



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



28 ANNANGROVE RD, KENTHURST NSW 2156
(P) 9654 2260
(E) KENTHURST@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG OR
STMADS@YAHOO.COM.AU
(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

30th July 2023

17th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3: 5, 7-12

Rom 8: 28-30

Mt 13: 44-52

“Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.’

*‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.’ - **Matt 13:44-46***

If you found treasure buried in a field, what would you do? Most people would dig it up, sell it and become rich. But that's not what happens in today's gospel. Instead, we find a strange response. Rather than taking the treasure, the person hides it, sells everything they own and buys the field.

The parable poses a riddle. Why would someone buy the land, instead of just taking the treasure? The answer lies in the kind of treasure that is found in the field. The treasure that Jesus talks about isn't gold or diamonds. It's the kingdom of heaven.

Heaven is a treasure that cannot be stolen. It cannot just be dug up and taken, like one might do with a buried chest of doubloons. In order to obtain the kingdom of heaven, you have to first give everything. Jesus thus flips the concept of finding treasure on its head. True treasure is found in the giving, not in the taking.

There's a couple of other interesting insights this parable poses to us. Notice that the treasure in the parable is hidden. The kingdom of heaven is like this - it's something waiting to be found, something to be sought out. And unlike trying to find treasure by looking at a map, we find the treasure of heaven by looking to Jesus.

After all, heaven is a relational reality. It's about being in communion with God, and at the heart of communion is love. This is why true treasure is found by looking to Jesus. In this way, we become spiritually rich. When we pour our hearts to Jesus, as Jesus pours out his heart to us, this sacrificial power of love unites us together in a mystical way for eternity.

We see again, as we read the parable of the pearl, this theme of giving everything up for the kingdom. Jesus calls us to be foolish to a worldly way of thinking, a calling to a radical way of life where nothing else matters except one thing - the pearl of heaven.

I wish you all a very happy week. May you find the kingdom of heaven in your lives, the treasure and pearl of an ongoing and transformational relationship with the heart of Jesus.

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 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)



Come & Support
Our Marian students at Mass!
Followed by Pizza

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

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned giving envelopes will be available in the coming weeks. If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes please contact the office on 9654 2260 or kenthurst@parracatholic.org



THE CHOSEN – The first multi-season series about the Life and Ministry of Jesus of Nazareth.

Viewing in the St Madeleine Centre each Tuesday evening 7pm

Next episode: **8th August** S2 Episode 2 – I Saw You

Never too late to join us, enjoy watching with fellow parishioners and Everyone is welcome!!!!

Catch up with Season 1 now available on Netflix.

For information Loretta m. 0419260637

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) = \$1,108.30
2nd Collection (for Parish) = \$1,170.40
Envelopes = \$1,170.40 Loose = \$1,051.50
Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,874.23

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MARIA VACCARELLA

Date Tuesday, 1 August 2023

Time: 11am at St Madeleine's

Our prayers and condolences with the Vaccarella family

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the dearly departed: June Payne, Rev Fr Peter Caruana, Bob Sakr, George Boulos, Frank Agresta, Giuseppina Esposito, Tunnousse Takchi, Norman & Chahide Hajje, Sheaddy & Chahida Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, George Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Vincenzina Americano, Salvatore Barbaro, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Dermot John Murphy, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Eriberto Adan, Mary Cumbo

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

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.



SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

This past week the Tri Diocesan Social Justice dinner occurred at Strathfield, we heard powerful voices from those who have experienced domestic violence and are working with Catholic Care Central Coast on the program Regaining Self. We also heard from an ACU/ Notre Dame academic who is exploring the intersection of faith and domestic violence support. The recently released report from the NSW government Religious and Community Leaders responding to Domestic and Family Violence was shared. We need to be a place of sanctuary for those experiencing trauma. On August 24th Hills Yarning is planning a workshop at Castle Grande 6-8pm on What is the Yes contact mitchellforyes@gmail.com for more information.

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:

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

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Feast Day: 31 July



*Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,*

All I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.

To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

*Give me only your love and your grace,
that is enough for me ~ St Ignatius*

The founder of the Jesuits was on his way to military fame and fortune when a cannon ball shattered his leg. Because there were no books of romance on hand during his convalescence, Ignatius whiled away the time reading a life of Christ and lives of the saints. His conscience was deeply touched, and a long, painful turning to Christ began. In 1534, at the age of 43, he and six others—one of whom was Saint Francis Xavier—vowed to live in poverty and chastity and to go to the Holy Land. Four years later Ignatius made the association permanent. The new Society of Jesus was approved by Pope Paul III, and Ignatius was elected to serve as the first general. Ignatius was a true mystic. His spirituality is expressed in the Jesuit motto, Ad majorem Dei gloriam—"for the greater glory of God." In his concept, obedience was to be the prominent virtue, to assure the effectiveness and mobility of his men. All activity was to be guided by a true love of the Church and unconditional obedience to the Holy Father, for which reason all professed members took a fourth vow to go wherever the pope should send them for the salvation of souls. <http://www.franciscanmedia.org>



PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESAN SYNOD

O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

Keep us anchored in your love.
Open our hearts as we listen and discern.
Reveal to us the way we are called to go out into the deep.
Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local Church today, and for generations to come.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever.

Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.



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?*

FaithLIFE—3 night short course on Synodal Spirituality: Beginning 22 August

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. But what does that mean as an expression of Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pfparr.org.au/faithlife/>



VINNIES 2023 WINTER APPEAL – HELP END

THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS DEVASTATING OLDER WOMEN

5 & 6 August 2023

Women over 55 are experiencing homelessness at alarming rates. Right now, in Australia, we're experiencing a range of crises: the escalating cost of living, a shortage in affordable housing, gender inequality which negatively impacts women's superannuation savings, and a rise in elder abuse. And, sadly, older women are being hit hardest.

For many older women who are relying on their pension as their only income, they're at a severe disadvantage when competing against double income earners in the rental market.

If they dedicated their lives to raising children, women often have much less in superannuation or savings than men. So if anything goes wrong, they'll have no financial safety net.

Elder abuse is also becoming more common. Many older people become homeless after their relationship with their adult child goes downhill. Sadly, this is likely to happen easily, when an adult child is the main carer for their elderly parent.

Your donation in this winter appeal will help make sure older women in crisis have a safe place to sleep, food, clothing and a chance to rebuild their lives.

Our parish collection will be held during masses on 5th and 6th August 2023.

We thank you in advance for your generosity.



ST MADELEINE'S PLAYGROUP

St Madeleine's Centre
28 Annangrove Road, KENTHURST

- Every Thursday during school term, from 9.30am
- Play and activities for children 0-6 years old.

- Mums, Dads, Carers and Grandparents are all welcome!
- Bring a healthy morning tea and a hat for play.
- For more information, please contact Sarah - 0405 514 624 or Amy - aseychell3@parracatholic.edu.au



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*

*Parent Information Evening
Tuesday, 8 August 2023*

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



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29 & 30 July

	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
WELCOMERS		Maureen & Rick Jones	Teresa Capaldi Zakia Touma	Joseph Spina Jordan O'Neil
MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
READERS	Colleen Dunlop Pat Waters	Eileen Sherlock Catherine Diekman	Sandra Tabone Karla Quinn	Xavier Kyngdon, Aurelia Mawhinney & James Barker
JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima			Charlyze, Oliver & Sophia
MUSICIANS				Jared Calleia, Naomi Calleia, Hanz Monjardin, Hannah El-Ahkras & Georgia Domars
COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Sonali Arnold		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
FLOWERS	Parish		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry

5 & 6 August

	5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
WELCOMERS	Anne Kyngdon	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina
MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
READERS	Anne Kyngdon Frederick Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders John Walcott	Karla Quinn Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
JNR MINISTERS	Fred & Xavier Kyngdon		Luciana Sanchez	Ben Barker
MUSICIANS				
COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerrard
FLOWERS	Diane Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold