



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

14th January 2024

**2nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

1 Sam 3:3-10, 19
1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20
Jn 1:35-42

“Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” This is perhaps one of the most recognisable lines in scripture. We hear it today spoken by the prophet Samuel in our first reading. The story is all too familiar – God continually calls Samuel, but at first, he fails to recognise who it is who is speaking. It’s only after some guidance from Eli that Samuel comes to recognise who is calling him. Sometimes, like Samuel, we too fail to recognise the voice of God in our lives. God is constantly calling us into a life-transforming relationship and for any number of reasons many of us are confused about where that voice is coming from.

Samuel was renowned for his service with the priests. He was great at ‘doing’ things. He was also well versed in scripture, an incredibly intelligent man. What we learn from Samuel however is that to know God entails more than just service, and more than just the study of scripture. To really know God means entering a relationship with Him. For that relationship to work, two things must happen. First, God makes himself known to us, he reveals himself to us, and secondly, we must open our eyes to see that which is being revealed. If we keep our eyes closed, if we fail to listen, then we close ourselves off to that relationship. This is why I think that line spoken by Samuel is so important, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” It would be a good idea to make this part of our daily prayer, as it puts us in the right disposition to hear the voice of God.

One of my teachers in the seminary once said to us that listening is about emptying ourselves out. To truly listen, we empty out our thoughts, ideas, wants and desires, all the internal ‘stuff,’ to be present to the other person. There’s very much an element of surrender in all of this. Listening is not about thinking what we’re going to say next – rather, we find comfort in sitting quietly in the presence of the other and being attentive. In the case of Samuel, listening was not necessarily found in the busyness of service or the academic study of scripture. It was not in the doing, but rather in the emptying (that’s not to say that service or study isn’t important).

Samuel represents a significant pivot point in the life of Israel. Before him came corruption and rampant sin, especially amongst the priestly leadership of Eli and his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who failed to listen to God. Their wickedness led to calamity for the nation. In Samuel however, his faithful leadership as priest saw renewal. It was through Samuel that God’s promise begins to find fulfillment, ultimately culminating in the birth of Jesus. Through Samuel, a monarchy in Israel came to life, where the state moved from nation to kingdom, firstly with King Saul and secondly through King David, the line of which Jesus finds his ancestry. And all of this came about because of Samuel’s disposition of listening to God, a disposition echoed in a complete way with Mary, who eventually comes to give birth through her own faithfulness.

May we too, like Samuel and Mary, be ever attentive to the voice of God in our lives. May he reign in our hearts as king, as we continue to listen to his call. God bless you all and have a lovely week,

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)



Dear Parishioners,

A big thank you to you all for your kind support and generosity in the recent Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

St Madeleines has collected \$5,290.00 Your contribution helps St Vincent De Paul continue their work and assist many of their programs in providing the services many in need require.

From us all at Vinnies may you and your families have the peace and support this New Year and all the best for 2024.

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

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) = \$1,335.75

2nd Collection (for Parish) = \$2,067

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

THE CHOSEN resumes on Tuesday 16th January at 7pm for Season 3

in the St Madeleine Centre



For information:
Loretta m. 0419260637

SAFEGUARDING: Safeguarding training is mandatory for all volunteers in a Church.

If you would like to complete this training online 'Sign up' by clicking on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

Brendan - Parish Safeguarding Champion
m. 0448 683 146



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

Recently deceased: Paul Flynn

For the dearly departed: Thomas Dockery, David and Darren O'Reilly, Giuseppe Carli, Antonio Votano, Michael Esposito, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Anthony Grima, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Pat Frazer, Vincenzo Luca, Joe Fuda, Maria Rose Napoli, Salvatore Napoli, Joseph & Lyn Napoli, Sam & Barbara Napoli, Ann & Chris Geniale, Yolanda & Sam Papallo, George Papallo, Ariella Napoli, Immacolata Agostino, Josephine & George Vumbacca, Domenico Franceschina, Norman & Chahida Hajje, George, Sheaddy & Chahide Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Abraham family

Please pray for the sick: 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

PIETY SHOP

2024 Columban Calendar \$10

God's Word \$20
proceeds go to children experiencing poverty in India



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

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Catholic Parramatta Diocese and an outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. The pilgrimage runs over 7 days, coinciding with the Feast of the Epiphany and the journey of the Magi. Those completing the full pilgrimage walk over 110km from Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains to the Chapel of the Magi, Bell through the beautiful Blue Mountains. Pilgrims enjoy the hospitality of the 6 mountains' parishes and join with parishioners in daily Mass, Adoration, prayer, catechesis and fellowship. To see the pictures from this years pilgrimage visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org

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 Giovanni Presiga Gaviria

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



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA



Stay in touch through our parish

Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/
stmadeleines](https://www.facebook.com/stmadeleines)

Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2024: The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to enrol: www.parracatholic.org/contribute/volunteer/liturgical-ministry

Rydalmere Parish Perpetual Adoration Chapel: Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, has an Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7 located at 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere. The parish welcomes everyone to the Chapel. For after-hours access, please contact the Parish Office on (02) 9684 1541 or admin@holymary.org.au

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

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2024: Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation 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

Mass for the World Day of the Sick: A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 10 February 2024 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2024 to mary.gale@parracatholic.org

Music for Lent Workshop: 12 February 2024: Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on Monday 12 February 2024 from 7pm to 8.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. To RSVP, please contact mary.gale@parracatholic.org by 5 February 2024.

St Anthony of Egypt

Feast Day: 17 January



The life of Anthony will remind many people of Saint Francis of Assisi. At 20, Anthony was so moved by the Gospel message, "Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor" (Mark 10:21b), that he actually did just that with his large inheritance. He is different from Francis in that most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude. He saw the world completely covered with snares, and gave the Church and the world the witness of solitary asceticism, great personal mortification and prayer. But no saint is antisocial, and Anthony drew many people to himself for spiritual healing and guidance. At 54, he responded to many requests and founded a sort of monastery of scattered cells. Again, like Francis, he had great fear of "stately buildings and well-laden tables." At 60, he hoped to be a martyr in the renewed Roman persecution of 311, fearlessly exposing himself to danger while giving moral and material support to those in prison. At 88, he was fighting the Arian heresy, that massive trauma from which it took the Church centuries to recover. "The mule kicking over the altar" denied the divinity of Christ. Anthony is associated in art with a T-shaped cross, a pig and a book. The pig and the cross are symbols of his valiant warfare with the devil—the cross his constant means of power over evil spirits, the pig a symbol of the devil himself. The book recalls his preference for "the book of nature" over the printed word. Anthony died in solitude at age 105.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

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@parra.catholic.edu.au



Be Part of Our Synod Journey: Diocesan Synod

Report Now Available The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from October 13-15, 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the Parramatta Synod website now:

www.parracatholic.org/synod/resources

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

2024 dates available on our website www.stmadeleine.org.au/sacraments
Enrolment forms will be available in February.

For any queries
stmad.sacraments@gmail.com



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13 & 14 January		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott	Teresa Capaldi	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Heidi Bou-Harb Robert Gerometta	Maria Fry Eileen Sherlock	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Lidia Ceccato Joanna O'Neill
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima			
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella and Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
FLOWERS	Parish		ALTAR LINEN	Marian Piper	
20 & 21 January		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina Lidia Ceccato
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Piety Rocha	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Pat Waters	Alicia Shaw Catherine Diekman	Sandra Bonello Sally Coppini	Jacqui Nisbet Tereza Barisic
	JNR MINISTERS		Bailey Gambrill		
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Tony Hooper and Sandra Tabone		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
FLOWERS	Parish		ALTAR LINEN	Alice Garratt	