



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

17th December 2023

3rd Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2, 10-11
1 Thess 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Dear parishioners of St Madeleine's,

We have just over a week now until Christmas. It's a shorter Advent season this year – in fact, the shortest it could possibly be! With the beginning of Advent changing each year, the length of Advent changes too. Christmas is coming a little faster this year, and before we know it, we'll find ourselves at the doorstep of the stable.

It's a time of preparation for us in more than one way this year. As we prepare for Christmas, the parish also prepares to farewell our beloved priest Fr Vincent, who will be finishing his time with us at the end of the year. I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who helped with the farewell morning tea last Sunday. In a special way, I give thanks to Sally Coppini who spoke very well at the end of mass. It was a moving experience, and I'm sure Fr Vincent feels quite loved in this place he has called home for twelve years.

During Advent, we're reminded of the joy and hope that Jesus brings at Christmas. At Easter, this same joy and hope is made known to us, but not before the farewell of Jesus at the cross. It's often hard to say goodbye, but change is part of life, and we must prepare ourselves for this. There is however one thing that doesn't change, one thing that remains constant. The light of Christ always remains aflame. Stay close to Him, and He will see you through the changing tides of life.

The Gospel this week again points us to John the Baptist, who in turn points us to Jesus. "I am not the Christ," declares John, I baptise with water; but there stands among you the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap." We await with joy this week, the one who John the Baptist speaks of, the light of the world, born in a stable, in the most humble of settings. May we too take some of that humility with us in this third week of Advent.

I wish you all a very happy and safe week ahead in the lead up to Christmas next week. May God bless you all, and a very Merry Christmas you and your families.

Fr Adam

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)



CHRISTMAS ROSTER Please write your name on the Christmas Roster if you are available - located in the foyer of the Church

Please join us for our ADVENT program - *The Sign* - Tuesday, 19 December at 7pm in the St Mad's Centre

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This year we welcome your support in donating to the St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal.

May we move towards a Christmas of being watchful in faith and hope filled for our community and the world.



By Jan L. Richardson from Night Vigilans Searching for Shadows of Advent and Christmas, 1998

JOIN US FOR AN ADVENT REFLECTION

Reflect on the year past and the one to come.

St Madeleine's Church

23 December, 10am – 12pm

RSVP 0438791813

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

ALL WELCOME!

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS

A practice to prepare for the music for our Christmas masses will be held on:

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023, at 7PM

RSVP: Selina Calleia 0416 265 233.

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

12 Green Days of Christmas, in the light of Pope Francis' call to world leaders at COP28. "Let us choose life, let us choose the future."

1. Green your Christmas lights - use LED globes or purchase green energy for your display
2. Green your Christmas tree – use a live one; can you use a local species?
3. Green your Gift Giving – think fair-trade, low waste
4. Green your Shopping –consider the number of gifts and use green bags
5. Be a Sustainable Santa – give a gift to offset your footprint this year
6. Remember the food miles of your meal
7. Support your local community – buy local, get involved
8. Donate some time to a charity Jesuit Mission is one
9. Remember to have a Holiday shutdown plan for your place over the break
10. Green your holidays – think sustainable in how you get there and what you do
11. Green your New Years resolution
12. Most of all enjoy your family time

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) = \$1,324.80
2nd Collection (for Parish)
Envelopes = \$1,205.00 Loose = \$1,307.40

Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,864.38

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



For the dearly departed: Domenico Franceschina, Norman & Chahida Hajje, George, Sheaddy & Chahide Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Abraham family, Michele (Lino) Russo Pablito Corpuz, Marie Pallister, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Lina Tabone, Angelo and Lonza Farrugia, Mary Fitzpatrick, Joe and Sam Farrugia, Ky Frendo, Geoff Burcham, Mary Cumbo, Maria & Guido Baldi, George Cascun

Please pray for the sick: Pat Brush, Mathias Kintu Bamusibule, Cherry Luezzi, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Henry Field, Aura Krakowszky, Hoani Alexander Barker, Sofia Viizzo, Antonia Desanti, and Jennifer Burgess

If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please use the Mass offering envelopes found at the entrance to the Church or email the office

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud

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 Champion: Brendan Ford

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



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

12 December at 7pm

NOTE: There will be a Sunday, 24 December

Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent
at 9am (only)

CHRISTMAS EVE: Sunday, 24 December

5.30pm Carols followed by

Family Mass

8pm Mass

11.45pm Carols followed by

Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY: Monday, 25 December

8am and 10am Mass

There will be no evening Mass

There will be no weekday Masses during the

week of Tuesday, 26 December to

Friday, 29 December

NEW YEARS EVE: Sunday, 31 December

Our usual Mass times: 8am, 10am and

5.30pm

Please note Fr Vince's last Mass will be at

10am on 31 December 2023

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Monday, 1 January

9am Mass only

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS



Christmas is fast approaching and all the preparations that go with this wonderful season are happening all around us.

To celebrate this joyous event, we warmly welcome all the children to participate in the St Madeleine's Christmas Eve vigil mass at 5.30pm. We need actors for the Christmas Story, Angels and Shepherds. Please arrive at 5.15pm.

The parish office will be closed

Tuesday, 26 December to

Friday, 29 December



Christmas is a joyous time when we come together as a parish family to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Our parish St Madeleine's relies on the generosity of our faith community to sustain our liturgical, sacramental, pastoral, and charitable ministries and we are ever grateful for your support. Please consider giving a Christmas Offertory gift via parracatholic.org/christmas-offertory or scan this QR code.



St Peter Canisius

Feast Day:
21 December



Although Peter once accused himself of idleness in his youth, he could not have been idle too long, for at the age of 19 he received a master's degree from the university at Cologne. Soon afterwards he met Peter Faber, the first disciple of Ignatius of Loyola, who influenced Peter so much that he joined the recently formed Society of Jesus. At this early age Peter had already taken up a practice he continued throughout his life—a process of study, reflection, prayer, and writing. After his ordination in 1546, he became widely known for his editions of the writings of St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great. He could often be found visiting the sick or imprisoned, even when his assigned duties in other areas were more than enough to keep most people fully occupied. In 1547, Peter attended several sessions of the Council of Trent, whose decrees he was later assigned to implement. After a brief teaching assignment at the Jesuit college at Messina, Peter was entrusted with the mission to Germany—from that point on his life's work. He taught in several universities and was instrumental in establishing many colleges and seminaries. He wrote a catechism that explained the Catholic faith in a way that common people could understand—a great need of that age. At 70, Peter suffered a paralytic seizure, but he continued to preach and write with the aid of a secretary, until his death in his hometown of Nijmegen, Netherlands, on December 21, 1597.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

A big thanks to everyone who helped celebrate Mass and Fr Vince's farewell morning tea last Sunday



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



Funerals of Compassion

"Compassion when you need it most"

A family business with family values.

Call Annangrove Locals

John - 0408 116 747

1300 906 060 – 24 hours

We support St Madeleine's Catholic Church



Catholic Cemeteries
& Crematoria
Care, Compassion, Choice

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE



10 Annangrove Road
Kenthurst

0416 080 195

Massage

0431 735 306 Beauty

We would like to offer all new clients \$20 off your first Massage and your first Beauty Treatment

www.soulcentre.au/meet-our-therapists

Lumby Hampson

Real Estate since 1968

"Let our family look
after your family"

lumbyhampson.com.au 9651 2788

Popular Dr Selina Leow and Dr Darren Calleia Stanhope Dental Centre

17 Conrad Road, Kellyville Ridge
(8 mins from Rouse Hill)

8883 1522

*Open 6 days

- *Female and male dentists
- *Medicare schemes accepted
- *All ages *One-appt crowns

Hills Family Funerals

"We understand the importance
of family and it shows in
everything that we do, a tradition of
care and concern"

24 Hour Care
Funeral Planning
Prepaid Funerals
Australian Owned & Family Operated

For Personal Attention please call
Richard Spiteri on 02 9659 0900
340 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill



Hills Family Funerals



BRAND NEW REGGIO INSPIRED
56 CHEPSTOW DRIVE CASTLE HILL
EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Special Offer
10% OFF DAILY FEES

ENROL NOW
| NAPPIES INCLUDED |
| FRESH MEALS |
| REGGIO CURRICULUM |

0423 004 866
WWW.REGGIOACADEMY.COM.AU



Servicing all makes and models!

Call Joe on 9679 1097

189A Annangrove Road, Annangrove 2156

16 & 17 December		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Catherine Diekman	Rosanna Ceroli Adrianna Kennedy	Joanna O'Neill Tereza Barisic
	JNR MINISTERS	Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick	Bailey Gambriell	Grace, Luciana, & Lily-Anne	Oliver Twyford
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca Raad			
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino

23 & 24 December		5.30PM VIGIL	9AM SUNDAY	5.30PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	8PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	MIDNIGHT MASS
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike OConnell	Corrie Sebire		
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Milington	Piety Rocha	Phil Hannah	John Puleo	Heidi Bou-Harb
	READERS	Justin Sebire Pat Waters	Ros Earl Trish Maidens	Sandra Bonello Jan Schroder	Colleen Dunlop	Nigel Saunders Rosanna Ceroli
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire	Anneliese	Grace, Madison, Oliver, Sophie		
	MUSICIANS			Merle Fonseca		Jared Calleia
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold and Tony Hooper				
FLOWERS	Cosmo Murocca			ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino	