



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish

28 ANNANGROVE RD KENTHURST NSW 2156
(P) 9654 2260

(E) kenthurst@parracatholic.org

(W) www.stmadeleine.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9am - 3pm
Wednesday 9am - 2pm

8 September 2024 | 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Rev Giovanni Presiga

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, 10:00am, 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

9.15am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm

Baptisms: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday

at 11:30am

(Must make a booking)

Weddings: By appointment



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

Deut 4:1-2, 6-8, James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27, Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



COMMENTARY: Today's Gospel takes us straight into the rather sensitive issue of Jesus' attitude to the Jewish law. I say 'sensitive' because it is so easy for Christians to separate Jesus from his Jewish heritage and portray him as 'one of us' and not one of 'them'. Jesus would have read with pride and appreciation the praise of the Law set out in the First Reading (Deut 4:1-2, 6-8), and understood it to be what the Hebrew word 'Torah', which we inadequately translate 'law', really means: not primarily a legal code but 'a light that shows the way'. Like a torch that lights up a path on a dark night, for Jewish people the Torah is a body of wisdom and enlightenment showing how to live as the covenant people of God.

JESUS' CHALLENGE: It is important then to understand that Jesus is not critical of the Jewish law as such. What he challenges is the addition to it of further prescriptions and customs that were not part of the original revelation and which in his view could sometimes work against its true purpose. These traditions were particularly preserved and guarded by the Pharisees. Again, let us not be too hard on this group. They were historically a lay group who sought to help the Jewish people live out their vocation to be the 'holy people of God' (Lev 20:26) in the mixed society which was the Palestine of Jesus' day. This sense of 'holiness' was reinforced through a host of washings and other rituals of cleanliness which were obligatory after contact with outsiders in the market and other public spheres. In due course, the rituals of holiness originally intended only for the priests and Levites came to be extended to the people as a whole. Observing them, they could live out their high vocation to be a 'nation of priests' in the world (cf. Exod 19:6). The intention, then, was good but, as so often happens with religious tradition, attention can be focused on the external rituals to the neglect of the inner conversion of heart central to all relationship with God. When Jesus criticises the Pharisees on this score he is not really bringing something radically new but standing within a firm prophetic tradition, shown by his quotation of Isa 29:13: 'This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me' (v. 6). For him, everything goes back to the heart. No amount of external ritual is of any use if it obscures or distorts the primary truth that holiness is ultimately about conversion of heart. The body of traditions which the Pharisees had erected around the basic Torah suggested that 'uncleanness' was something that came from outside and threatened to defile the basic holiness of the people of God. Therefore, it had to be warded off by washings and other rituals.

'CATCHING' HOLINESS: Jesus clearly had a different view of the way holiness 'worked'. Holiness belongs essentially to God. Human holiness came from being in contact with God – something that begins in the heart. Jesus, who was supremely in contact with God, went about touching 'unclean' persons like lepers and associating with 'tax collectors and sinners.' He did not 'catch' uncleanness from them, as though it were a contagious disease. Rather, the 'flow' was the other way round: they 'caught' holiness and healing from him. Drawn into the sphere of holiness constituted by his person, they were restored to full citizenship in the holy people of God. The Pharisees could do nothing with people considered 'unholy' like this, save try to keep them at a distance. Jesus understood true holiness to be essentially inclusive rather than exclusive. It had to do with God's reaching out rather than withdrawing to a sacred inner space. So, Jesus insists, since holiness is primarily a matter of the heart if you want to know whether a person is holy or not, see what comes out of their heart. The list of vices towards the end of the reading is a kind of check-list – to which we could probably add a few more examples relevant for our time. By the same token, on the positive side, we could think of virtues that would demonstrate true holiness of heart.

Brendan Byrne, SJ, FAHA, taught New Testament at Jesuit Theological College, Parkville, Vic., for almost forty years. He is now Emeritus Professor at the University of Divinity (Melbourne).

Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ's love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chacal

Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton

RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones

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: Sally Coppini

Finance Committee Chair: Carl Mathias

Safeguarding Champion: Brendan Ford

FIRST EUCHARIST

Our last preparation session will be held this Sunday at 4pm

Practise Sessions:

Friday, 13 September for Sunday, 15 September 12 noon

Thursday, 19 September for Sunday, 22 September 12 noon

Please continue to keep children and their families in your prayers

For any queries Sandra 0410 587 735
stmads.sacraments@gmail.com



YOUTH GROUP The parish is looking to put a youth group together and will be meeting for the first time on **Sunday September 15th**, after the 5.30pm mass. It's a great opportunity for our young people to connect with each other and to share faith. If you're interested and you are between the ages of 14-18, you will find some more information at the entry of the church, and a form where you can leave your name and contact details. Hope to see you there!

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

Hills Yarning members in our parish were saddened by the news of the passing of Uncle Wes Marne, who died aged 102 last Saturday. Uncle Wes was an amazing local elder who gave his time to assist Oakhill College with their First Nations program. We send our condolences to Melly and the family. September 17th 10am Parramatta Cathedral launching a Week of Action organised by ARRCC (Australian Religious Response to Climate Change) in keeping with Pope Francis' teachings in Laudato Si' and Laudato Deum. If you want to support this advocacy, come along to the public launch of a large banner and a multi-faith service to pray for a safe climate. From 14 to 24 September, people of all faiths around Australia will publicly challenge both sides of politics to shift Australia off its dependency on fossil fuels more quickly and get us out of the climate crisis.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

PRAYER AT ST MADS

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS



Tuesday at 10.30am 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 the Parish Office



ST MADS ROSARY

Thursday after morning Mass
Monday Rosary Via Zoom Contact 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 kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

For the dearly departed: Norman & Chahide Hajje, George & Chahida Hajje, Sheaddy Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Phil Smith, Carlo Esposito, Nicola Nadile, George Downie, Angelina Pardo-Adan, David Morrow, Toshio Sato, Marianna Scuglia, Rosa Araujo, Ivan Ceccato, Rocco Marafioti, Mary Cumbo, Domenica & Francesco Barbaro

Please pray for the sick: Joe Luezzi, Kalem Saras, Anthony Attard, Roy Cutrone, Frances Perri, Paul Refalo, Pat Brush, Bob Burke, Miriam & Vansen Tsueng, William Chapman, Rocco Scardino, Kia Benete, Nathan Luezzi, Greg Lambert, David Tierney, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Henry Field, Aura Krakowszky



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

Please contact the parish office if you are sick and would like to organise a home visit by Fr Giovani

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

Please ensure your details are kept up to date

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 : 10000064

Parishioners wishing to donate or pledge their giving via direct debit, please pick up the form at the church for completion and return to the office.

Thank you for your generosity!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,444.30
2nd Collection (for Parish) = Envelopes = \$980.40 Loose = \$1,303.05
Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,864.38

Our Community

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

THE CHOSEN TV Series

Season 4

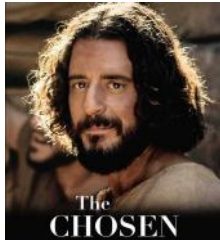
Tuesday 10th September

7pm St Madeleine Centre

Everyone is Welcome

Contact Loretta 0419260637

Watch full episodes for free at watch.thechosen.tv



FRIENDS OF ST MADELEINE'S: Please join us every second Friday in the St Madeleine Centre for a casual morning tea. Perhaps meet up with some old friends - or make some new ones. Everyone is welcome.

Our next get together will be:

Friday, 20 September at 10am.

If you would like to come but require transport please contact the parish office on 9654 2260.



PLAYGROUP: Please join us for our Bunnings Activity morning on **Thursday, 26 September at 10am.** All parents, carers and their little ones welcome. RSVP Tuesday, 24 September.

BUSKING FOR CHANGE—ST MADELEINE'S PRIMARY

This year, St Madeleine's Primary school is supporting the work of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and their work supporting remote Communities to write, illustrate and publish books in languages they speak at home. Busking For Change is a multi-literacy and joyful fundraiser incorporating music, song, movement and language. We all have a role to ensure every child has access to books and promote the value of First Languages for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. By participating in Busking For Change we are not only giving our students a positive learning experience, but we are growing their awareness of the richness and diversity of First Languages and that we can all be changemakers. If you are able to, please join us in supporting our school choir as they participate in Busking for Change to help raise funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Your support will aid their work in remote communities, ensuring every child has access to books and promoting the value of First Languages for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Yours faithfully, Mrs Emma Sidoti and Miss Matthews

Visit <https://buskingforchange.ilf.org.au/donate>

In 'Search Organisation and Individuals' type in St Madeleine's and select St Madeleine's Primary School, Kenthurst. You will be brought to our school home page. Scroll down to the bottom of the page until you reach the school donation payment options and choose the amount you wish to donate. Follow the instructions to finalise your donation.

**ST MADELEINE'S
DINNER DANCE**

20TH SEPTEMBER 6:30PM
ALLEGRO FUNCTION
CENTRE
1 PORTERS ROAD
KENTHURST

SCAN TO ORDER TICKETS

To donate or inquire about tickets,
please contact Sally Coppini at
stmadsdinnerdance@gmail.com
OR
0407942986.

Please place your name on the list found on the **DINNER DANCE TABLE** located at the entrance to the Church if you are able to provide donation of prizes or help in any way.

DIOCESAN SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING

You are invited to a Diocesan Season of Creation gathering on Saturday **14 September** from 10am to 4pm at Winbourne Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. This event is part of Catholic Earthcare's national Season of Creation Convocation from 12-14 September. Cost is \$50 for the Diocesan gathering only, or \$100 for the full Convocation (with days 1 and 2 online). For program details, please visit tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24. You can register for the Convocation at caritas.org.au/soc-convocation.

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: Thank you for caring for our retired priests' health and wellbeing. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve during their retirement. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal. Thank you

PIETY SHOP

2025 Columban calendars \$10

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.

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St Madeleine Sophie's

Daily Prayer

Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Give me a heart that is
one with your own;
A humble heart that knows
and loves its nothingness;
A gentle heart that holds and
calms its own anxiety;
A loving heart that has compassion
for the suffering of others;
A pure heart that recoils even at the
appearance of evil; A detached heart that longs
for nothing other than
the goodness of heaven;
A heart detached from self-love and
embraced by the love of God,
its attention focused on God,
its goodness its only treasure in time
and in eternity



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7 & 8 Sept

14 & 15 Sept

5:30PM VIGIL

8AM SUNDAY

10AM SUNDAY

5.30PM SUNDAY

WELCOMERS

Corrie Sebire

Fran & Rocco Scardino

Sandra Tabone

Sacramental Team

**MINISTERS OF
THE ALTAR**

Dianne Millington

Piety Rocha

Phyllis Hannah

Sacramental Team

READERS

Pat Waters
Colleen Dunlop

Maria Fry
Eileen Sherlock

Sue Martin
Sandra Tabone

Sacramental Team

JNR MINISTERS

Emerson & Sophie C

Anneliese & Evangeline

Oliver & Grace

MUSICIANS

Rebecca

Joan

COUNTERS

Loretta Wilson & Parish Team

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sally Coppini

FLOWERS

Wedding

ALTAR LINEN

Alice Garratt

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**

Heidi Bou-Harb

Steve Fry

Joe Touma

Joanna O'Neill

READERS

Pat Waters
Robert Gerometta

Rick Di Cristoforo
Maria Baldi

Rosanna Ceroli
Adriana Kennedy

Tereza Barisic

JNR MINISTERS

Harry, Christian &
Kerstin

Lily-Anne & Breanna

Benjamin & Madison M

MUSICIANS

Rebecca

COUNTERS

Tony Hooper & Sandra Tabone

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Lisa Gerard

FLOWERS

Teresa Boemi

ALTAR LINEN

Vicky Hooper