



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

7th May 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6: 1-7

1 Peter 2: 4-9

John 14: 1-12

“Security is not the absence of danger, but the presence of God, no matter what the danger”

Congratulations and prayers to the boys and girls who stood up for owning their faith at the Sacrament of Confirmation last Wednesday and Friday. Thanks to the Sacramental team, the parents, sponsors and the prayer warriors who helped them prepare for this ‘Pentecost’. May we encourage them in their commitment to be ‘the face of Jesus’ making use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for the growth of the human family! The parish community will celebrate this joyful occasion with them on 21st May after the 8 am and 10 am Masses as they receive their certificates.



“A teacher was teaching his students on how a caterpillar turns into a beautiful butterfly. He told the students that in the next few hours, the butterfly would struggle to come out of the cocoon, but no one should help it.

The teacher left the classroom leaving all his students inside. The students were waiting anxiously until finally the big moment came. The butterfly began to struggle to get out of the cocoon. One of the students took pity and decided to go against the advice of the teacher by assisting the butterfly out of the cocoon. He could not bear to see the butterfly struggle and decided to break the cocoon.

Shortly afterwards all the students were shocked to see that the butterfly had died. When the teacher returned and found out what had happened, he explained to the students that by helping the butterfly, they had actually killed it because the butterfly needed to struggle to help develop and strengthen its

wings. Without going through the process, the butterfly will die.” Human beings are the same, we all need to struggle and overcome our challenges in life.

In reality, no matter how we cry, rant, or pray, we know the painful truth: the world is not getting better. The clouds of tension, fear, helplessness, depression and uncertainty hang over our optimistic spirit. For many, just getting through each day is an exercise in frustration and exhaustion. In the broader perspective of this awful situation, all we can cling to is none other than God. The God we believe in is not going to disappoint us and He “reserves a new ray of the sun’s light and a virgin path” (Leon Felipe, a Spanish poet) as we still place our trust in Him.



Jesus addresses these words to the disciples who are filled with fear of facing the future on their own. Jesus is asking them to master their fears with the belief in God and in Jesus. He makes it clear that the way to God is not a primrose path. It involves suffering and will be punctuated with challenges, and crises, persecution and sacrifice. Jesus encourages the disciples to accept reality as a high adventure and keep going.

Individuals, families, communities, nations, the Church are going through rough and stormy moments right now. In the face of such life-threatening crises, it is normal to become weak in our faith and positive outlook. We become frightened, exhausted to the point of drowning in the sea of setbacks, adversities, fear, anger, and low self- esteem.

Every one of us faces unique problems and opportunities and God has a reason for setting things up that way. My life as a priest was not a bed of roses. I have gone through a hell of difficulties, hurts, pains and betrayals, ebbs and flows in my personal and ministerial life. I feel that God has made me grow in character and in my faith through these difficulties and problems. There is no point in lamenting or whingeingGod gets us through....

The challenge today is to ask whether we are prepared to believe in the sun even when it is not shining! Do we really experience the liberating hand of Jesus as we sail through emotional, physical, spiritual, relational and social turmoil and turbulence?

Someone has rightly said:

I asked for strength and God gave me difficulties to make me strong
I asked for wisdom and God gave me problems to solve
I asked for prosperity and God gave me a brain and brawn to work
I asked for courage and God gave me obstacles to overcome
I asked for love and God gave me troubled people to help
I asked for favors and God gave me opportunities
I received nothing I wanted or desired
I received everything I needed
Live the life without fear...

God has a purpose for everything we go through; He has marked out a particular path for you and for me. As we walk along this path, we are not alone; because Jesus is walking with us side by side. What use is it if we submerge ourselves in the ocean of fear, useless anxieties, and unnecessary worries and so on? Let us entrust our entire being into His hands and continue to walk along with him. God’s blessings and His presence with us!

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 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

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:
Sundays, 11, 18 & 25 June

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

For any queries
stmads.sacraments@gmail.com
Sandra m.0410 587 735

INVITATION TO REGISTER FOR CPR TRAINING

You are invited to register for this accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre.

The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at

- St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Saturday 13th May beginning at 10am, or

For information on how to register please contact:

Suzanne - Parish Safeguarding Champion
m. 0410 936 108



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 : 0000388

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) = \$1,303.50
2nd Collection (for Parish)
Envelopes = \$1,550 Loose = \$1,119.70

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For the dearly departed: Juana, Paul Castelino, Christy & Breda Sherlock, Mary Cumbo, Raymond Conliffe, Melba Cardozo, Letizia Dominello, Steve Nash, Beryl Forster, Paul Spina, Paul Cascun, Martin Mileto, Yvonne Muter, Barbara Sweeney, Michele Vaccarella, Norman & Chahida Hajje, Shedly & Chahide Hajje, George Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Abraham family

Please pray for the sick: 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

This week the Catholic Mission conference One Heart, Many Voices was held in person, I attended on Thursday and the keynote speaker was Bishop Tim Norton, a local Eastwood Marist student, who is part of the Divine Word Missionary order, the first member of the Order to become a Bishop in Australia in Brisbane. The theme of his talk was Leading and Acting – Truth Telling, Synodality and Mission for a Better World. The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) draws our attention that Market Forces is working with HESTA members, the superannuation fund for the health and community sector, to call on the fund to stop investing money in companies expanding fossil fuels. You can explore Market Forces website to see what actions we can all personally take.

THE CHOSEN

SHOWING TUESDAY, 16 MAY

AT 7PM

IN THE ST MADELEINE CENTRE

We will be showing the first episode of The Chosen followed by a brief discussion and supper

For information
Loretta m. 0419260637

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Alexandra Mifsud, Selina Calleia & Joan Sattler

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chaccal

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 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

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

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.



Introducing: Chris Padgett
American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology - Touring Australia

FREE EVENT: HAPPY MARRIAGE
Faith filled ways to a better relationship.

Friday 19 May 7:30pm
St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Rd, Winston Hills

Please register your attendance at:
marriage@parracatholic.org

SYNOD

NORTHERN DEANERY CONSULTATION

May 13

6.30-9.30pm

To learn to consult
To be a part of the change

Info:

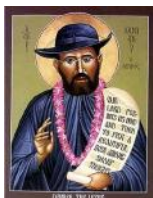
Careyanne 0438791813

St Damien of Moloka'i

Feast Day: 10 May

When Joseph de Veuster was born in Tremelo, Belgium, in 1840, few people in Europe had any firsthand knowledge of leprosy, Hansen's disease. By the time he died at the age of 49, people all over the world knew about this disease because of him. They knew that human compassion could soften the ravages of this disease. Forced to quit school at age 13 to work on the family farm, Joseph entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary six years later, taking the name of a fourth-century physician and martyr. When his brother Pamphile, a priest in the same congregation, fell ill and was unable to go to the Hawaiian Islands as assigned, Damien quickly volunteered in his place. In May 1864, two months after arriving in his new mission, Damien was ordained a priest in Honolulu and assigned to the island of Hawaii. In 1873, he went to the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Moloka'i, set up seven years earlier. Part of a team of four chaplains taking that assignment for three months each year, Damien soon volunteered to remain permanently, caring for the people's physical, medical, and spiritual needs. In time, he became their most effective advocate to obtain promised government support. Soon the settlement had new houses and a new church, school and orphanage. Morale improved considerably. Damien contracted Hansen's disease and died of its complications. When Hawaii became a state in 1959, it selected Damien as one of its two representatives in the Statuary Hall at the US Capitol. Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

MET NATURAL FERTILITY SEMINAR – COUPLES HOPING TO CONCEIVE: 20 MAY Hear about Restorative Reproductive Medicine and natural methods of achieving pregnancy. This topic is of particular interest to couples that are trying to conceive a child where they may have infertility issues and are seeking medical intervention to help them. Hear from trained professionals about a women's health science, the Creighton Model which is used in conjunction with NaProTechnology (www.fccau.org). This free event will be held on Saturday 20 May from 1pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. For more information and to register, contact catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or 0400 427 605

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2023 Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit 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 or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017 EACH—Wellbeing program for people over the age of 18 years—2 May

Congratulations to the newly baptised!

Zoe Vella, Elodie Gray, Isabella Pagano, Quinn Muller, Emma McMahon, Sophia Mouhayet, Tyson Moit



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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ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
6 & 7 May	WELCOMERS	Anne Kyngdon	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Anne Kyngdon Frederick Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders John Walcott	Careyanne Moylan Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima	Bailey Gambrill		
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Sonali Arnold		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Kerrie Anne
	FLOWERS	Teresa Capaldi		ALTAR LINEN	Marian Piper
13 & 14 May		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Justin Sebire Colleen Dunlop	Eileen Sherlock Maria Fry	Sue Martin Karla Quinn	Sandra Bonello Lidia Ceccato
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire			
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Tony Hooper		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
FLOWERS	Calla Lily		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt	