



**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



## 4th Sunday of Lent

11th March 2018

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23;

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21

### **“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that”- Martin Luther King Jr.**

Filled with love and gratitude, I would like to extend a very big thanks to Pat Brush who has been coordinating the care of our altar linen for the past 28 years and is now handing over the reins. My profound thanks to Pat Waters and Phil Beresford who are also taking a break from their active involvement in this particular ministry. Their tireless devotion to our community is such a blessing to all. Now, Catherine Diekman has gladly accepted to be the coordinator of this team of gentle women.

Sincere thanks to Joan Sattler and Barbara Mathias who have been coordinating the music ministry for the past two years. Now, they would like to take a break from their role of coordinator, at the same time pledging their service to our community. Alexandra Mifsud and CareyAnne Moylan have accepted the role of co-coordinating the music ministry. A very warm welcome to these coordinators who will begin after Easter, and thanks to everyone who has volunteered to share their talents and time in the various ministries of our parish. Surely you are accumulating treasures in heaven! With you, we can build our community in the spirit of St Madeleine!

Reflection for this Sunday:

*Late in the afternoon, a teenager sneaks into a back pew. He drops his backpack, unplugs his phone and stuffs his basketball behind the kneeler. His aloofness and sullenness mask his feelings of being overwhelmed by living in that strange land between childhood and adulthood, trying to meet the expectations of teachers to be a scholar, his coaches to be champion, and his classmates to be cool. In the quiet darkness, he sits and prays simply, “Lord, it’s me, Joe...”*

*In another part of the church, an exhausted businessman sinks into a seat. It has been a horrible day — he had to let five people go in his small agency. He had no choice: business is drying up. He did everything he could to keep them on; he offered severance pay and extended benefits; still, he feels like the worst person who ever lived. In the nightmare he is struggling through, he prays, “God, help me keep it together.”*

*And in front of the statue of the Mother of God, a woman sits fingering her rosary. The Aves fall silently from her lips — but her thoughts are elsewhere: another confrontation with her daughter, the illness of her mother, the growing distance between her and her husband. She stops her beads, sinks to the floor and cries, “Lord, I’m not sure I can do this much longer.”*

Like Nicodemus, we find ourselves coming to Jesus in the middle of our darkest nights, seeking hope and consolation, direction and comfort. Jesus’ meeting with Nicodemus is one of the most hopeful and assuring episodes in the Gospels. In his questioning and confusion, his fears and doubts, Nicodemus is welcomed by Jesus with understanding and compassion. God so loves us that, by his grace, he transforms our darkest nights into the morning light of hope; by his wisdom, he transfigures our Good Friday despair into Easter joy; by his compassion, he heals our broken spirits into hearts made whole( Sampler Connections).

Victoria Lancaster shares the following story of finding light in the darkness of their lives. *“We were moving to a new state after my husband had been out of work for many months and we had no money. In fact, we had to borrow money to reach our destination town. Anyway, it was my husband, 2 boys ages 4 and 2, and myself, 7 months pregnant, in an old Volvo station wagon. We had been driving for 2 days in the middle of winter (the car’s heater didn’t work), and we had taken a route that was very desolate. There was nothing around for miles - no cars, buildings, or signs of civilization. Suddenly, our car started losing power and the gauges went all haywire. We saw a light in the distance and managed to roll to a stop in front of this property that looked like a small humble residence. Our cell phones had not gotten reception for many miles, and it was freezing outside, so I didn’t know if we were going to make it out of this situation alive. My husband got out of the car to see if there was something he could do to get us rolling again, but it was not looking good. A short while later, a man came out of the residence and spoke with my husband a bit before inviting us all in to his home. He and his wife took us in, fed us, and made us feel at home as we scrambled to find some way to get to our destination, which was still a few hours drive away. We were able to call a friend and get a ride, leaving our broken car behind, but not before the couple gave us food and water for our journey. One week later, this dear sweet couple towed our car all the way to our place and refused to take anything in return, except for us to pay it forward... and we have, and will continue to do so forever”.*

As we follow Christ, the light of life flows into our hearts propelling us to be a light for those who are in darkness! Shine, let Jesus shine!

**God’s blessings, Fr. Vince**

Congratulations to Joshua James Twyford as he receives the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.



**\*Stations of the Cross**—on Fridays of Lent at 7pm, immediately followed by faith-sharing sessions in the church.

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



**\*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

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

>Please bring 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

**\*1st April**—Easter Sunday

Masses at 8am and 10am; no evening Mass

>Join the **choir practices** for the Holy Week Services: on **Tuesday, 13th March at 7pm** and **Thursday, 22nd March at 7pm**

### COME AND SEE OUR PIETY STALL!



Beautiful items are available at our piety stall for Confirmation, as well as lovely gift items for Baptism, First Communion, even anniversaries and birthdays!

The stall is open after the 8am and 10am Sunday Masses, and during the Confirmation preparation sessions.

For special orders, please contact Sandra on 0413272400.

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$ 1508.25

**2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1890

**Loose** = \$ 1006.20

**Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = \$2097

**TOTAL** = \$ 4993.20 (target = \$5577)

**Catholic Foundation Appeal:** \$4374.50

**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!



The Kenthurst Country Fair

Sunday 6th May, 2018

We need to get the ball rolling with the planning of the Country Fair.

One of the first things we need to organise is the Raffle.

We are in need of some major prizes for the Raffle.

Would you be able to donate any of the following:

Accommodation/Holiday

An Experience (Harbour Bridge Climb)

Wine (Moet etc)

Gift Voucher

Thank you for your support!

NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY, 19 MAR, 6PM

AT THE ST JOSEPH CENTRE!

Kim Parslow 0418 220 963; [kim.parslow@tpg.com.au](mailto:kim.parslow@tpg.com.au)

Sally Coppini 0407 942 986; [sallycoppini@gmail.com](mailto:sallycoppini@gmail.com)

**Preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation :**

The third session will be on Sunday, 18th March, at 4:20.concluding with Mass at 5:30.



The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on

Saturday, **7th April** 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.



### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

#### For the recently deceased

Fr Peter McGrath, Fr George O'Mara, Brian Lehane, and Wayne William Holland

#### For the dearly departed

Michael Hooper, Patricia Dawes, Vincenzina Americano, Patrick Mooney, Giuseppe Mileto, Maria & Rosario Agresta, Domenica & Francesco Camanella, Giuseppina & Giuseppe Papalia, Norman and Chihide Hajje, Shedly and Chahide Hajje, Hanna and Raymond Chiha, Mary Merhi, Eddy Takchi, Benito Sabellano, Nelly Castanares, David Piper, Francesco Aiossa, Cosimo Murdocca, Estela Juanengo, Marcello Pellizzon, Ubaldo Turcato, Derrick Adorini, Shaju Xavier, and Anthony & Maryanne D'Anastasi

#### For healing of the sick

June, Dorothy Green, Pat D, 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, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Rosanna Ceroli, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Sarah Biford 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.



# Lenten Sharing

our parishioners share their experiences

What does Lent mean to me?

It's a struggle, just as Jesus would have struggled at times for 40 days in the wilderness. I find it difficult to decide in what ways and in what things I will sacrifice during Lent. The challenge is, once decided, to maintain the commitment with everything that every day family life brings.

My wife suggested one thing we could do is to visit people who are lonely, or in need of company. We have started doing this and both parties have benefited.

I have endeavoured to spend some quiet time with the Lord first thing in the morning for a few minutes and have done so most mornings.

On the odd occasion when driving past a church or chapel, I have stopped to spend some quiet time with the Lord. Attending Stations of the Cross and the Lenten discussion group afterwards helps me to reflect on the sacrifice Jesus made for us and what a special gift it is.

I fall well short of what I should be doing in self-examination and sacrifice during Lent, but choosing to reflect on the meaning of Lent and participate in it is better than doing nothing at all.

## HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2018 with extension in Jordan and Italy

16 November, departs Sydney for 2 weeks

Pilgrimage Chaplain: Fr Vincent Savarimuthu

INFORMATION EVENING: Friday, 6th 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

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

## OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

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**12.00pm to 2.30pm (Redfield)**

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### LENTEN CONCERT REFLECTION: 18 MARCH

'Ashes to Easter' with Peter Kearney on Sunday 18 March, 3.00-4.15pm in the Chapel of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic singer-songwriter and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes'. His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. To register, email [concerts@peterkearneysongs.com.au](mailto:concerts@peterkearneysongs.com.au) specifying 'Parramatta' and number of seats needed. Suggested donation \$10 at door.

### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP 2018 NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

The Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join the National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop.

Commence in Melbourne 23 October, travel through Victoria & South Australia, conclude in Sydney 3 November 2018.

COST EX SYDNEY: \$3,230.00 (all inclusive: airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and meals).

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$700.00

For further information, please contact Sr Therese Leydon 0417

683123 or Sr Annie Bond 02 89124818, or email

[national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au).

### POSITIONS VACANT

Private Secretary to the Bishop of the Diocese of Broome

More details at: <http://broomedioocese.org>

Filipino Community Organiser

Sydney Alliance is seeking a dynamic Filipino person passionate about their Catholic faith and social justice. This part time role organises parishes and Filipino communities in Sydney to win change on affordable energy and climate justice! Candidates of all ages encouraged to apply. More details at: [ethicaljobs.com.au](http://ethicaljobs.com.au)

The Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking the following:

Digital Content Producer

Multimedia Journalist

Executive Officer, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

Kitchen Hand/Cleaner, The Seminary of the Good Shepherd

University Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, Sydney University Chaplaincies

For further information, the advertisements for these positions can be viewed at [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au)

### 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



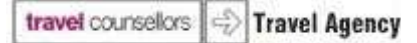
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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Vince Luca	Neil John	Luke Martin	Joe Touma
	<b>READERS</b>	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Dan Doyle Bill Dowers	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Laura Romeo Aiden Cavestany
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Colleen Dunlop Maria Aiossa	Tricia Spencer Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Tara & Sam Coddington	Vincent Macdonald	Christopher Kang	Thomas Foxall Thomas Barker
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Lisa & Craig	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(13 Mar) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Lisa Gerrard
<b>17/18 MARCH</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Judith Gauci	Maria & Steve Fry	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	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	Jenny & Steve Mayhew	Lesley Gangemi Janelle Bawden
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Monica & Dom Bruggeling Annabelle Rogers	Jack & Patrick McNeil	Luke Masiello James Whittle	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Grant & Natalie	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, Matt & JMJ	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(20 mar) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Deb Rankin
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Jan Parslow