



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



3rd Sunday of Lent
4th March 2018

Exodus 20:1-17;
1 Corinthians 1:22-25;
John 2:13-25

“The opposite of anger is not calmness, its empathy” – Mehmet Oz

Robert Plutchik has grouped the basic feelings and emotions in four pairs of polar opposite's joy-sadness, anger-fear, trust-distrust, and surprise-anticipation. This Sunday's gospel paints Jesus as uncharacteristically angry compelling him to be somewhat violent in restoring the temple to what it was intended to be: a house of prayer of all people; a place of love, equality and justice.

The Jerusalem temple had five sections: holy of holies, court of priests, court of Israel, court of women and court of Gentiles. Though these were seen as five concentric circles of sanctity, the design made room for everybody in the house of God; it was a universal house of God for all the nations where every man or woman on earth would find a place for praying. But, the priests and the religious leaders converted the courtyard of the Gentiles into a holy market place, wherein the poor were exploited in the name of religious offering and sacrifices. They marginalized the Gentiles as if they were condemned by God. They failed to give what is due to God and what is due to people. This sort of exploitation and unjust practices made Jesus angry which ultimately led him to chase the sellers and money changers etc out of the temple. It should have been dramatic and even shocking for the political and religious authorities and the pilgrims as well. We cannot simply quote the anger of Jesus to justify losing control of ourselves.



Perhaps, we must understand what sort of anger Jesus had. Normally, when we speak of anger, we mean a passion that is out of control and, in fact, controls us. But this is not the anger Jesus had. Obviously, “Jesus was perfect in every way, so we must be very careful not to equate His anger with our normal experience of anger. Yes, it was a passion for Him, but it was different from what we normally experience. His anger was an anger that resulted from His perfect love”. Some would label it as ‘righteous anger’ as this was not fueled by pride or loss of political power, or a loss of reputation or a loss of position or a loss of control over others even at the micro level. Jesus’ act of anger was a challenge for the victimizers to change and a hope for the victims, the impoverished people and the Gentiles of that time.

With all of the great cultural tides swarming around us, it is quite easy to get angry these days. Angry at the changes we are seeing in culture, angry at personal and social sins, angry at the unjust social and political systems which seem to sustain the status quo or sometimes perpetrate the situation, and angry at Christians or the church for a lack of response etc. There may be various reasons for us to exhibit anger. Is it wrong to be angry?

One of the greatest philosophers, Aristotle says that “Anybody can become angry--that is easy, but to be angry with the right person and to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose, and in the right way--that is not within everybody's power and is not easy”. St Paul in his letter to the Ephesians says, “In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.” (Ephesians 4:26). In other words, we are called to allow the love of God for others to be the driving force and allow a holy hatred for sin to direct us to act in a holy and just way to restore and re-create our lives and world in the compassion and justice of God.

A Story to reflect:

A man came out of his home to admire his new truck. To his puzzlement, his three-year-old son was happily hammering dents into the shiny paint. The man ran to his son, knocked him away, and hammered the little boy's hands into a pulp as punishment. When the father calmed down, he rushed his son to the hospital.

Although the doctor tried desperately to save the crushed bones, he finally had to amputate the fingers from both the boy's hands. When the boy woke up from the surgery & saw his bandaged stumps, he innocently said, "Daddy, I'm sorry about your truck." Then he asked, "but when are my fingers going to grow back?" The father went home and committed suicide.

Think about the story the next time you see someone spill milk at a dinner table or hear a baby crying. Think first before you lose your patience with someone you love. Trucks can be repaired. Broken bones & hurt feelings often can't. Too often we fail to recognise the difference between the person and the performance. People make mistakes. We are allowed to make mistakes. But the actions we take while in a rage will haunt us forever.

(Author Unknown)

God's blessings, Fr. Vince



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

***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

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!



Bright and early on Saturday morning, 24th February, 44 of our parish women got together for this year's first **Women's Breakfast**. We were captured by the presentation of parishioner Sue Martin who shared her passion for the environment, making us realise that we all can and **MUST**, in our own way, look after this one world we live in.

A big thanks to Carmel O'Connell for organising the event and to Michael O'Connell for the breakfast feast!



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1504.70

2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1775

Loose = \$ 1071.75

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2097

TOTAL = \$ 4943.75 (target = \$5577)

Catholic Foundation Appeal: \$4194.50

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!

Congratulations to Laurence Harb as he receives the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation :
The second session will be on Sunday, 11th 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.

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, 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

Let us pray for the eternal repose of the soul of Fr George O'Mara, Parish Priest of Corpus Christi Parish, Cranebrook, who died on Wednesday evening, February 28, in Mt Druitt Palliative Care Hospital. He was 63.

Fr George was a priest for 33 years. Fr George held parish appointments in Winston Hills, Springwood, Windsor, Westmead, Blacktown, Quakers Hill (Parish Priest), Penrith, Harris Park and in 2007 was appointed Parish Priest of Cranebrook.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Fr George O'Mara, Brian Lehane, Wayne William Holland, Tony Virgona, and Juanita Sworden



For the dearly departed

Norman and Chihide Hajje, Shedy 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, Anthony & Maryanne D'Anastasi, Rosita Estacio, Ian Wilson, Doreen Byrne, and Giorgio Vumbaca

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

HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

***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 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 5:30p**

***1st April—Easter Sunday**

Masses at 8am and 10am; no 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



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

Kim Parslow 0418 220 963

kim.parslow@tpg.com.au

Sally Coppini 0407 942 986

sallycoppini@gmail.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 4th Sunday at 11:20,

or during 10am Masses

Weddings: By appointment

Lenten Sharing

our parishioners share their experiences

As I sit here on Ash Wednesday evening, thinking about the forty days of Lent in front of me, I think about all the things I should do or achieve during this period of preparation for the most holy period to the Easter.

I find myself overwhelmed by the concept of "fasting, prayer and good works" Then reflecting on Matthew's reading for Ash Wednesday about Charity, Prayer and Fasting (Mat 6:1-6, 16-18), I wonder: do we walk a fine line between the hypocrisy Mark is referring to and true piety, let alone the requirement for genuine good works?

Are we just putting our loose change in the Project Compassion box or giving up something we enjoy as we know it is only for a short time? Or just spending that few spare minutes with Our Lord? On the other hand, is this a time for a change in me, a change that can make a difference to me and to others? We must all start somewhere I guess, but where?

So as I sit here on the last hours of Ash Wednesday evening pondering what does Lent mean to me or should I say what can I do differently this Lent? First of all, the difference must start within me. It is not just the next 40 days that are the issue, it is the rest of my life.

First, as the problem is mine, I need to begin with my relationship with my God and what is He asking of me and how He can help me. The problem for me is that He speaks with a soft voice and like St. Paul, I have problems listening. There is too much noise around me that tends to block Him out, not to mention my own distractions.

When I am at peace with my God I believe we will both be on the same page, (His page not mine), what then? As we are not an island and we live and work with others, I expect His plan for me will include other people. Therefore the best place to start is with those people that are closest to me, as well as those that I believe God has put in my path as a challenge for me personally. I believe this is where Charity, Prayer and Fasting will come in. The first two (Charity and Prayer) are easy as they are the tools God has given me, but Fasting, how does that fit in? So, I go back to the Gospels and I think of Jesus and His forty days in the desert. Well I am not about to go and spend forty days in the desert, but just as Jesus needed to take time out with His Father, so must I put myself in God's hands in a place where I can listen and talk, even argue with Him, until His vision is clear to me how I should use these tools to change my relationship with those around me.

My actions may not be a major influence in the world today but neither is seeking superficial recognition for my actions during Lent. Hopefully, God-willing these actions will bear fruit for years to come.

This next 40 days is one that I tread with trepidation as I know I will be asked to move out of my comfort zone. I pray that this time will not be wasted.

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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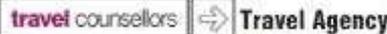
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	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
THIS WEEKEND	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Margaret Thornton	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Lesley & Rick Gangemi
	ACOLYTE	Peter Balnaves	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	Sam Ursino
	READERS	Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Roslyn Earl Adrianna Kennedy	Margaret Foley Gael Carpani
	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Marian Piper CareyAnne Moylan	Tereza Barisic Pauline McAlary
	JUN MINISTERS	Emilie Mifsud	Olivia Easton	Christian Santelmann Christian Maait	Tiago Gregory Elizabeth Cauchi
	MUSICIANS	Pat & Bev	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, & Matt	Youth Group
	COUNTERS	(6 Mar) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Ann Marie Duncan
	10/11 MARCH	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins
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	Vincent Macdonald	Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Thomas Foxall Thomas Barker
MUSICIANS		Lisa & Craig	Joan & David	Merle & Doug	Youth Group
COUNTERS		(13 Mar) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerrard
FLOWERS		NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow