



St Madeleine
Sophie Barat Parish

28 Annangrove Rd, Kenthurst, NSW 2156
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www.stmadeleine.org.au
Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9am-4pm



**6th Sunday
in Ordinary Time**
11th February 2018

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Mark 1:40-45

How can we put our woundedness in the service of others? When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers. - Henri Nouwen

There is this 'hunger and thirst' in every person to feel connected, acknowledged and valued. This awesome experience of acceptance turns out to be a source of energy and strength for the person to survive both within relationships and as individuals. In my interaction with the elderly people at the nursing or aged homes, I have always deciphered the inner longing for them to connect with the family and to be valued as a human being. The very act of praying for the sick at home or hospital by laying my hands on them and anointing them gives them ineffable joy and peace of mind and heart. It gives them the reason even to offer their pain and suffering for the well-being of their loved ones and for many more in the similar state of life.

This Sunday's gospel paints the story of Jesus touching the leper and healing him of the disease and restoring him back to the community (until recently, leprosy had been considered as a dreadful, contagious disease; thanks to God's work through the medical discoveries to redeem this situation). No social conditions obstructed Jesus to reach out to these people who were ostracized from the community and treated as outcast. Jesus wanted them to experience the feeling of being accepted, acknowledged and valued. The very fact of touching them made them healed of their emotional wounds and the physique as well.

Today's society is divided on the basis of language, race, colour, class and so on. The people with AIDS, alcoholics, homosexuals, some immigrants, etc are treated as lepers in the sense of being of lonely, rejected on the basis of baseless assumptions most of the time. What of me? – do I keep away from those who have hurt me, those on a lower social level to me, from others maybe because of any divisive social factors or because they don't belong to our church or indeed any church? The Good News is that our God is a God of solidarity and welcome who reaches out and delights in healing us on no matter what level if only we will allow Him. Do we witness to this kind of God to others in our daily way of living? Today's gospel challenges us and urges us to reach out and embrace the dehumanized and the outcasts among us. "A deed of solidarity with the dehumanized does not dehumanize the doer; rather it restores full humanity to the dehumanized". Here is an inspirational story:

A young and successful executive was travelling down a neighbourhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown.

The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting, "What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing? That's a new car, and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?"

The young boy was apologetic. "Please, mister...please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do" He pleaded. I threw the brick because no one else would stop..." With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car. "It's my brother," he said. "He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up."

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me." Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out a handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

"Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message: "Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention."

Let us try to elevate humanness among us, filled with the boundless love and compassion of Jesus!

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

See you on Friday!!!

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



Preparations for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**
 for children who have received their
 First Communion and are in Year 5 or
 higher, will begin **soon**.

If you are interested in joining the
 program, you must attend one of the
 parent information sessions on **Tuesday**,
 20th February, at 4:30pm or 7:00pm.

Enrolment forms will be given at the end of the sessions.



The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on
 Saturday, **3rd March** 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.



You are invited to share the RCIA Journey!

All are invited learn more about our faith.

We meet every **Wednesday at 7pm in the St Joseph Centre.**

NEXT TOPIC (21st February): Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism/Confirmation)

LENT 2018

"O Israel, come back,
 Return to your God"



**MASSES at
 9:15am
 with the school children,
 and at 7:00pm**



Copies of the book, *Surrender*, are
 available in the foyer for \$8 each. This is
 a compilation of beautiful
 reflections and artwork designed to
 guide us in our journey through Lent.

This book is published by the
 Diocese of Wollongong.

*Stations of the Cross—on Fridays of Lent at 7pm,
 immediately followed by faith-sharing sessions in the
 church, **beginning on 23rd February. (No gathering on
 16th February due to the gala dinner.)**

*Lenten Prayer Groups

- **Tuesdays** at 9am in the library for St Madeleine's
 Primary parents (20-Feb, 27-Feb, 6-Mar, 13-Mar)
 - **Thursdays** at 10am Mountainview Retirement Village

*Annual Pilgrimage to Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa, on
 Saturday, 10th March. We will have a prayer session at
 11am, and share a meal together afterwards. Transport
 is available.

*2nd Rite of Reconciliation on Tuesday, 20th March at
 7pm

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1465.60

2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1685 **Loose** = \$1017.05

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$1935

TOTAL = \$ 4637.05 (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

Tony Virgona, Juanita Sworden, Maria La Spina,
 Adam Bruce Wilson, and Estela Juanengo

For the dearly departed

Rosita Estacio, Ian Wilson, Doreen Byrne, Giorgio Vumbaca,
 Alan Brush, Patrick Joseph Bradley, Michele Vaccarella,
 Joseph Tallon, Aldo Tallon, Leslie Lovell,
 Domenico Papandrea, Andre Van Roie, and Orfeo Bandiera

For healing of the sick

Ivan Ceccato, Phil Sworden, Neil Rogers, Violet Hobbs,
 Dan Doyle, 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.

Special intentions for Hayley Gangemi



The funeral Mass for Tony Virgona will be held on Friday,
 16th February, at 10:30am at St Bernadette's, Castle Hill.
 Our prayers to the grieving family.

See you at 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.

For catering purposes, please write your name
on the sign-up sheet in the foyer.



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

***24th/25th March—Palm Sunday**

***29th March—Holy Thursday**

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm
Adoration in the Garden of Gethsemane
until 12midnight

***30th March—Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross at 10am
The Lord's Passion at 3pm

***31st March—Easter Vigil**

Mass at 5:30pm, including the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

***1st April—Easter Sunday**

Masses at 8am and 10am; no Sunday evening Mass



*>Keep an eye out for sign-up sheets in the foyer. We would love for you to
participate in whatever way you can at our Holy Week celebrations.*

The Catholic Foundation Appeal: 24th/25th February 2018

The Catholic Foundation, Diocese of Parramatta was launched in Parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains on 19 November 2017, when it officially replaced the Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) as the central charity for the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta.

The Catholic Foundation sustains the works of Faith, through the Holy Spirit Seminary and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; works of Hope through the Ephpheta Centre; and works of Charity through CatholicCare.

In support of The Catholic Foundation, our Parish will be holding a special collection on 24th/25th February. Appeal Envelopes will be provided at the Masses, and we invite all Parishioners to support the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta, by coming prepared and giving generously to The Catholic Foundation Appeal on 24th/25th February.

You can also choose to donate by visiting www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/donations.

Please visit www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/disclaimer for the Collection Statement, including information on how to update contact details, or mailing preferences.

Our life of love and service begin as we receive new life in the Sacrament of Baptism. Through Baptism we share one and the same Faith in Jesus. The flame of faith ignited in our hearts at Baptism should be kept alive and it is to be nurtured by family and community (parish). As a loving, caring community, we celebrate this Sunday 10am Mass with the children baptised last year and their respective families. In a world where individualism is propagated, we come together as a community to encourage one another in our efforts to follow Jesus and His Good News. Having a sense of community, according to some research, promotes the mental health and the well-being of the community members. I would like to congratulate the parents for journeying with their children in every aspect of life. Parenthood is a pleasure and at the same time demanding. God is at work with you in all your undertakings to build up your family, the domestic church.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:7). "The family should be a closely knit group. The home should be a self-contained shelter of security; a kind of school where life's basic lessons are taught; and a kind of church where God is honored; a place where wholesome recreation and simple pleasures are enjoyed."~ Billy Graham

Let us live our baptismal commitment in our day-to-day life! —Fr. Vince



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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local businesses
who support our parish!

A JOURNEY TO THE SHRINES: BARCELONA TO LISBON
group tour 14 days/12 nights (18 -31 May 2018) with EMIRATES
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accommodation, travel wallet & backpack,
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INCLUDED: Gaudi's Sagrada Familia, Carcassonne,
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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:
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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
THIS WEEKEND	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina
	ACOLYTE	Vince Luca	Neil John	Phillys Hannah	Joe Touma
	READERS	Steve Kinchington Paul Cashman	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	Vincent Macdonald	Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Thomas Foxall Thomas Barker
	MUSICIANS	Grant & Natalie	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(13 Feb) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
17/18 FEBRUARY	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	Lisa & Craig	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, Matt & MJ	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(20 Feb) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Kim Parslow
	FLOWERS	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio