



**St Madeleine**  
Sophie Barat Parish

28 Annangrove Rd, Kenthurst, NSW 2156

Ph: 96542260, Fax: 96542261, Email: stmads@yahoo.com.au

www.stmadeleine.org.au

Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



**24th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
17th September 2017**  
**Sirach 27:30 - 28:7**  
**Romans 14:7-9;**  
**Matthew 18: 21-35**

**“There is no love without forgiveness,  
and there is no forgiveness without love.”** -Bryant H. McGill

Last Sunday, Jesus spoke about the conflict resolution in a community. This Sunday he talks about the importance of forgiveness in our day to day life. Through the parable of the unforgiving servant, we come to understand the depths of God’s mercy towards us and the results of our acceptance of God’s loving forgiveness. Jesus does not like us locked up in unforgiveness which affects us in various ways. The experience of God’s love and mercy is the foundation of our acceptance of others as they are. Let us create an atmosphere of forgiveness and reconciliation and live out the boundless mercy and love of God in our lives.

**Imagine this scenario:**

You are sitting one night with your family. You are irritated, overtired and underappreciated. Something happens to push you beyond your patience and you suddenly lose your temper. You yell at everyone, tell them they are selfish and stupid, throw your coffee across the room, and stomp out, violently slamming the door to



punctuate your anger. Then you sit in your room, alienated and feeling utterly and helplessly alone. Slowly, sanity and contrition overcome self-pity, but wounded pride and the rawness of what has just happened make it too embarrassing for you to go back and apologize. Eventually, you fall asleep, leaving things in that unreconciled state. The next morning, now doubly contrite and somewhat sheepish, but still wounded in pride, you come to the family table. Everyone is sitting there having breakfast. You pick up your coffee cup (which didn’t break and someone has washed and returned to its hook!), pour yourself some coffee, and without saying a word, sit down at the table — your remorse and your wounded pride showing in every

move. Your family is not stupid and neither are you. Everyone knows what this means. What is essential is being said, without words. You are making the basic move toward reconciliation, your body and your actions are saying something more important than words: *I want to be part of you again.* At that moment, the haemorrhaging stops (even if only for that moment). If you dropped dead on the spot, you would be reconciled with your family.



[From: **The Holy Longing: The Search for Christian Spirituality**  
by Ronald Rolheiser.]

Real love creates a climate where forgiveness and understanding are readily given and received. In all his parables on forgiveness and reconciliation, Jesus calls anyone and everyone who would be his disciples to be committed to the work of reconciliation, to be always ready and willing to make the first move toward forgiveness, to be actively engaged in the work of creating community. Forgiveness is not easy: it means overcoming our own anger and outrage at the injustice waged against us and focusing our concern, instead, on the person who wronged us and ruptured our relationship with him/her; it means possessing the humility to face the hurt we have inflicted on others as a result of our insensitivity and self-centeredness. But only in forgiving and seeking forgiveness are we able to realize the possibility of bringing healing and new life to a pained and grieving situation. Christ calls us to create within our families and communities that place and environment in which forgiveness is joyfully offered and humbly but confidently sought. (A Sampler Connections).

**“Forgiveness says you are given another chance  
to make a new beginning”** - Desmond Tutu

God’s blessings,

Fr. Vince



**There will be no 9:15 Masses next week,  
(Tuesday-Friday, 19-22 September)  
We will have Communion Services.**

Application forms are available in the foyer  
for anyone wanting to join the  
**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).**  
Please fill in a form and drop it in at the parish office  
before 30th September.  
Please feel free to ring the parish office at 96542260 for  
any questions.

*Congratulations to the children  
of our parish receiving their  
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION  
this weekend!  
May you continue to grow in your  
journey of faith!  
The children will receive their  
Communion certificates at the Masses on  
the 14th and 15th of October.*



The next **Baptism** preparation session  
will be on Saturday, **7th October** at  
**4:30-5:30pm** at the St Joseph Centre.  
To book, please call the parish office  
on 96542260.  
Baptisms are held on the 4th Sunday of  
every month at 11:20, or within the Mass  
at 10am on other Sundays.

### **COME AND SEE OUR PIETY STALL!**



Beautiful items are available at our piety  
stall for First Communion,  
as well as lovely gift items for Baptism,  
Confirmation, even anniversaries  
and birthdays! The stall is open after the  
8am and 10am Sunday Masses, and  
during the First Communion Masses.

For special orders, please contact Sandra on 0413272400.

*Let us continue to pray  
for our application  
to build our  
long-awaited church!  
May the Lord bless our  
plans and dreams!*



### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:**

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$ 1519.15

**2nd Collection** (for Parish)

**Envelopes** = \$ 1481 **Loose** = \$ 1936.10

**Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = \$1935

**TOTAL** = \$ 5352.10 (target = \$5577)

**Father's Day Appeal** = \$5188.95

\*envelopes are still available in the foyer if you would like to  
donate towards the fund for retired and sick clergy.

Thank you for your generosity!

Catechists from Marian College  
(with teachers Meg Thomas and Michael Hruby,  
and parish SRE coordinator Maureen Jones)  
at the Annual Diocesan CCD Mass held on 8th September



at Our Lady of Lourdes, Seven Hills.  
**Thank you for your hearts of service!**

### **Prayer for Marriage**

God our Father, we give you thanks for the gift of marriage:  
the bond of life and love, and the font of the family.  
May your Son, through the intercession of Mary,  
pour out upon us a new measure of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit  
as we join with all people of good will to promote and protect  
the unique beauty of marriage.

May your Holy Spirit enlighten our society  
to treasure the heroic love of husband and wife,  
and guide our leaders to sustain and protect the singular place  
of mothers and fathers in the lives of their children.

Father, we ask that our prayers be joined  
to those of the Virgin Mary, that your Word  
may transform our service so as to safeguard  
the incomparable splendour of marriage.

We ask all these things through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*...from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops website  
[http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/  
prayers/prayer-defense-of-marriage.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayer-defense-of-marriage.cfm)*

### **PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:**

#### ***For the recently deceased***

Giuseppe Barone, Bernie Crowley,  
and Michael Peter Hooper

#### ***For other dearly departed***

Martin Mileto, Pietro Ceccato, Alfonso Juanengo,  
and Grace Corpuz

#### ***For healing of the sick***

Ivan Ceccato, Marlon Sabellano Alumios, Teresa Masiello,  
Johann, Joe Gelonesi, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Tony,  
Vanessa, Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, Harriett  
Rogers, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Rosanna Ceroli,  
Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Donard Doyle,  
Sarah Bilford Beattie, Giuseppi Grasso, Faye Willing,  
Annabelle, Patrick, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz,  
Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Christy Sherlock,  
Tina, Marie, Joe, Charles Vencyel, Maisie Hughes, and  
Christine Wilson.



If you would like Mass offered for your special intentions,  
please take an envelope from the foyer and drop it in the box  
or in the collection plate with the details. Thank you.



## Pastoral letter on the same-sex marriage postal survey

Dear sisters and brothers,

As I write to you, the national debate on same-sex civil marriage is in full swing. It is an issue that many feel passionate about and hence, it has potential to polarise the community. I appeal to all Catholics in the Diocese of Parramatta to conduct this dialogue with a deep sense of respect for all concerned, and for the opinion and decision that each person is free to make.

It is important to remember from the very outset that the postal survey is about whether or not Australians want the legal definition of civil marriage changed to include same-sex couples. It is not a referendum on sacramental marriage as understood by the Catholic Church.

Many years ago, divorce was legalised in Australia; but this change did not alter the law of the Church. Therefore, whatever the outcome of the survey or the eventual legislation by the government, the Church will continue to hold that marriage is a natural institution established by God to be a permanent union between one man and one woman, directed both to mutual companionship and to the formation of a family in which children are born and nurtured.

For many Catholics, the issue of same-sex marriage is not simply theoretical but deeply personal. These may be same-sex attracted people themselves or that may be the case with their relatives and friends. In such cases, they are torn between their love for the Church and their love for their same-sex attracted child, grandchild, sibling, cousin, friend or neighbour.

As your bishop, I wish to reiterate the commitment I made at my installation: "I am committed to make the church in Parramatta the house for all peoples, a church where there is less an experience of exclusion but more an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness and solidarity." As a community of disciples, we seek to accommodate, accompany and care for one another irrespective of sexual orientation, marital status and situation.

I invite all Catholics in our Diocese to exercise our responsibility as citizens to engage in this community discernment. It should not be a matter of a simple answer Yes or No to the postal survey. It should be an opportunity for us to witness to our deep commitment to the ideal of Christian marriage. But it should also be an opportunity for us to listen to what the Spirit is saying through the signs of the times.

Throughout much of history, our gay and lesbian (or LGBTI) brothers and sisters have often not been treated with respect, sensitivity and compassion. Regrettably, the Church has not always been a place where they have felt welcomed, accepted and loved. Thus, regardless of the outcome of the survey, we must commit ourselves to the task of reaching out to our LGBTI brothers and sisters, affirming their dignity and accompanying them on our common journey towards the fullness of life and love in God.

Let us pray, discern and act with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Catholics, in keeping with the tradition of the Church, are asked to exercise their consciences, ensuring that they are informed as they come to exercise their democratic rights in the coming postal survey.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in green ink, reading "Vincent Long Van Nguyen".

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv  
Bishop of Parramatta

Given at Parramatta on 13 September A.D. 2017,  
Memorial of St John Chrysostom

PARISH TEAM  
 Parish Priest:  
 Rev Vincent Savarimuthu  
 Parish Secretary:  
 Lisa Echevarria  
 Sacramental Coordinator  
 Sally Coppini  
**St Madeleine's Primary School**  
 Phone: 9654 6751  
 Principal: Mrs Jeanette Black  
 Marian College  
 Phone: 9654 6700  
 Principal: Mrs Jayne Campbell

PARISH SERVICES  
 Weekend Masses:  
 Saturday 5.30pm  
 (Eucharistic Adoration at 4:45)  
 Sunday 8:00am, 10:00 am, 5.30pm  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 10am Mass during School terms  
 Weekday Communion Service:  
 9:15, Tuesdays to Fridays  
 Playgroup –Tue 9:00am  
 at St Joseph Centre during school terms  
 Prayer Group: Wednesdays after the  
 9.15 am Mass  
 Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm  
 Baptisms: Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11:20,  
 or during 10am Masses  
 Weddings: By appointment

**Bella's Law Group**  
 Mobile local lawyer over 15 years  
 Wills, Powers of Attorney  
 All your conveyancing and  
 family law needs  
 Protect your most valuable asset—  
 your family  
**0498235527**



**Hills Family Doctors**  
**Dr. Anna Kriaris GP**  
 Level 1, 19 Kenthurst Rd Dural  
 Bulk Bill Open 5 days Ph 9651 3375  
 Book online HealthEngine.com.au

**Local Excavation Company**  
 Our solutions for: Driveways, Dams,  
 Land clearing, Pools, House slabs,  
 Detailed excavations, Fire hazard reductions, Rock  
 sawing, 1.8 – 12 tonne bobcat, drott, tipper hire,  
 rock saw, rock breaker, auger.  
**Jessey 0410 158563 fax 9654 1222 or**  
**John 0418 277355**  
 www.underhouseexcavation.com.au

**MICHELLE'S HAPPY HENS & DUCKLINGS!**  
**0412 002 755**  
 SPECIALISING IN  
 \* LAYING HENS & CHICKS  
 \* FERTILE EGGS (CHICKENS & DUCKS)  
 \* DUCKS & DUCKLINGS  
 LOCATED AT KENTHURST  
 Find us on **facebook!**



**A JOURNEY TO THE SHRINES: BARCELONA TO LISBON**  
*group tour 14 days/12 nights (18 -31 May 2018) with EMIRATES!*  
 Includes all flight, luxury coach touring & director,  
 accommodation, travel wallet & backpack,  
 11 breakfasts, 1 lunch & 10 dinners  
 INCLUDED: Gaudi's Sagrada Familia, Carcassonne,  
 Montserrat Benedictine monastery, Fátima,  
 Lourdes St Bernadette, Burgos Cathedral of St Mary,  
 Santiago de Compostela St James,  
 Lisbon the Hieronymite Monastery & Belém Tower.  
 Adult cost: \$4800 / Children 5-11 years cost: \$3900  
 For full itinerary information or to book please contact:  
**DEBORAH BARTOLO - TRAVEL COUNSELLOR**  
 Rail/Cruise/Tours/Day Trips/Wedding  
 Registry, Honeymoons/Corporate Travel  
**Berkshire Park: 0424 035 489; Toll free: 1300 401 391**  
 E: [deborah.bartolo@travelcounsellors.com.au](mailto:deborah.bartolo@travelcounsellors.com.au)  
<https://www.facebook.com/berkshirepktc>  




**Funerals of Compassion**  
**"Compassion when you need it most"**  
 A family business with family values.  
 Call Annangrove Locals  
**Rocco & Sofia Polistina 0414229414**  
 1300906060 – 24 hours



**GLENHAVEN PRIVATE PRESCHOOL**  
 \*Preschool for children 3-6 years  
 \* School Terms 8:30am – 3:30pm  
 (closed school holidays)  
 \* Situated in peaceful; bushland setting  
 \*All teachers highly experienced and qualified  
 19 BANNERMAN RD KENTHURST,  
**PH: 9654 0345**

**Popular Dr Selina Leow and Dr Darren Calleja**  
**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**  
**"A tradition of care and concern"**  
 Funeral Planning and Pre-Arranged Funerals  
 For personal attention please call  
**Richard Spiteri or Pina Parrealla**  
**at 9659 0900**  
**"Si, parla Italiano"**  
[www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au](http://www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au)

<b>THIS WEEK</b>		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Judith Gauci	Maria & Steve Fry	Maureen & Bob Burke	Margaret & Michael Foley
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Len Gauci	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	Sam Ursino
	<b>READERS</b>	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli CareyAnne Moylan	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer		Lesley Gangemi Janelle Bawden
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>		Jack McNeil	Maryanna Coppini Luke Masiello	Josh Fogarty
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Pat and Bev	Joan and David	Bobby, Mark, Matt & JMJ	Youth Group
<b>COUNTERS</b>	(19 Sept) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Marie Coddington	

<b>23/24 SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Dianne Millington	<b>Carmel &amp; Mike O'Connell</b>		Helen Ross
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Neil John	Jhun Javier
	<b>READERS</b>	Trish Keating Colleen Dunlop	Nigel Saunders Kay Brooks	Amira Campo Justin Sebire	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Trish Keating	Gerda Doherty Frances Sanders	Ann & Mark Lee	Gael Carpani Bev Hermens
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Jasmine & Olivia Kenna	Johnny Polifroni	Lorena Campo Maya McMichael	Kiane Claps Clarissa Vumbaca
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Pat and Bev	Joan and David	Merle and Doug	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(26 Sept) Belle Craig and Sandra Tabone		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	Linda Pellizzer		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Jan Parslow