



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

21st May 2023

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1: 1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Matthew 28: 16-20

“When my house burnt down, I got an unobstructed view of the moon at night”! – Zen Monk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I shall be attending an Intensive Course on “Enhancing Catholic Identity In Our Schools” at Leuven, Belgium from 27th May to 11th June along with a couple of priests, college teachers and principals from the Diocese of Parramatta. Kindly pray for our safe trip back and forth.



Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord! This feast marks an end and a beginning! Jesus victoriously completes his earthly journey and goes back to the Father; for the followers it is a beginning of their mission- to identify and to transform. Let us try to reflect on the one sentence in the first reading of today!

Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? - I try to get the meaning of this single sentence. The disciples were overjoyed at the sight of the risen Jesus. Perhaps they wanted to hang on to such a life with Jesus. But there comes again the pain of parting with Jesus... Their action of looking up perhaps reflects their attitude of getting

stuck up with the departure and expecting some miraculous thing to happen... Perhaps they were still hesitant to venture out to face the realities of life... At this juncture, the angels have to make these disciples move forward with the promise of the continual presence of Jesus and the returning of Jesus. (I can imagine a scenario of the father of a family leaving abroad for a job and the mother telling the child that dad would be coming back soon). Taking the message of the angels, the disciples go out on a mission of proclaiming the Gospel, healing people and transforming society. The people who were looking up toward heaven started looking around without losing the base of being in the presence of Jesus.

In the context of our life, could that be tantamount to saying:

Why are you still dwelling in the past?

Why do you hold on to your anger still?

Why do you harbor such ill feelings and grudges towards people?

Why don't you come out of your anti-social behaviour- such as drugs, drinks etc?

Why do you hang around those who have a bad influence on you?

Why are you always praying for peace to God while you are not ready to resolve the issues in your relationships? And so on ...so forth....

There should be a unitary approach to our life. A balanced life founded on God and lived out in the community. There is nothing to gain by holding on to the past painful memories, hurts, loss. We must be ready to let go and move forward in our life. Perhaps, we may have to lose something to reach our destination.

This is a tale from the Bhagavad Purana, Hindu epic: **A crow once flew into the sky with a piece of meat in its beak. Twenty other crows set out in hot pursuit and began to attack it viciously. When the crow finally dropped the meat, the pursuers left it alone and flew off shrieking after the morsel. The crow said to itself: I have lost the meat and gained this peaceful sky”**

Let us not always look up to heaven and lose sight of earth. And let us have a unitary approach to life...

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

DWELLING IN THE PAST PREVENTS DOING SOMETHING IN THE PRESENT

JOHN WOODEN



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)



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM—RECONCILIATION

For baptised Catholic children Yr 3 onwards

Enrolment forms are available online – stmadeleine.org.au - and in the parish office. All documents are to be handed in at the parish office **by Friday, 26 May**. Parent Information evening: **Tuesday, 30 May** at 4.30pm or 7pm

The enrolment process is completed by handing in the enrolment form and required documentation and attendance at both the parent information evening and a Commitment Mass on the weekend of **3 & 4 June**. Preparation sessions at 4pm: **11, 18 & 25 June**

2nd Rite of Reconciliation: **Wednesday, 28 June** at 5.30pm and 7pm

For any queries stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL— THIS WEEKEND

Dear Parishioners

Our Parish is proud to support the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal raising funds for Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton. The centre helps people seeking practical assistance, learning opportunities, and connection with others. This may be through healthcare, help with everyday family needs, or financial and legal counselling. There's also help for people impacted by domestic violence and those who are navigating the justice system or needing mentoring support. Your generosity will help Aboriginal Catholic Care to provide a welcoming place where people experiencing tough times can be supported with kindness and compassion.

You are invited to follow the example of Christ, the Good Samaritan, and to have a heart open to give, to care, to improve the lives of others – to love in service and in solidarity.

Please give with a generous heart via the giving envelopes today or scan this QR Code. Gifts of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



Thank you for being the face of Christ to our First Nations people by supporting Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton.



Be the face of Christ to our First Nations people



Please support Aboriginal Catholic Care with a gift to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal: yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Please ensure your details are kept up to date **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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,323.20
2nd Collection (for Parish) = \$1,720.30
Envelopes = \$1,080 Loose = \$1,720.30

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For the dearly departed: Vincenzo Luca, Louise & Joseph Bonello, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Frank Agresta, Ben & Paula Dieudonne, Angelo & Lonza Farrugia, Joe Farrugia, Mary Fitzpatrick, Ky Frendo, Goeff Burham, Gildegardo Lopez, Nina Giudice, Juana, Paul Castelino, Christy & Breda Sherlock, Mary Cumbo, Raymond Conliffe, Melba Cardozo, Letizia Dominello

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Catherine Saunders, Aura Krakowszky, 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

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

A note from the MET team in the Diocesan office. Throughout Laudato Si' Week, the ACBC Justice, Peace and Ecology office encourage you and your community to reflect, act and bring Laudato Si' to life. Our team hope that the action ideas might stimulate your thinking and let yourself be moved by the Spirit. The reflection sheets are based on the Australian State of Environment report 2021. Laudato Si' Week 2023 Resources - Office for Social Justice (catholic.org.au) May 26 marks National Sorry Day, remembering and acknowledging the hurt and trauma of the Stolen Generation, those forcibly removed from their families and communities. We observe National Sorry Day on the anniversary of the 1997 Bringing Them Home report, which exposed the racist history of government policy that enabled children to be removed from their families. Since the inaugural National Sorry Day some progress has been made, notably then-prime minister Kevin Rudd delivering a National Apology, however Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children still remain 10.6 times more like than non-indigenous children to be removed from their family. Following National Sorry Day, we observe National Reconciliation Week, from 27 May – 3 June; an opportunity for Australians to take part in the process of reconciliation. We remember Aunty Rita locally who was part of the Stolen Generation's and was forced to live at Marella Mission now known as Bernie Mullane reserve.

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: Amy Seychell

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: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt
Safeguarding Champion: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Assistant Priest

Rev Adam Carlow

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)

Weddings: By appointment



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Bishop Vincent, Diocese of Parramatta has launched a Synod with the theme of "Behold, I am doing a new thing" (Is 43: 19) in view of embracing a new future for the life of the Church in the diocese of Parramatta. He would like to

hear the 'voices' of the people for greater Participation, Communion and Mission in the life of our local Church. He is encouraging and inviting us to have local consultations at the parish level and forward submissions to him by the end of July. Careyanne Moylan and Sue Martin will lead this process in our parish and you shall receive more information and action plans in our parish bulletin in the following weeks. May I therefore request all of you to actively participate in the consultations and share your voices for a better future of the Church.

Looking forward to your support

Fr. Vince

St Madeleine Sophie

Barat

Feast Day: 25 May

Our Parish Patroness



In 1800 she founded the Society of the Sacred Heart whose purpose was to make known the love of God revealed in the Heart of Christ, and take part in the restoration of Christian life in France through the education of young women of the rich and the poor classes. Canonised on 25 May 1925.

<http://madeleinesophiebarat.org/>

Mary, Help of Christians

Feast Day: 24 May

Official Patroness of

Australia since 1844



Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of
Mary Help of Christians.

Through her prayers and under her protection,
may the light of Christ shine over our land.

May Australia be granted harmony, justice and
peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to
our citizens. Bless especially the men and women
of the Australian Defence Force and their families.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/event/our-lady-help-of-christians-patron-of-australia/>



INFORMAL DINNER

ALL WELCOME!

**PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, CHILDREN, YOUNG
ADULTS, ADULT MENTORS**

Monday 29 May 2023
7pm
at St Madeleine Centre

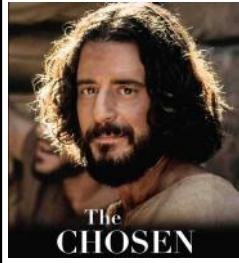
Catch up with parishioners from your Mass or
other Masses

Join in the discussions for the Diocesan Synod

Please bring a plate to share!

RSVP Selina Calleia – s.calleia@hotmail.com or
0416 265 233

For further information on the Synod
<https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>



THE CHOSEN

SHOWING EACH TUESDAY
EVENING AT 7PM
(FINAL EPISODE 4TH JULY)
IN THE
ST MADELEINE CENTRE

Enjoy watching with fellow parishioners
Everyone is Welcome
For information Loretta m. 0419260637

PARISH PLAYGROUP

Each Thursday during school term

At: 9.30am
in the St Madeleine Centre

Any questions please contact
the office on 9654 2260

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person for Holy Communion,
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20 & 21 May		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott	Sacramental Team	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Tony Hooper Margaret Mieczkowski	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Jacqui Nisbet Joanna O'Neill
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Bailey Gambrell		
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chaccal
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt

27 & 28 May		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	Catherine Diekman Eileen Sherlock	Sandra Tabone Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire			
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Paul Vella		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerrard
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Vicky Hooper