

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



# 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4th February 2018

Job 7:1-4,6-7 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23 Mark 1:29-39

# Retire at various times into the solitude of your own heart, even while outwardly engaged in discussions or transactions with others, and talk to God. -Saint Francis de Sales

A woman was diagnosed with cancer. Despite being well-off financially, she always had a feeling of emptiness. Seeking to fill that void, she amassed more and more things – books and magazines, art and collectibles, even more and more people. But the more she accumulated, the less time she had to enjoy them all, to appreciate them all, to know them all. Her motto had become "Have everything, experience nothing."

That began to change with a bathrobe, one of the few things she took with her to the hospital for her cancer surgery. Every morning she would put it on and took comfort in how soft it was and enjoyed its beautiful colour, its warmth, the way it moved around her when she moved.

She later told her doctor, "One morning as I was putting it on I had an overwhelming sense of gratitude. I know it sounds funny, but I felt so lucky just to have it. But the odd part is that it wasn't new. I had owned it and worn it now and then for quite a few years. Possibly because it was one of five bathrobes in my closet, I had never really seen it before."

When she completed her chemotherapy, she held a huge garage sale and sold more than half the things she owned. Her friends thought she had gone "chemo-crazy," but getting rid of so many possessions brought a new joy and appreciation to her life. Until her illness, she had no idea what was in her closets or on her bookshelves, she didn't know half the people whose telephone numbers she had in her address book. But the fewer things she has she now enjoys; she has fewer but much deeper friendships. Having and experiencing, she discovered, are very different.

[Adapted from My Grandfather's Blessings by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D.]

In today's Gospel, Mark includes the short but important detail that Jesus, in the midst of his demanding preaching and healing, seeks out a "deserted," out-of-the-way place to pray. We all need that deserted place in which we reconnect with God and the things of the heart. That "deserted" place may be a set time for prayer every day, a walk in the woods, a quiet corner of the house or apartment, or even a bathrobe -- whatever keeps us aware of God's presence in our life and renews within us a sense of gratitude for the blessings of that presence.

[A Connections Sampler].

I would like to share with you a few quotes from an article by Katrina Kenison in line with this reflection.

It's a challenge to let ourselves slow down. As Thomas Moore, author of Care of the Soul, says, "We seem to have a complex about busyness in our culture. Most of us do have time in our days that we could devote to simple relaxation, but we convince ourselves that we don't." It seems there is always something that needs doing, always someone who needs our attention. "Unfortunately," Moore says, "we don't get a lot of support in this culture for doing nothing. If we aren't accomplishing something, we feel that we're wasting time."

If we are always focused on external stimulation, or even on our relationships, we miss opportunities for inner growth and renewal. We need to find time to be in solitude.

In solitude, we see more clearly. "We live in an extremely externalized culture," Moore says. "We are constantly pulled outside ourselves—by other people, by the media, by the demands of daily life. Nothing in our culture or in our education teaches us how to go inward, how to steady the mind and calm our attention. As a consequence, we

tend to devote very little time to the life of the soul, the life of the spirit." We need to balance the pace and intensity of modern life with periods of what poet May Sarton has called "open time, with no obligations except toward the inner world and what is going on there." Alone—in moments of prayer or meditation, or simply in stillness—we breathe more deeply, see more fully, hear more keenly. We notice more, and in the process, we return to what is sacred.

#### Have a great week ahead! 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

Looking forward to a wonderful evening!

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





### BAPTISM HOMECOMING MASS

Please join this special Mass to welcome back the families whose children were baptised in 2017.

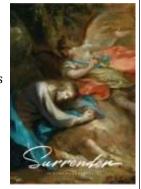
This will be held next Sunday, 11th February, at 10am. Please stay after Mass for a special morning tea.

# PREPARING FOR LENT

Please return your palms, blessed on Palm Sunday last year, by next week, 11th February. There will be boxes for them in the foyer. These will be burnt and used on Ash Wednesday.

Copies of the book, *Surrender*, will be 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.



Please take note that ASH WEDNESDAY comes early this year. **Ash Wednesday is on 14th February.**There will be 2 Masses at the parish on that day.

9:15am with the primary school children, and at 7pm.

#### RCIA resumes this week!!!

All are invited to participate in the talks and journey with our candidates on Wednesdays, 7pm at the St Joseph Centre.

This week's topic: Liturgical Seasons



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.

#### 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 to

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1293.15 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$ 1445 Loose = \$ 954.15 Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$1935 TOTAL = \$ 4334.15 (target = \$5577)

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

Thank you for your generosity!

#### **PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:**

#### For the recently deceased

Maria La Spina, Adam Bruce Wilson, Estela Juanengo, and Ron Taylor



#### For the dearly departed

Alan Brush, Patrick Joseph Bradley, Michele Vaccarella, Joseph Tallon, Aldo Tallon, Leslie Lovell, Domenico Papandrea, Andre Van Roie, Orfeo Bandiera, Orazia & Giovanni Cristaldi, Santo Cristaldi, Salvatore Campo, Patrick Mooney, Norma Sattler, and Colin Sattler

#### 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.

For the special intentions of Hayley Gangemi



Everyone is is graciously invited to participate in this year's Lent activities:

- \*Stations of the Cross—every Friday at 7pm, mmedately followed by faith-sharing sessions in the church
- \*Lenten Prayer reflections at Mountainview Retirement Village, Thursdays at 10am
- \*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
- \*Holy Week: Palm Sunday, 25th March to Easter Sunday, 1st April

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

The topic will be: "Living Laudato in Kenthurst" to be presented by our very own Environmental Advocate, Sue Martin.



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

#### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT:

A young, local teacher is looking for a granny flat or studio to rent. If you can help, please ring Clair— 0403253579. Thank you!

#### OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

#### DEANERY AND DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCILS

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv launched our new councils on Saturday 2 December at St Andrew's Parish, Marayong. He called on our councils to be listening bodies, particularly to those who are "outside the tent". Council members are to be connected to the grassroots, to help him listen and respond to the real needs and concerns of the people. More information, including council membership, can be found onwww.faithinourfuture.org.au

#### **POSITIONS VACANT**

Archives and Records Manager - Chancery Office, Parramatta Professional Officer - Chancery Office, Parramatta; More details at: www.parracatholic.org/employment Safeguarding Training and Support Officer - Chancery Office, Sydney Interfaith and Ecumenical Executive Officer; More details at: www.catholicjobsonline.com.au

#### **WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 - GROUP LEADERS**

In January 2019 an anticipated 200 pilgrims from the Diocese of Parramatta will be on their journey to WYD in Panama via Mexico to be with Pope Francis and the youth of the world. Here's your chance to contribute and enjoy the formation, training and friendship that comes with being a WYD Group Leader! Read about the responsibilities and apply today for a life changing experience shared with young people at www.parrawyd.org or contact James Camden, Director of Catholic Youth Parramatta -jcamden@parra.catholic.org.au

CATHOLICCARE HAS MOVED TO 13 BULLER STREET NORTH PARRAMATTA

CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains has relocated from 2A Villiers Street, North Parramatta to 13 Buller Street North Parramatta. CatholicCare will continue to offer the following services: - Personal and Family Counselling - Relationship Counselling - Post Separation Support and Counselling - Grief and Loss Counselling for adults and children - Financial Counselling - Problem Gambling Counselling - CHOICES NDIS approved counselling. Appointments can be made by calling 02 8843 2530. Free parking available. For more information contact: Karolyn Ellis, Manager Family and Relationship Counselling Services, Karolyn.ellis@ccss.org.au or 0447 441

#### ACU SHORT COURSES IN THEOLOGY STARTING IN FEBRUARY

ACU will be running the following 4 week short course in theology at their Strathfield Campus: From childhood to youth, 21 February, 28 February, 7 March and 14 March 2018. You're invited to explore: What does it mean to be a child or youth? How does the church understand children and youth? Why are children baptised and initiated? How can the church engage young people? For more information about this short course, please view the attached flyer, or visit: www.acu.edu.au/theology/shortcourses

#### 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

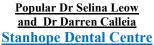
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry Playgroup Coordinator: Grainne Barker SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator:

**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

#### **Sydney's Plant Market**

Wholesale direct to the public **184 Annangrove Road** 9679 2606 Buy direct and save!



17 Conrad Road, Kellyville Ridge (8 mins from Rouse Hill) 8883 1522 \*Open 6 days \*Female and male dentists

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#### **Hills Family Funerals**

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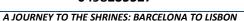
#### **GLENHAVEN** PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

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#### Hills Family Doctors

#### Dr. Anna Kriaris GP

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Youth Group

Barbara Madafiglio

10:00am 5:30pm Sat 8:00am 5:30pm Michelle Eamer **WELCOMERS** Margaret Thornton John Cice Rick & Lesley Gangemi Adriana Kennedy **THIS WEEKEND** Joe Touma Sam Ursino **ACOLYTE Peter Balnaves** Steve Fry Pat Lynch Deb Rankin Margaret Foley **READERS** Gerry McArdle Jacqui Nisbet Gael Carpani **EUCHARISTIC** Pat Waters Marian Piper Tereza Barisic Deb & Paul Copperfield **MINISTERS** Dianne Millington Pauline McAlary CareyAnne Moylan Christian Santelmann **Tiago Gregory** JUN MINISTERS Kerstin Grima Olivia Easton Christian Maait Elizabeth Cauchi **MUSICIANS** Pat & Bev Joan & David Bobby, Mark & Matt Youth Group **COUNTERS** (6 Feb) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** Deb Rankin **WELCOMERS** Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina Trish Keating Fran & Rocco Scardino Jenny & Peter Firkins **ACOLYTE** Vince Luca Neil John Phillys Hannah Joe Touma **10/11 FEBRUARY** Dan Doyle Stephen Kinchington **READERS** Ann & Mark Lee Youth Group **Bill Dowers** Paul Cashman **EUCHARISTIC** Tricia Spencer Sandra Tabone Selina Calleia Colleen Dunlop **MINISTERS** Maria Aiossa Kathy White Roslyn Earl Jason Hatcher **Christopher Kang** Thomas Foxall JUN MINISTERS Tara & Sam Coddington Vincent Macdonald Kerstin Grima Thomas Barker

Joan & David

(13 Feb) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo

Nick Ceroli, arranged by Rita Vumbaca

Merle & Doug

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**ALTAR LINEN**