

16th July 2023

15th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Is 55-10-11

Rom 8:18-23

Mt 13:1-23



It probably would have been discouraging for the disciples to see many people reject Jesus. While his message was spreading, they did encounter significant resistance. This kind of discouragement climaxed with the crucifixion, where even his closest disciples turned their back on him.

The reality of turning away from God is just as much as a possibility today as it was then. When we do come across people in our lives – even family and friends - who profess non-belief in God, how do we deal with the discouragement? Is everyone who professes belief in God genuine about that belief? And what about ourselves – is there anyone among us who is free from sin? I think this parable in the gospel today has something important to say to everyone.

Jesus uses the parable of the sower to reveal hope amongst discouragement. Thinking about the parable, we can see how Jesus is the sower, planting seeds amongst the people. Unfortunately, some of the seeds fall on bad ground, the path, rocky ground, and thorns. That's to say that there are different reasons why a seed wouldn't grow into a fruit bearing crop. But then there is the good bearing soil, and it's in the good soil that the fruit is truly produced. Jesus says today that a hundred-fold harvest can be produced from a seed in good soil.

There is a great deal of encouragement in this. While we recognise that people fall away from God, we also recognise the possibility of a new harvest. Not all is lost, as those who witnessed the crucifixion thought. New life and new fruit can come forward, and God calls us to be part of that. If we nurture the seeds of God's love in our own lives and allow Jesus to be our hands and our feet, that hundred-fold harvest to which Jesus spoke about can come into fruition. New seeds can always be planted.

Today's parable thus gives us a framework for hope. We recall to mind the words from the prophet Isaiah in our first reading "no word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty," (Is 55:10-11). We can go forward with confidence then of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives and relationships, scattering the word of God as we go, and hopefully we will find good soil – even in places unexpected.

May God bless you all,

Fr Adam

# **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:com/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 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> )				





Come & Support
Our Marian students at Mass!

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

Sunday, 30 July 2023

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!

Thank you

## **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

## <u>Safeguarding Mandatory Modules</u> <u>Face-to-Face Training</u>

The Diocesan Safeguarding team are organising sessions for parish clergy, staff and volunteers to complete their Mandatory Safeguarding at St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills.

Saturday 22 July (12noon-4.45pm) for Modules 1-3

Please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or winstonhills@parracatholic.org to register for one of these face-to-face opportunities to complete your Mandatory Safeguarding Training.

If you have any questions about the
Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin,
Community Engagement and
Education Officer at:
maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

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 : 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) = \$1,078 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$879 Loose = \$1,002.20

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

Congratulations to our newly baptised:

Eloise & Louis Connors

**CHOSEN** RESUMES ON TUESDAY, 1 AUGUST AT 7PM FOR SEASON 2

1 AUGUST: S2 EPISODE 1 - THUNDER

IN THE ST MADELEINE CENTRE

Never too late to join us Everyone is welcome Enjoy watching with fellow parishioners For information Loretta m. 0419260637



## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the dearly departed: Salvatore
Barbaro, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Dermot
John Murphy, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence
Apap, Eriberto Adan, Mary Cumbo, June
Kingston, Costantino Giudice, Maria Ceroli,
Sr Therese Gaudry RSM, Mary Ellen Bradley, Socorro
Corpuz, Pablito Corpuz

**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

The Tri-diocesan Social Justice evening will focus on family and domestic violence and the bishops' 2022-23 social justice statement, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse. The office of Peace, Justice and Ecology PJE encourage as many representatives as possible from the Diocese of Parramatta to attend on the night. Wednesday, 26 July 99 Albert Rd, Strathfield. Season of Creation 2023 theme is Let Justice and Peace Flow. Update from the Bishops Laudato Sl' plan - Goal 1 Cry of the Earth 1.1 Gardening staff to identifying native species and other plants which are suitable for use in grounds of the general secretariat, and which can survive with minimal watering during dry summers. 1.2 Purchase hybrid vehicles

## 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: 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

Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Carl Mathias
Welcomers Coordinator:
Safeguarding Champion: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman

# 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

### St Mary MacKillop

Feast Day: 19 July

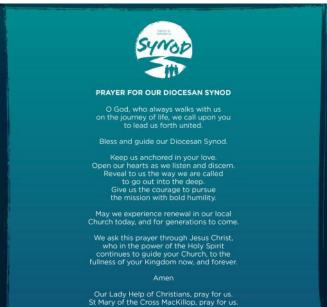
Born in Melbourne in 1842, to parents who had emigrated

from Scotland, Mary grew up in a family that faced constant financial struggles. In 1860, she met Father Julian Woods, who became her spiritual director. Together they founded a new community of women the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, also known as the Josephite Sisters. Its members were to staff schools especially for poor children, as well as orphanages, and do other works of charity. Mary had the support of some local bishops as she and her Sisters went about their work. But the bishop in South Australia, aging and relying on others for advice, briefly excommunicated Mary—charging her with disobedience—and dispensed 50 of her Sisters from their vows. In truth, the bishop's quarrel was about nower and who had authority over whom. He ultimately rescinded his order of excommunication. Mary insisted that her congregation should be governed by an elected mother general answerable to Rome, not to the local bishop. There also were disputes about whether or not the congregation could own property. In the end, Rome proved to be Mary's best source of support. After a long wait official approval of the congregation—and how it was to be governed—came from Pope Leo XIII. Despite her struggles with Church authorities, Mary MacKillop and her Sisters were able to offer social services that few, if any, government agencies in Australia could. They served Protestants and Catholics alike. They taught in schools and orphanages and served unmarried mothers. She died in 1909 at the age of 67. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1995. In 2010, when Pope

Benedict XVI canonized her, she became Australia's first

saint. Her liturgical feast is celebrated on August 8

http://www.franciscanmedia.org





Our Diocesan Synod will be held from 12-15 October 2023

The question that will guide

the Synod is:

In what ways can we respond to the
call of the Holy Spirit to be
a more synodal Church in the
Diocese of Parramatta?





## Your stories matter! Send your submissions to the first Diocesan Synod before 31 July

Our Diocesan Synod is calling you to share stories and have conversations at your parish, with a friend, or with family, about how we can walk together to become the Church that Christ calls us to be. The success of the Synod relies on your participation. Your submissions will inform the development of the agenda for the Synod, from 12-15 October 2023, which will gather clergy, consecrated and laity to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Applications to be a member at the Synod are now open. Apply to be a member or make a submission before 31 July: https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/ The Diocesan Liturgy Conference is on again

Diocesan Food Drives Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome, which operate thanks to donations from community food drives. All parishes and schools are encouraged to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Find out more information about how you can help at parracatholic.org/fooddrive or emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org





# SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FIRST EUCHARIST

For children who have celebrated both Baptism and Reconciliation and are in Year 3 or older

Enrolment documents to be handed in at the parish office no later than Friday, 4 August 2023 see stmadeleine.org.au/sacraments

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com



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## **ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE**

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FRESH MEALS REGGIO CURRICULUM I

0423 004 866

#### 5:30PM VIGIL **8AM SUNDAY** 10AM SUNDAY 5:30PM SUNDAY Maria & Steve Fry Joseph Spina Sandra Tabone WELCOMERS Zakia Touma Carol & Terry Scott MINISTERS OF THE Joe Touma Dianne Millington Piety Rocha ALTAR Heidi Bou-Harb Catherine Diekman Rosanna Ceroli Jacqui Nisbet **READERS** Maria Baldi Robert Gerometta Adriana Kennedy Tereza Barisic **JNR MINISTERS** Benjamin Barker **MUSICIANS** COUNTERS Sandra Tabone & Parish Team CHILDREN'S LITURGY School Holidays

					concernation and s
	FLOWERS	Parish		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow
22 & 23 July		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		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	Tony Hooper Margaret Mieczkowski	Sandra Bonello Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS			Grace Bonello, Lily-Anne & Luciana	
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chaccal
	FLOWERS	Teresa Capaldi		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry