



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



**2nd Sunday
in Ordinary Time
14th January 2018**

**1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19
1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20
John 1:35-42-12**

Give Him your mess and let it become your message.

-Joyce Meyer

It is the second week of the New Year! Can't believe that time is flying! It's just a blink of an eye! Our lives are flat out like a lizard drinking. As we are in a rush in our lives for various reasons, Jesus is challenging us with a question 'what are you looking for?' – The question posed to the disciples who were tailgating Jesus at the disclosure of the identity of Jesus by John the Baptist. "Behold the Lamb of God" were the magical words of John at the sight of Jesus. The word "behold" connotes more than just to "look" - it implies wonder, attentiveness and awe. John wanted his disciples to follow Jesus and 'behold him' life long. The rest of the story you know!

Most people are after name, fame, success, prominence, prestige, popularity, more money and prosperity in the competitive world. Anything wrong? NO... But what is the Number one in life and what really matters in life? The challenge for us today is not just to "see" in our midst but to "behold" his presence: to put aside our fears and stop our constant busyness in order to open our lives to being constantly transformed and re-created in the light of Christ.

As we 'behold' the healing and empowering presence of Jesus in our lives, we are also reminded of our baptismal call of witnessing to the same Christ. We are the "sign posts" for people to recognize the presence of Jesus and follow him. It is like 'paying forward' the faith and the blessings on to others.

The story is told about an elderly man who had just been admitted to a hospital for treatment. After the nurse made him comfortable, she asked him a few routine hospital questions. One was, "What is your religious preference?" The man looked at her and said, "I'm awfully glad you asked me that. I've always wanted to be a Catholic, but nobody ever asked me before." (Source acknowledged)

Andrew's sharing of his faith in Jesus (the gospel), and the old man's response to the nurse, invite us to ask, "What answer would I give Jesus if he asked me why I don't share my faith with others, more than I do?"

One day St. Francis of Assisi invited a young monk to join him on a trip into town to preach. The young monk was so honoured to get such an invitation from St. Francis that he quickly accepted. All day long he and St. Francis walked through the streets and byways, alleys and suburbs, and they rubbed shoulders with hundreds of people.

At the end of the day, the two headed back home, however, not even once had St. Francis addressed a crowd, nor had he talked to anyone about the gospel. The young monk was greatly disappointed, and he said to St. Francis, "I thought we were going into town to preach?" St. Francis responded, "My son, we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. We were seen by many and our behaviour was closely watched. It is of no use to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere as we walk!"



It's no secret that we, the church, have forgotten what it means to preach the gospel, what it means to bring to others the good news, what it means to evangelize. The word evangelism has become a dirty word in some churches, and if it isn't outright dismissed altogether, then it is relegated as a task for only those who have been ordained, or for those who are the professional speakers, who make a living giving their testimonials and asking for altar calls, or for those who are missionaries overseas. –
Author Unknown



God's blessings!

Fr. Vince

St Madeleine's Kenthurst Gala Dinner

Fundraiser for the New Church

Date: 16th February 2018
Venue: Oatlands House
42 Bettington Road, Oatlands
Time: 7.00 pm – 11.30 pm
Dress: Cocktail
Tickets: \$130 per person; (Book a Table of 10)
Call: 9654 2260 / 0402 280 890 or go to
www.trybooking.com/330786
Includes: 4 course meal, Beer & Wine, Tea & Coffee,
Entertainment, Dancing, Live auction, Raffles
Transport: Available if needed

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



Mark your calendars!

You are invited to the first Women's Breakfast in 2018
on **Saturday, 24th February at 8:30-10:30**
in the St Joseph Centre.

The topic will be:
**"Living Laudato
in Kenthurst"**

to be presented by our very own
Environmental Advocate,
Sue Martin.



"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

— Elizabeth Andrew

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who made our celebrations in 2017, especially last Christmas, so lively and meaningful! Thanks to the Liturgical team: altar servers, acolytes, senior servers, readers, welcomers, Eucharistic ministers, collectors, flower arrangers and flower donors, linen ministers, those who put up the nativity scene and the Advent wreath, the choir singers and musicians, and the parents who encouraged their children to be a part of the music team, the Country Fair team, the Sacramental team, all the other ministries, and everyone else who was a part of the preparations and celebrations in one way or other. You have done a wonderful job! With such spirited people like you, surely we can build up our community in the values of the Gospel.

We need more volunteers to make our community still grow in many aspects. Perhaps this year will be the year to put your hand up. If you are interested in getting a little bit more involved, please ring the office (96542260) to have a chat. Together let us build the city of God in our parish.

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." — Audrey Hepburn

God's blessings to all! Fr.Vince



The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday,
3rd February 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 each month at
11:20am, or within a 10am Mass on the other Sundays.



Preparations for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**

for children who have received their
First Communion and are in Year 5 or
higher, will begin on **20th February**. If
you would like to receive notifications
about the program, please email your
name to stmads.sacraments@gmail.com



RCIA sessions to resume on 8th February at 7pm.

*Jesus emptied himself to the point of taking human nature in
order to raise it to the height of divinity. Even the coldest heart
could not possibly fail to feel a little love for this God
who becomes our companion and shares our worries,
our sorrows, our labours.*

-St Madeleine Sophie

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1093.25

2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1557 **Loose** = \$ 758.60

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$1935

TOTAL = \$ 4250.60 (target = \$5577)

If you donate to the parish and have recently changed your credit card, please phone the parish office on 96542260.

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Ron Taylor and Fr Brian Rooney

For the dearly departed

Orazia & Giovanni Cristaldi, Santo Cristaldi,
Salvatore Campo, Patrick Mooney, Norma Sattler,
Colin Sattler, Annamaria Boffo, Andre Arthur Van Roie,
Paul Spina, Martin Mileto, Giuseppi Mileto, Pietro Ceccato,
deceased members of the Ferraro family, and Jed Manning

For healing of the sick

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



Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

After five years of work, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has submitted its final report to government and will now come to an end. The Diocese of Parramatta will continue working with police and other relevant authorities to ensure the Catholic Church remains as safe as possible for children and other vulnerable people.

In its submissions, the Royal Commission has released its reports on Case Study 44 relating to the Diocese of Parramatta (this report has not yet been made public) and Case Study 50 relating to Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta now begins the process of reviewing this material.

The Diocese of Parramatta once again offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to those many people who have suffered because of the child sexual abuse that has occurred in the context of Church ministry. In particular, the Diocese of Parramatta apologises to survivors of abuse and their families for the hurt and suffering this abuse has caused throughout their lives.

The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit

www.safeguarding.org.au. For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website: www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au.

For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3419. Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

WHAT'S OUR CALL

One night at a small church in Atlanta, Georgia, a man shared how he had become a Christian while in Sydney, Australia.

"I was at the street corner in Kings Cross," the man began, "when I felt a tug on my sleeve. Turning, I found myself face to face with a street bum. Before I could say anything, the man simply asked me, 'Mister, if you were to die tonight, where would you spend eternity?' " "That question troubled me over the next three weeks," the man continued. "I had to find an answer, and I ended up giving my life to Christ."

The pastor of the Atlanta church was amazed that a man on a street corner could have such an impact. But imagine his amazement when, three years later, another man came to his church and gave an almost identical testimony. He, too, had been at Kings Cross in Sydney when a derelict had pulled on his sleeve and then asked him, "If you were to die tonight, where would you spend eternity?" This second man, also haunted by the street bum's question, eventually sought and found an answer in Jesus.

Shortly after hearing the second testimony, the pastor of that small church in Atlanta had to be in Sydney for a missions conference. On one of his nights off, he went to Kings Cross to see if he could find the man who had been mentioned at his church by two different people. Pausing on a street corner to look for someone like the street bum he'd heard about, he felt a tug at his jacket. He turned, and before the poor old man could say anything, the pastor blurted out, "I know what you're going to ask me! You're going to ask me if I were to die tonight, where would I spend eternity?"

The man was stunned. "How did you know that?" he inquired. The pastor told him the whole story. When he finished, the man started to cry. "Mister," he said, "10 years ago I gave my life to Jesus, and I wanted to do something for Him. But a man like me can't do much of anything. So I decided I would just hang out on this corner and ask people that simple question. I've been doing that for years, mister, but tonight is the first time Ever that I knew it did anybody any good."

God calls us not to be successful, but to be faithful in following where He leads. We need to obey God even when we can't see whether it does any good or makes a difference in someone else's life. I encourage you to stay faithful to the Lord even when things don't make sense and be sensitive to that still small voice because that is the Lord leading you to where He wants you to be. (1 Kings 19:11-12) - Author Unknown



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 Masses:

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 4th Sunday at 11:20,
or during 10am Masses

Weddings: By appointment

Positions Vacant

- Youth Minister
St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill

- Accounts Officer
Chancery Office, Parramatta

More details at:

www.parracatholic.org/employment

- School Maintenance & Outdoor Worker
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, Baulkham Hills.
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3 hours/day - 5 days per week ,
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2 Referees, Applicants addressed to: The Principal -
ololbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

Volunteers for the homeless needed: The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

Grief to Grace: 8 - 13 April: Healing the Wounds of Abuse - is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th - 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograces.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griegtograces.org

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo

Music Coordinators:

Barbara Mathias and Joan Sattler

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin

Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton

RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

Playgroup Coordinator: Grainne Barker

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones

Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo

Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator:

Peter Balnaves

Property Maintenance Manager: Angelo Roia

Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone

Altar Linen Coordinator: Pat Brush

Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle

Finance Committee Chair: Michael Parslow

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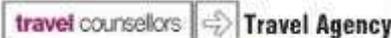


A JOURNEY TO THE SHRINES: BARCELONA TO LISBON group tour 14 days/12 nights (18 -31 May 2018) with EMIRATES!

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 Adult cost: \$4800 / Children 5-11 years cost: \$3900
 For full itinerary information or to book please contact:

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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
THIS WEEKEND	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Joseph Spina
	ACOLYTE	Vince Luca	Neil John	Phillys Hannah	Joe Touma
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Dan Doyle Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	Youth Group
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Colleen Dunlop Maria Aiossa	Tricia Spencer Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	JUN MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington		Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Thomas Barker
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(16 Jan) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
20/21 JANUARY	WELCOMERS	Judith Gauci	Maria & Steve Fry	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Margaret & Michael Foley
	ACOLYTE	Len Gauci	Steve Fry	Jhun Javier	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli CareyAnne Moylan	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Lesley Gangemi Janelle Bawden
	JUN MINISTERS	Monica & Dom Bruggeling Annabelle Rogers	Jack & Patrick McNeil	Luke Masiello James Whittle	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, Matt & JMJ	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(23 Jan) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
	FLOWERS	Dianne Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Peg Grogan