasting reveals our excessive attachments and the assumptions that lie behind them. Food is necessary to life, but we have made it more necessary than God. How often have we neglected to remember God’s presence when we would never consider neglecting to eat! Fasting brings us face to face with how we put the material world ahead of its spiritual Source.”



Matthew’s passage, and this first Sunday of Lent, invites us into the wilderness with Jesus. In the Bible, the wilderness is a place of struggle, a place where God’s people battle with temptations to neglect and abandon God. Our temptations aren’t always as obvious as an embodied evil telling us to throw ourselves off the temple’s pinnacle. But the struggle is real.

When we are inadvertently neglecting our relationship with God, we are more susceptible to easy answers and seek worldly ways to flee discomfort. Are we stressed out, afraid, lonely? Surely that bottle of wine, or that shopping spree, or that tub of ice cream in the freezer will solve all our problems. Are your relationships a mess? Is there unresolved conflict in your life? Have you lost your way with your spouse, your friend, or your colleague at work? Maybe your righteous anger will help, or your haughty certainty that you are in the right (our ego always feasts on praise over honest self-assessment). Have you witnessed an injustice? Has racism or xenophobia or transphobia reared its ugly head in your presence? Well, it’s not your place to say something, it wouldn’t be polite, and surely someone else will address this injustice better than you.

In studying this passage, I noticed the ascending heights to which the tempter led Jesus. He started in the wilderness. Then he was led to the pinnacle of the Temple. Then he was led to “a very high mountain.” Each ascent offered more power, more prestige, more wealth and more distance from the grounding of his faith. Where are you on this journey with Jesus? To what extent are you entangled in temptation? Wealth and power segregate and separate us from the people and the societal problems Jesus actively sought. Our capitalistic, consumerist society leads us to the same heights, separating us from the poor and the oppressed, tempting us to greedily jump all in. But Jesus knew not to fall for the tempter’s ploys. Do we? Contemplating this question, or practicing a spiritual fast, will help us discern the grip these temptations have on us and our lives.

This Lent, we are invited into a journey that has the potential to set us free. In her *Feasting on the Word* commentary on Matthew 4:1-11, Maryetta Anschutz writes, “[Lenten penitence] is not about guilt. It is about freedom.” Lent is a season that begins with an honest examination of our spiritual lives leading us to confess what is keeping us from God and return us to our faith. Do you feel free? Let us not deceive ourselves, but lean into the truth, confess our sins and our temptations, and return to God as our ultimate source of life.

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 MAD'S

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 Rosary Via Zoom 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)



Lenten groups

Start: 28 February

Tuesday at 7pm in the St Madeleine centre, led by Deacon Michael and Careyanne, on *From Ashes to Hope*. Available at the Piety store.

Wednesday after 9.15 mass, in the St Madeleine Centre, led by Pauline Camilleri, discussing the Lenten gospels.

Sunday after 5.30 mass, in the church, led by Sue Martin examining *A Short History of Happiness*.

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

Our parish rejoices with the announcement that around 19,000 refugees who arrived in Australia before Operation Sovereign Borders started in 2013 will be able to apply to transition to a permanent Resolution of Status (RoS) visa. There is still much work to do for our refugee's living in Australia are made to feel welcome in our communities. Our parish social justice group is involved with the Diocesan Sydney Alliance Election assembly this week, February 28th. This is a great opportunity to advocate for a fair, just and sustainable city in the spirit of our Catholic Social Teaching. Our Sunday Lenten group is using the Columban Fr Charles Rue 2023 Lenten Guide we can reflect together on our baptismal vocation, with the hope and confidence that God is with us all in the process. A selection of nine sets of Scripture readings from the Lent/Easter liturgy underpins this resource. Each of the nine sets matches an issue emerging from the twin cries in modern movements.

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) = \$1,109.95
2nd Collection (for Parish)
Envelopes = \$ 908 Loose = \$985.95
Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,874.23

MORNING TEA - SUNDAY, 5 MARCH

after 10am Mass to welcome Fr Adam Carlow and to thank Deacon Michael Tan

Please bring a plate

FUNERAL OF THE LATE

ANTHONY SULTANA

Date Tuesday, 28 February 2023

Time: 11am

at St Madeleine's

Our prayers and condolences with the Sultana family

FUNERAL OF THE LATE

SUSAN MARGARET JACK

Date Thursday, 2 March 2023

Time: 10.30am

at St Madeleine's

Our prayers and condolences with the Jack family

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently deceased: Susan Margaret Jack, Patrick McGloin, Anthony Sultana

For the dearly departed: Marie Barrett, Engracia Corpuz, Nelly Castanares, Giuseppina & Giovanni Scarpin, Fulvio & Giulia Russo, Eduardo & Maria Piccoli, Domenica Scarpin, Aldo & Ortensia Russo, Victoria Caruana, Joe Camilleri, Norah Joy, Tony Smith, Rita Franceschina, Norman & Chahida Hajje, Sheady & Chahide Hajje, George Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Abraham family, Betty & Mary Merhi, Darren O'Reilly, Michele Vaccarella, Anthony & Rose, Lawrence Apap, Joseph & Louise Bonello, John Spencer, Francesco Piperata, Silvestro Gatto

Please pray for the sick: Aura Krakowszky, Hoani Alexander Barker, Sofia Viizzo, Margaret Martin, Antonia Desanti, and Jennifer Burgess

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Next available training:

St Bernadette's Parish CASTLE HILL
Saturday 4th March 9.00AM - 2.00PM

RSVP Suzanne 0410 936 108 or online
Suzanne - Parish Safeguarding Champion



CONFIRMATION: Enrolment forms available from our parish office and on our website.



Completed documents to be handed in to the parish office by **Friday, 3 March 2023**.

Parent Information Evening **Tuesday, 7 March** at either 4.30pm or 7pm
For any queries stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

Reconciliation & First Eucharist enrolment forms will be available in May 2023.

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Alexandra Mifsud, Selina Calleia & Joan Sattler

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil
Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chacal

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

Assistant Priest

Rev Adam Carlow

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 during school term

Weekday Masses

9:15am Tuesdays to Fridays

9:45am - 10:15am 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

St Madeleine's Open Day

Thursday 9th March

9:15am - 10am

Enrolment for 2024 **Forms** are on our
school website [http://](http://www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au/)

www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au/

PH: 9654 6751

Email: stmadeleines@parra.catholic.edu.au

2023 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Join us on **FRIDAY 3 MARCH** to pray in
an ecumenical group of local churches.

"I have heard about your faith" (Eph
1:15-19) is the theme written by the
Christian women of Taiwan.

When: 10.30 am

Where: Seventh Day Adventist
Church, 49 Arcadia Rd Galston

More info: Careyanne 0438791813



PROJECT COMPASSION

boxes and

envelopes available in the Church

Please return by Holy Thursday



Watch: [What is Modern about Modern Slavery?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)
([vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com/...))

Help stop slavery: [Making slavery unacceptable |
The Catholic Weekly](https://www.making-slavery-unacceptable.org/)

More info and join the discussion: Careyanne 0438791813

I would like to share the following 10 Beautiful Lines which were
forwarded to me by my friend in the Philippines. Perhaps, we can
take it for our meditation.

***SOMEONE HAS WRITTEN THESE 10 BEAUTIFUL LINES. READ and
TRY to UNDERSTAND the DEEPER MEANING of THEM.

Received from a friend. God bless, Fr Vince

☞ 1). PRAYER is not a "spare wheel" that YOU PULL OUT when IN
trouble, but it is a "STEERING WHEEL" that DIRECT the RIGHT PATH
THROUGHOUT LIFE.

☞ 2). Why is a CAR'S WINDSHIELD so LARGE & the REAR VIEW
MIRROR so small? BECAUSE our PAST is NOT as IMPORTANT as OUR
FUTURE. So, LOOK AHEAD and MOVE ON.

☞ 3). FRIENDSHIP is like a BOOK. It takes a FEW SECONDS to BURN,
but it TAKES YEARS to WRITE.

☞ 4). ALL THINGS in LIFE are TEMPORARY. If they are GOING WELL,
ENJOY them, they WILL NOT LAST FOREVER. If they are going
wrong, don't WORRY, THEY CAN'T LAST LONG EITHER.

☞ 5). Old FRIENDS are GOLD! NEW friends are DIAMONDS! If you
GET a DIAMOND, DON'T FORGET the GOLD! To HOLD a DIAMOND,
you ALWAYS NEED a BASE of GOLD!

☞ 6). Often when WE LOSE HOPE and THINK this is the END, GOD
SMILES from ABOVE and SAYS, "RELAX, SWEETHEART; it's JUST a
BEND, NOT THE END!"

☞ 7). When GOD SOLVES your PROBLEMS, you HAVE FAITH in HIS
ABILITIES; when GOD DOESN'T SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS, HE has
FAITH in YOUR ABILITIES.

☞ 8). A BLIND PERSON asked GOD: "CAN THERE be ANYTHING
WORSE THAN LOSING EYE SIGHT?" HE REPLIED: "YES, LOSING YOUR
VISION!"

☞ 9). When YOU PRAY for OTHERS, GOD LISTENS to YOU and
BLESSES THEM, and SOMETIMES, when you are SAFE and HAPPY,
REMEMBER that SOMEONE has PRAYED for YOU.

☞ 10). WORRYING does NOT TAKE AWAY TOMORROW'S
TROUBLES; IT TAKES AWAY today's PEACE.

St Casimir

Feast Day:

4 March 2023



Casimir, born of kings
and in line to be a king himself, was filled with
exceptional values and learning by a great
teacher, John Dlugosz. Even his critics could not
say that his conscientious objection indicated
softness. As a teenager, Casimir lived a highly
disciplined, even severe life, sleeping on the
ground, spending a great part of the night in
prayer and dedicating himself to lifelong
celibacy. When nobles in Hungary became
dissatisfied with their king, they prevailed upon
Casimir's father, the king of Poland, to send his
son to take over the country. Casimir obeyed his
father, as many young men over the centuries
have obeyed their governments. The army he
was supposed to lead was clearly outnumbered
by the "enemy"; some of his troops were
deserting because they were not paid. At the
advice of his officers, Casimir decided to return
home. His father was irked at the failure of his
plans, and confined his 15-year-old son for three
months. The lad made up his mind never again to
become involved in the wars of his day, and no
amount of persuasion could change his mind. He
returned to prayer and study, maintaining his
decision to remain celibate even under pressure
to marry the emperor's daughter. He reigned
briefly as king of Poland during his father's
absence. He died of lung trouble at 25 while
visiting Lithuania, of which he was also Grand
Duke. He was buried in Vilnius, Lithuania.

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

St Mad's Women's Breakfast

Join us Saturday 18 March, 8.30am
in the St Madeleine Centre

Our own Sue Martin will share her spiritual
journey and explore why conserving platypus
is part of her faith mission. She is the Ecology
Officer for the Australian Jesuits, working
with all our dioceses.

Sue wears many hats including chairing our
local environment group *Cattai Hills
Environment Network (CHEN)* and is
President of the NSW Chapter of the
*Environmental Education Professional
Association*.

Laudato Si Meeting

Zoom ID 87281082317 **1 March, 7pm**

Come join us in prayer: this month for
the role of the family. Join our discussion
on Denis Edwards "Ecology at the Heart of
Faith" available free online. Just call for
the link. Careyanne 0438791813

Join us Zoom ID

87375069161

on **29 March**



Christians: *The Urgent Case for Jesus in our
World* by Greg Sheridan

More info:

Careyanne 0438791813



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ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

25 & 26 Feb	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY	
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Justin Sebire	Maria Fry Eileen Sherlock	Sandra Tabone Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire			Thomas & James Barker
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Sonali Arnold		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Deb Rankin
FLOWERS	Lent		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold	

4 & 5 Mar	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY	
	WELCOMERS		Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Heidi Bou-Harb	Margaret Mieckowski Tony Hooper	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS		Bailey Gambrell		
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Kerrie Anne
FLOWERS	Lent		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow	