



## St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

**3rd December 2023**

**1st Sunday of Advent**

Is 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8  
1 Cor 1:3-9  
Mk 13:33-37

On Wednesday afternoon, our primary school here at St Madeleine's held a celebration in preparation for Advent. Each grade contributed something to the experience. There were plays, dances, recitals, prayers, and plenty of laughs. The teachers did a great job of putting it all together and the students were fantastic. As I was walking out, I noticed that some of the high school students were getting in on the fun as well, with one of them dressed in a Santa costume.

In our lives, we'll probably experience about 80-90 Advent seasons on average. As the years go on, there's always the chance that things become a little too routine, where we just go through motions, and where Advent becomes just another season of the year. For the children however, they're seeing Advent with fresh eyes, with new experiences and new learnings. I think there is something contagious about the joy they experience at this time of year, a reminder of the wonder and hope that Christ brings.

It's fitting that the end of the year brings with it a new beginning in Christ. Advent, from the latin *adventus*, means 'coming' or 'arrival.' We prepare now for the coming of baby Jesus in the manger. But Advent is more than just a preparation for Christmas. The Catechism stresses that there is a two-fold meaning of Advent, "for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviors first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His second coming," (No. 524). During Advent, we not only look back to the coming of the messiah in a manger, but we look forward to His second coming as well.

At the beginning of our Advent season this weekend, we will be lighting the first of four candles in our Advent wreath. The first candle encapsulates this idea of hope in the arrival of Jesus. This candle is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

And so, as we begin this Advent season, I pray that the hope of Christ is renewed afresh in you. As we prepare for Christ to come in a manger, may we also prepare for him to come into our hearts, so that one day we may meet with him in the coming of his heavenly glory.

May God bless you all, and a safe and happy week ahead.

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: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> )



**Please join us for our ADVENT program - *The Sign* - continues this coming Tuesday, 5 December at 7pm**

**In the St Mad's Centre**

**Sign up sheet at the entrance to the Church**

## RETIRED PARISHIONERS' HEALING

**MASS 11.30AM**

**FOLLOWED BY LUNCH**

**Tuesday, 5 December 2023**

Jenny Puleo 0414 650 011  
Lesley Gangemi – 0408 758 548

## 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.**

## VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

**16 & 17 DECEMBER:** This year we welcome your support in donating to the St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal.

**A third collection will take place during Masses 16-17 December.**

"Over the last year, the cost-of-living crisis has become increasingly dire as prices continue to soar and inflation is at some of the highest levels we've seen since the early 1990's. For people on the margins and those who were already struggling to make ends meet, this crisis has had a deepening impact.

Many are experiencing poverty and are on the brink of homelessness. Alarming, the number of people turning to Vinnies for the first time has increased from one-in-four to one-in-three over the past year.



## CHRISTMAS ROSTER

**Please write your name on the Christmas Roster if you are available - located at the entrance to the Church**

## 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.**

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,996.20  
2nd Collection (for Parish) = \$1,043  
Envelopes = \$1,043 Loose = \$1,047.85

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

## PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



**For the dearly departed:** George Cascun, Karen Bartolo, Sam Farrugia, Maria & Eduardo Piccoli, Matteo Desanti, Giovanni & Giuseppina Scarpin, Giulia & Fulvio Russo, Domenica Scarpin, Ann Flynn, Nickolai Morley, Mary Cumbo, Frederick Salmon, Vincenzo Luca, Domenica & Francesco Barbaro, Anthony, Rose Lawrence Apap, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Roberta Alumios

**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 [kenthurst@parracatholic.org](mailto:kenthurst@parracatholic.org)**

## SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER MASS IS NEXT WEEKEND

**10AM**, please bring in your hampers and delivery to Emerton will happen soon after. "16 Days of Activism", which focuses on women migrant workers vulnerable to exploitation, starting November 25 – the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. We pray for women leaders in politics, religion, education, civil society and healthcare working to eliminate all forms of human trafficking. 16 Days of Activism - ACRATH Sharing with you the COSMIC advent wreath with the four major births of the Cosmos that have brought us to this moment in history: birth of the universe, birth of the solar

## 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

**NEW YEAR'S DAY:** Monday, 1 January

9am Mass only



Stay in touch through our parish

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmadeleines>

## PIETY SHOP

**2024 Columban  
Calendars  
now available \$10**



**The Sign Advent  
Booklet  
now available \$5**



**Christmas Cards (pack of 10) \$8.00**

Contact Sandra Tabone on 0413272400  
for any special requests.



DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA

**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](http://parracatholic.org/fooddrive) or emailing [james.atanasious@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.atanasious@parracatholic.org)

## Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Feast Day: 8 December



A feast called the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern Church in the seventh century. It came to the West in the eighth century. In the 11th century it received its present name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal Church. It is now recognized as a solemnity. In 1854, Pius IX solemnly proclaimed: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin." It took a long time for this doctrine to develop. While many Fathers and Doctors of the Church considered Mary the greatest and holiest of the saints, they often had difficulty in seeing Mary as sinless—either at her conception or throughout her life. Two Franciscans, William of Ware and Blessed John Duns Scotus, helped develop the theology. They pointed out that Mary's Immaculate Conception enhances Jesus' redemptive work. Other members of the human race are cleansed from original sin after birth. In Mary, Jesus' work was so powerful as to prevent original sin at the outset Kingdom, an outgoing attitude that wants nothing more than to share the riches of Christ with all people.

**Reflection** In Luke 1:28 the angel Gabriel, speaking on God's behalf, addresses Mary as "full of grace" or "highly favored". In that context, this phrase means that Mary is receiving all the special divine help necessary for the task ahead. The Spirit led the Church, especially non-theologians, to the insight that Mary had to be the most perfect work of God next to the Incarnation. Or rather, Mary's intimate association with the Incarnation called for the special involvement of God in Mary's whole life. The logic of piety helped God's people to believe that Mary was full of grace and free of sin from the first moment of her existence. Moreover, this great privilege of Mary is the highlight of all that God has done in Jesus. Rightly understood, the incomparable holiness of Mary shows forth the incomparable goodness of God <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

## CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO/ KEYBOARD? DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

The St Madeleine's Music Ministry is searching for parishioners who can help our singers and congregation provide music for our weekend masses. Support and assistance provided!  
Can you help us, please?

Contact: Selina Calleia 0416 265 233

**FATHER VINCENT FAREWELL:** As most of you will know, we have heard the sad news that Father Vincent has been appointed to Holy Name of Mary in Rydalmere. Father Vincent has been the shepherd of our community for 12 years and has achieved much and touched all our hearts. We will be holding a farewell luncheon on the 10th of December at 11am after 10:00 mass. Everyone is invited to celebrate with Father Vincent. We ask you bring a plate to share of either sandwiches, savoury finger food or cakes.

**Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care chaplaincy services** Will you support our chaplains to listen with the ear of the heart? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our 15 Catholic Care chaplains to provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to seriously ill, lonely, and distraught people this Christmas. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this QR code. Thank you.



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





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## ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

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2 & 3 December		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	Frederick Kyngdon Lidia Ceccato	Nigel Saunders John Walcott	Karla Quinn Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick		Max, Elise & Anneliese	Ben Barker
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca Raad			
	COUNTERS	Sandra Tabone & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerard
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry
9 & 10 December		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Anne Kyngdon	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Piety Rocha	Phyllis Hannah	
	READERS	Anne Kyngdon Justin Kyngdon	Margaret Mieckowski Tony Hooper	Sue Martin Mary Sammut	Lidia Ceccato Joanna O'Neill
	JNR MINISTERS	Xavier & Fred Kyngdon			Sofia, Sophie, Charlize & Sophia
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Paul Vella		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chaccal
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold