



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



## 2nd Sunday of Lent 25th February 2018

**Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18;  
Romans 8:31-34;  
Mark 9:2-10**

**“Sometimes God closes doors because it’s time to MOVE forward.  
He knows you won’t move unless your circumstances force you.  
Trust the transitions. God’s got you!”** (Author unknown)

We all have ‘mountaintop experiences’, ‘aha times’ and ‘beloved’ moments in our lives which fill our lives with joy and fulfillment, like a promotion, a wedding, the start of a family, the birth of the first child, getting a job and so on. Like Peter in the gospel, we would expect these moments to stay permanent and we wouldn’t want to leave the joy and comfort of these ‘peak moments’. “Let’s build three tents (booths) here and reside where it’s secure and blissful,” he said. We are one with Peter for sure. But, the reality is that life brings its own ‘downhill’ experiences as well. The low points of life may be adversities, like the sudden death of a loved one, a financial crisis, a serious sickness, a failed marriage and so on. It is but very human and natural that we don’t want to go down to such debilitating, unnerving experiences. We feel discouraged and even cop out in the face of such misfortunes of life. Again we are one with Peter in saying that we don’t want to go down the valley. Against such trajectory of life, the transfiguration of Jesus in this Sunday’s Gospel invites us to imbibe the attitude of Jesus and Abraham, Father of our Faith (first reading), and rise from adversities with the firm and certain hope that God is there with us to get through the struggles of life.



*As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at anytime, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.*

*He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. “Well,” trainer said, “when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.”*

*The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn’t, they were stuck right where they were.*

Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging on to a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? Failures are the stepping stones of our victory or glory. Besides, ‘the downhill’ moments enlighten us to understand the purpose of trials, suffering, testing and making sacrifices. We enter into prayer with anger in our hearts, we come out in forgiveness; we go to the Lord in confusion, we come out in enlightenment; we go with our struggles and we come away with strength to face them. We go with our doubts and we come back with understanding. The sacrament of confession becomes a transfiguration for a good number of people who feel understood, comforted, and empowered to face the hard realities of life after celebrating the Sacrament. (Source acknowledged). The darkest moments of our life become in turn the most transfiguration moments!

The readings of this Sunday mirror the truth that our faith-life has mountain peaks and low or valley moments in life. But, Jesus is travelling with us through and through!

I would like to thank each and every one of the organising committee of the Gala Dinner on 16th February; their efforts have ignited and rekindled the community spirit for sure. The event was fabulous and memorable. We have raised over \$36,290.87 from this event and my thanks to every one of you for your tremendous support. I know that there are hundreds of you who were not able to be present there for this evening. Nonetheless, your presence and support in any form is much appreciated and valued. I am grateful to have the support of every one of you in our parish in my ardent efforts to create with you, a vibrant and faith-filled loving community. May I request you to keep the spirit of faith, unity, cooperation and support alive in our unified efforts to build our community and a free standing church! Kindly pray that the DA is approved and we can commence the construction shortly.

**God’s blessings, Fr. Vince**





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.

**\*Lenten Prayer Groups**

- Tuesday, 27th February—St Madeleine's parents are invited to join us for prayer and reflection at 9am in the library.

- Wednesdays in the chapel after the 9:15 Mass

- 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. Please write your name on the sheet in the foyer if you would like to come.

Transport is available! Please write your name on the reservation sheet so we can save your space.

**[We are in need of a driver for the Community Bus on this day. Must have an LR licence. If you are able to help, please let Fr Vincent know.]**

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



Please join our catechists at their SRE Commissioning Mass on **Sunday, 4th March, at 8am**. Let us come together to pray for them as they reach out to our neighbouring schools to spread our faith. Join us for morning tea afterwards!

**Calling all youth in Year 9 and above!**

You are invited to the inaugural

**St Mad's Youth Worship Night.**

Following the youth Mass at 5:30 pm on Sunday 11 March, we will be gathering in the St Joseph Centre to share food, live music and even a game or two!

Friends are welcome!

If you are interested in coming, please leave your name on the clipboard in the church foyer or contact Kate on 0432 228 480.

**See you all there!**

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:**

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1598.10

2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$ 1967.50

Loose = \$ 897.50

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2097

TOTAL = \$ 4962 (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!



**Preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation** have begun! Let us pray for all these children who are committing to the program this weekend. The first session will be on Sunday, 4th March, at 4:20, concluding with Mass at 5:30.



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.

**The Catholic Foundation Appeal this weekend: 24th/25th February 2018**

The Catholic Foundation, Diocese of Parramatta was launched in Parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains last 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.

Please use the Appeal Envelopes provided at the Masses, or take an envelope home with you and bring it with you next week.

You can also choose to donate by visiting [www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/donations](http://www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/donations).

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



We invite all Parishioners to support the good works of the Diocese of Parramatta!

**PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**For the recently deceased**

Brian Lehane, Wayne William Holland, Tony Virgona, Juanita Sworden

**For the dearly departed**

Francesco Aiossa, Cosimo Murdocca, Estela Juanengo, Marcello Pellizzon, Ubaldo Turcato, Derrick Adorini, Shaju Xavier, Anthony & Maryanne D'Anastasi, Rosita Estacio, Ian Wilson, Doreen Byrne, Giorgio Vumbaca, Alan Brush, Patrick Joseph Bradley

**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, Giuseppe 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**





**You are invited to share the RCIA Journey!**

This week, we will have a double session on  
**Wednesday from 6pm in the St Joseph Centre.**

**OUR TOPICS (28th February):**

**Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism/Confirmation) and The Creed**

**\*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

>Please bring in your Project Compassion boxes

**\*30th March—Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross at 10am

The Lord's Passion at 3pm

>Special collection for the Holy Land

**\*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

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN OUR SERVICES**

>Please sign your name on the sheets in the foyer to volunteer as a **reader, server, or Eucharistic minister** for any of the services.

>Come spend some time with the Lord during the Holy Thursday **vigil.**

>Join the **choir practices** for the Holy Week Services:

on Tuesday, 13th March at 7pm and/or Thursday, 22nd March at 7pm



**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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11:20,

or during 10am Masses

Weddings: By appointment

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2018**

with extension in Jordan and Italy

16 November, departs Sydney for 2 weeks

**Pilgrimage Chaplain: Fr Vincent Savarimuthu**

**INFORMATION EVENING**

Date: Friday, 06th April 2018 @7pm

Venue: St. Joseph Centre, St Madeleine's, Kenthurst

Registration/Light refreshments start 6.30pm

To be presented by Globus/Cosmos and itravel

For your Expression of Interest,

please contact Susan Clark

P: 02 9099 8035 M: 040 542 9988

E: susan@itravel-au.com

**OAKHILL COLLEGE OPEN DAY AND ENROLMENTS**

Oakhill College is holding an Open Day on Sunday 11 March, 2018 from 11.00am - 3.00pm. Tours will be available on the day. Applications for enrolment into Year 7, 2020 will close on Friday 23 March, 2018 and enrolment for girls into Year 11, 2019 will close on Friday 18 May, 2018. Parents who wish to apply for enrolment of their sons in Year 7 and/or daughters in Year 11 at Oakhill College, and who have not yet submitted an Application for Enrolment, are requested to contact the Registrar before the closing dates on 9899 2288 or registrar@oakhill.nsw.edu.au. Applications for Years 8-11 can be made at any time by contacting the Registrar.

# Lenten Sharing

our parishioners share their experiences

As I sat in Mass today, Ash Wednesday, I realised that a member of our parish—who is a friend of a friend of mine—sat down beside me and had done so last year! We commented on this and then on the fact that a year had passed too quickly. I love the community togetherness in the Parish.

Each year I look at Lent as my first insight into all the church reflections and devotions, as if it is all new and inspiring.

I feel it is the favourite part of my journey in our church. I feel very emotional and I know I share this feeling with others. I listen to all stories and liturgies and read as it is new.

I follow Jesus through the many places he experiences and it is hard not to be totally there spiritually and feel the pain and emotion along the way.

My Lenten promise is to think very carefully about the things I do and how I do them. So each year, I try to improve on the way I did them the year before. This is very sadly where I realise how I sometimes fail, although I know, that, in itself, is my road to improvement.

~Maureen Jones

**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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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Dianne Millington	Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Amira & John Campo	Helen Ross
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	John Puleo	Darren McNeil	Neil John	Jhun Javier
	<b>READERS</b>	Colleen Dunlop Maria Aiossa	Nigel Saunders Kay Brooks	Amira Campo Justin Sebire	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	<b>EUCARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Trish Keating Dianne Millington	Frances Sanders Tricia Spencer	Ann & Mark Lee	Gael Carpani Bev Hermens
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Brosnan Leahy	Vincent Macdonald Patrick McNeil	Lorena Campo Finn Sebire	Clarissa Vumbaca James Barker
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Lance	Joan & David	Bobby & Doug	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(27 Feb) Paul Vella and Belle Craig		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Marie Coddington
	<b>3/4 MARCH</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	John Cice	Margaret Thornton	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy
<b>ACOLYTE</b>		Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
<b>READERS</b>		Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Roslyn Earl John Burford	Margaret Foley Gael Carpani
<b>EUCARISTIC MINISTERS</b>		Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Marian Piper CareyAnne Moylan	Tereza Barisic Pauline McAlary
<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>		Kerstin Grima Emilie Mifsud	Olivia Easton	Christian Santelmann Christian Maait	Tiago Gregory Elizabeth Cauchi
<b>MUSICIANS</b>		Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, & Matt	Youth Group
<b>COUNTERS</b>		(6 Mar) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Ann Marie Duncan
<b>FLOWERS</b>		NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Catherine Diekman