



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

1st December 2024 | First Sunday of Advent Year C

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>

Your redemption is near at hand

Jer 33:14-16, 1 Thess 3:12-4:2, Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

COMMENTARY: A few words on Advent in general. Advent transports us back to the longing of the prophets of Israel for the coming of a Saviour. The Saviour has come. But salvation is not complete. We proclaim, "Christ has died, Christ is risen", and then add, "Christ will come again". Why? Because there is so much "unfinished business" in the work of redemption. Our world and even the lives of believers still appear very "unredeemed". Our salvation is still being worked out. The first generation of Christians believed that the Lord would return very soon to complete his messianic work. They were dismayed when some believers began to die and still he had not come (1 Thess 4:13-18). The later writings of the New Testament, the four Gospels included, all address this problem. It may be that the Lord will not come tomorrow, next year, or even before this generation dies out. But come he will in a time known only to God (Mark 13:32). Meanwhile, this time of waiting is not devoid of meaning – like time spent waiting on a bus stop. This "in-between" time is a sacred time, a time for the Church to proclaim the Gospel to every nation (Mark 13:10; Acts 1:6-8), to make sense of the present, while never giving up the hope that God's Messiah, Jesus, will have the last word. Advent is the season that honours and celebrates this waiting aspect of Christian life. Because we live in the time following the first coming of the Saviour, the prime focus of our waiting and our expectation is upon the second coming of the Lord. But because salvation is not complete, because we are so conscious of a world still ravaged by suffering and violence, we can identify with the prophets and holy men and women who hung upon the promise of salvation before the first coming of the Lord. Their cries express our own longings and hopes for a liberated and just world.

GOSPEL: The Gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36), taken from the Jesus' long instruction on the future (21:5-38), again focuses upon the second coming of the Lord. It is full of the kind of apocalyptic descriptions and portents that have always excited the fundamentalist religious imagination. They create real difficulty for preachers today. The important things, I think, is to focus upon the basic intent of such discourse, which is to address the sense of dismay and challenge to hope that calamities of various kinds present. While God may appear to be silent or absent, somehow all these things are held within the divine purpose, which will ultimately win through. The reference to the coming of Jesus as Son of Man catches up the vision of Daniel 7:13-14, a text which played a very significant role in early Christian messianic hope. Jesus will come "with all his saints": the "communion of saints" that unites the Church on earth with all who have gone before us to the Lord and with all those holy ones who lived before his coming, will at last be revealed. While the basic message is one of comfort and reassurance, the second part of the gospel adopts a more admonitory tone. Believers must be like people expecting visitors but unsure as to when exactly they will arrive. The time of waiting requires attentiveness and a sharp spiritual sense. Anything that dulls the spirit (debauchery and drunkenness) or causes it to be distracted (absorption in the cares of life) must be avoided. Advent is a time for examination in such areas. It is also a time for exploring our deepest longings and desires and allowing them to surface. They can ride up, so to speak, on the rich Scripture texts that the Church puts before us at this time.

God's only wish in our regard is to communicate to us the life and love for which we long. Each Advent should expand both our longing and our capacity to receive the gift of God.

Brendan Byrne, SJ, FAHA, taught New Testament at Jesuit Theological College, Parkville, Vic, for almost 40 years. He is now Emeritus Professor at the University of Divinity (Melbourne).

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chacal

Baptism Preparation: Angeliqe 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

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Baptism of Primary Children: please contact the parish office if you have a primary school child that you would like baptised
Register by Tuesday, 4 February 2025
Baptism preparation Saturday, 1 March 2025
Baptism Sunday, 9 March 2025

Reconciliation: For baptised Catholic children Year 3 or above. Enrolment forms available in February 2025 and all documents due in the parish office 7 March 2025. Parent Information evening Tuesday, 11 March 2025.

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

From this moment on, live the Eucharist fully; be persons for whom the Holy Mass, Communion, and Eucharistic adoration are the centre and summit of their whole life
~St John Paul II~

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

St Mad's Christmas Hamper Appeal Please bring a hamper for a family for Christmas, Sunday 10am mass December 8th. Shopping cards are OK as well. Hampers will be delivered via Holy Family Emerton to needy families this Christmas. See our Christmas Hamper handout for ideas.

Social Justice @ St Mad's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2024 from November 25th Each year, this period is used to promote awareness of the breadth and seriousness of gender violence and encourage actions that aim to end violence against women and girls. We pray for women leaders in politics, religion, education, civil society and healthcare working to eliminate all forms of human trafficking.

YOUTH GROUP The next youth group meeting will be this **Sunday 1st December** after the 5.30pm Mass.

RETIRED PARISHIONERS' & FRIENDS OF ST MADELEINE'S

12NOON HEALING MASS

FOLLOWED BY LUNCH

Friday, 13 December 2024

RSVP by Friday, 6 December

Jenny Puleo 0414 650 011

Lesley Gangemi – 0408 758 548

PARISH ADVENT BREAKFAST SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 8:30AM-10AM

Please join us as we learn from Marian Piper and Meg Thomas who have close connections with volunteering in Uganda. Marian recently nursed at the School for Life Foundation set up by a Sydney sider and Meg's family have helped sponsor family networks in Uganda. A chance to stop and reflect and prepare in Advent. Bring a plate if you can. Sign up sheets are in the Church foyer.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope

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: Fay Megson, Dina Ratliff, Lukenn Sabellano, Margaret Caruana, Laura Iris Nathan, Angelo & Lonza Farrugia, Mary Fitzpatrick, Joe & Sam Farrugia, Ky Frendo, Goeff Burcham, Karen Bartolo, Leonard Meryment, John Nati, Frank Scalercio, Frank Agresta, Rosa Agresta, Teresa Maguire, Rita & Domenico Franceschina, Roberta Alumios, Paul Refalo, Hugo Cutrone



Please pray for the sick: James Hann, Faye Wong, Cutrone family, Joe Luezzi, Kalem Saras, Anthony Attard, Roy Cutrone, Frances Perri, Pat Brush, 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 kenthurst@parracatholic.org

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

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 : 100000064

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) = \$1,458.00
2nd Collection (for Parish) = Envelopes = \$1,166.00 Loose = \$1,167.55
Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,864.38

Our Community

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

TUESDAY, 17 DECEMBER at 7pm

CHRISTMAS EVE: Tuesday, 24 December

5.30pm Carols followed by Family Mass
8pm Mass

11.45pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass
There will be no daily Mass at 9.15am

CHRISTMAS DAY: Wednesday, 25 December

8am and 10am Mass

There will be no daily Mass at 9.15am

NEW YEARS EVE: Tuesday, 31 December

7pm Mass

Our regular Mass at 9.15am
will also take place

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Wednesday, 1 January

9.15am Mass only

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PAGEANT 5.30pm Christmas Eve Mass

For this year's Vigil Mass we will be having a nativity pageant.

There is a sign up sheet in the Church foyer if you would like to register your child to participate.

There will be short practices after the 10am Mass on 8, 15 and 22 December

INVITATION: ALL VOLUNTEERS It would be wonderful for everyone to come together to celebrate our God-given talents and skills for the growth of His Kingdom

Friday, 6 December 2024

At 6.30pm

In the St Madeleine Centre

RSVP Maureen Jones 0419 512 252

PARISH WORKING BEE: Saturday, 14 December

Sign up sheet in the Church

CATECHIST NOTICE—WHAT IS AN SRE?

SREs are parish volunteers who

- Teach and share their faith with children of their parish who attend government schools
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators (SREs) go into Glenhaven Public School, Kenthurst Public School, Annangrove Public School and Dural Public School. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper.

To register your interest please contact the parish office on 9654 2260

APPEAL WEEKEND 7 & 8 DECEMBER

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS APPEAL -

THE DEVASTATING AND UNRELENTING IMPACTS OF THE COST OF LIVING

As households feel the continued brunt of unrelenting cost-of-living pressures and have no expenses left to cut back on, Vinnies members and programs are responding to increasing demand. Close to 100,000 people have been supported across the state by members over the last year. For many, they are living in a constant state of 'survival mode' and cannot envision a brighter future. Everyone deserves access to the essentials needed to live with dignity. Even in difficult times, people should feel secure knowing they can afford a home, put food on the table, pay their bills, and maintain their health. This is especially true at Christmas. Fortunately, the Society can offer the support people need with food, clothing, household bills and more, along with connecting them with ongoing assistance and services. Funds raised through the Christmas Appeal will ensure Vinnies can continue to provide a 'hand-up' and hope to those in need in the local community this Christmas and into the new year

FROM THE PASTORAL PLAN 2024-2028: BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

From the ancient truism, Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi (as we worship, so we believe, so we live), we are challenged that liturgy is not just an add-on to our faith lives but an essential expression of it. We recognise the need to continually renew and strengthen our liturgical celebrations so that all the baptised may truly participate in the life of the Church." (Pg. 43, Pastoral Plan). Learn how the Synodal Church invites us to strengthen our liturgy: www.parracatholic.org/synodality



PARRAMATTA
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION



Homeless young mothers
and their children desperately
need your help this Christmas

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will provide practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home.

parracatholic.org/appeal

The Bishop's Christmas Appeal will take place this weekend

PIETY SHOP

2025 Columban calendars \$10
Christmas Cards \$8 per pack of 10
Advent booklet \$5

We now have EFTPOS available

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.

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



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		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
30 Nov & 1 Dec	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 Justin Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders Rick Di Cristoforo	Karla Quinn Roslyn Earl	Jan Shroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick		William, Max & Elsie	Benjamin
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca & Chris			
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Tony Hooper		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino
7 & 8 Dec		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	John Puleo	Piety Rocha	Phyllis Hannah	
	READERS	Pat Waters Colleen Dunlop	Alicia Shaw Catherine Dickman	Sue Martin James Harron	Lidia Ceccato Tereza Barisic
	JNR MINISTERS	Harry, Christian & Emerson		Georgia & Joyah	Luciana & Grace
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca & Chris			
	COUNTERS	Loretta Wilson & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chacal
FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Marian Piper	