



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



Sixth Sunday of Easter 6th May 2018

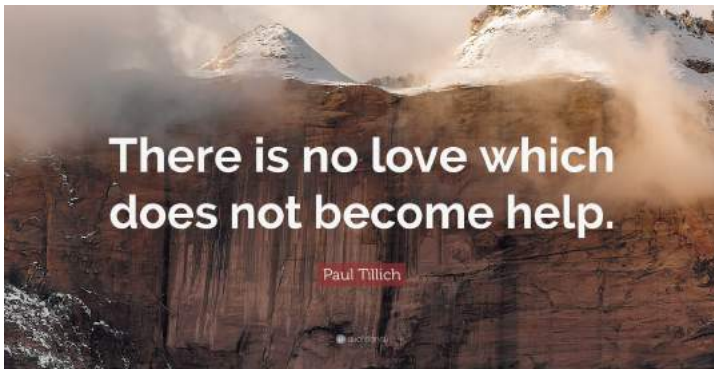
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

There is only one happiness in this life, to love and be loved.

-George Sand

"I was a neurotic for years. Anxious, depressed, selfish. And everyone kept telling me to change. And I resented them, and agreed with them, and wanted to change, but simply couldn't, no matter how I tried. What hurt the most was that, like the others, my closest friend kept on urging me to change. So, I felt powerless and trapped. One day he said, "Don't change. I love you as you are". Those words were music to my ears: Don't change, don't change, don't change... I love you as you are" I relaxed, I came alive. And, suddenly, I changed! Now I know that I couldn't really change till I found someone to love me whether I changed or not" (The Song of the Bird)

Today's gospel highlights the boundless love of God for you and me, and it commands us to embrace that redeeming and sacrificial love in our interpersonal and interdependent relationships. Our faith dictates that love is both a revered panacea and an under-employed practice. It won't be an exaggeration to state that the only answer to the world's problems is Love in its various dimensions. Realistically, it isn't going to be that easy, especially when we come face to face with the difficult, unlovely and seemingly unlovable people. To love and to be loved has never been easy and never will be! As Frederick Buechner has observed, "In the Christian sense, love is not primarily an emotion, but an act of will." According to him, Christian love is learned from God and it is eternal and it is patient. In a beautiful sermon entitled "The Power of Love," Paul Tillich, one of the great theological minds of the twentieth century, writes of a Swedish woman who aided prisoners and orphans during



the First World War. She ended up in a concentration camp herself because she gave aid and comfort. Tillich writes, "It is a rare gift to meet a human being in whom love - this means God - is so overwhelmingly manifest. It undercuts theological arrogance as well as pious isolation. It is more than justice and greater than faith or hope. It is the very presence of God in the form of a human being. For God is love. In every moment of genuine love we are dwelling in God and God in us."

(Patricia de Jong, Partners and Friends).

Here is an old story on love (outdated as it may appear but still has something to tell us)

One day, his wife, who had very long hair, asked him to buy her a comb for her hair to grow well and to be well-groomed. The man felt very sorry and said no. He explained that he did not even have enough money to fix the strap of his watch he had just broken. She did not insist on her request.

The man went to work and passed by a watch shop, sold his damaged watch at a low price and went to buy a comb for his wife. He came home in the evening with the comb in his hand ready to give to his wife. He was surprised when he saw his wife with a very short hair cut. She had sold her hair and was holding a new watch band. Tears flowed simultaneously from their eyes, not for the futility of their actions, but for the reciprocity of their love. To love is nothing, to be loved is something but to love and to be loved by the one you love, that is EVERYTHING. (from "The Gift of the Magi" by O'Henry)



Our relationship with God will surely guide us in finding the true meaning of love. Understanding God's unconditional love and living a life in his example will help us love ourselves and others more.

God's blessings,

Fr Vince

**We hope you enjoy this year's
Kenthurst Country Fair!
Thank you for your support!**



RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

Preparations for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation begin with an Information Session on 22nd May. This is offered to children in Year 3 and older. You will be required to present the child's baptismal certificate. Watch this space and check the parish website (www.stmadeleine.org.au) for more details.



Next week, The Catholic Foundation is launching its May Appeal which will focus on our collective works of Faith, particularly in support of our seminarians.

A donation to The Catholic Foundation is not only a gift to support our growing number of seminarians, which is deeply valued and needed, but also supports the good works they do in the community – including feeding the hungry, visiting the housebound and sick, and conducting catechises in state schools.

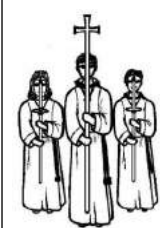
Your donation will be a gift that keeps on giving.

Envelopes will be available for you to take home to consider becoming an Ambassador of Faith, by committing to a \$7 monthly donation – that's less than \$2 per week.

Alternatively, you may like to visit:

yourcatholicfoundation.org.au and donate online.

Thank you and God bless.



Have you ever considered becoming a **SENIOR SERVER?**

The parish could sure use your help!

If you are interested—or even just curious—have a chat with Fr Vince.

Training will be provided.

COME AND SEE OUR PIETY STALL!

Beautiful items are available at our piety stall for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, as well as lovely

gift items for even anniversaries and birthdays!

Items will be for sale in a stall at the Country Fair!



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1412.45

2nd Collection (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$ 1681

Loose = \$ 901.65

Credit cards/Direct Debit ave weekly = \$2107

TOTAL = \$ 4689.65 (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!

THERE WILL BE NO DAILY (9:15) MASS

ON FRIDAY, 11TH MAY.

WE WILL HAVE A COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL.

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



More musicians and voices are more than welcome!
We would love to see you at the next practice on Tuesday, 15th May at 7pm.

Learn new hymns, review the old ones, and meet other people from the parish!
You are also invited to a catch-up meeting on Thursday, 24th May at 7pm.



Everyone is welcome to join the **CHRIST'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP.**

They meet every Wednesday morning in the chapel after the 9:15 Mass.

For more information ring Pauline Camilleri, 0407 417 039

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For the recently deceased

Neil Palmer, Jodie Gillett, Sarah Corrigan

For the dearly departed

Norman and Chahide Hajje,

Sheddy and Chahide Hajje,

Hanna and Raymond Chiha, Mary Merhi,

George Baynie, Giovanni Gazzola, Breda Sherlock,

deceased of the Sherlock, Loughlan, and Kinsella families,

Annamaria Boffo, Noeleen Hennessy, Adelaide & Davide Baldi

Paula & Ben Dieudonne, Giovanni Battista,

Giovanna Maria Luca, Vince Finocchiaro, Martin Mileto,

Norma Sattler, Colin Sattler, and Paul Cascun

For healing of the sick

Anis Nicholas, Peter Balnaves, Ivan Ceccato, June,

Dorothy Green, Pat D, Phil Sworden, Neil Rogers, Violet Hobbs,

Karen Bligh, Elizabeth Graby, Marlon Sabellano Alumios,

Teresa Masiello, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Vanessa,

Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly,

Louise Lambert, 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.



**You are invited to join the
HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2018**
with extension in Jordan and Italy
16 November, departs Sydney for 2 weeks
Pilgrimage Chaplain: Fr Vincent Savarimuthu
For your Expression of Interest,
please contact Susan Clark
P: 02 9099 8035 M: 040 542 9988
E: susan@itravel-au.com



ST MADELEINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
is now accepting enrolments for Kindy 2019.
Enrolment packs can be picked up from the office or on the website
<http://www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au/>

OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK SURVEY

Tell Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta what you think about CatholicOutlook.
All responses are anonymous and confidential.
Take the survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/catholicoutlook

FATHER MICHAEL FALLON

Sister Margaret Jones who runs Marymount Mercy Centre, David Road, Castle Hill, has invited parishioners to attend a set of talks by Fr M. Fallon, a renowned scripture scholar. Those who attended his course last year were very impressed and gained a lot of insight. This year he will speak on the Psalms.
The dates are from Monday 21st May to the 25th.
Time is 9:30am to 12:30pm with a break for morning tea.
It may not be possible to attend each session but I know if you only come to one, you will get a lot out of it, so I encourage you to come.
Please ring me on 96596331 or email anna.conway@mercy.org.au to register. - Sister Anna

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with CatholicCare, are looking for volunteers to support our clients in the Blacktown area who are over 65 and living in their own home. You may be able to spare a couple of hours once a week or fortnight to take a client out shopping or to a medical appointment or just stop by for a cuppa and a chat. We also require drivers who are able to drive a 12 seater Hiace bus. If this interests you, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolcott on 8843 2541, 0418 114 055 or via email on deb.woolcott@ccss.org.au.

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!

The Council for Australian Catholic Women, an advisory body to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, and will be holding a consultation session with women in the Diocese of Parramatta on the evening of 21 June 2018. Share your thoughts with us and/or let us know if you would like to be part of that consultation event on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParraWomen>

FORMATION 2018

Formation 2018 presented by 'Live Christ Share Christ' at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta have been holding monthly formation talks for the past eighteen months. Topics have included: Sacraments, An Introduction & Overview of the Gospel of Mark, The Temptation of Jesus (Mark) and weekly Lenten reflections. Our speakers are clergy from the Diocese of Parramatta and other special guests. Sessions alternate from Friday nights to Saturday afternoons in the Cathedral Hall. If you would like to be included on our mailing list for upcoming talks, please email Pat, Parish Secretary on secretary@stpatricks cathedral.com.au.

Find out what is "authentic manhood" and discover the true meaning of your role, the way GOD meant it to be!

Challenges of being a man of God and what is required

(for single and married men)

Monday 7th MAY
7:00pm to 9:00 pm

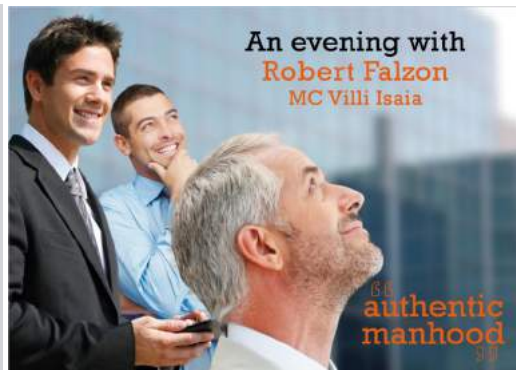
Cost: \$20 per person
(cost includes food and drink)

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Robert Falzon
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life journey and
your fatherhood
responsibilities

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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

*Let us offer our prayers for
the three seminarians of the
Diocese of Parramatta
as they prepare for their
Ordination to the Diaconate.*

Mr Jessie Balorio

12th May, 5:30pm,

Holy Family, Luddenham

Mr Christopher del Rosario

26th May, 6:30pm,

St Monica's, Richmond

Mr Jack Green

2nd June, 6pm,

Sacred Heart, Westmead

*Repay our God
love for love,
heart for heart.*

-St Madeleine Sophie

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Welcomers Coordinator: Amira Campo

Music Coordinators:

CareyAnne Moylan and Alexandra Mifsud

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: Catherine Diekman

Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle

Finance Committee Chair: Michael Parslow

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weekly parish bulletin, please ring the
Parish Office at 96542260 or
email: stmads@yahoo.com.au
for details.

	5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm	
THIS WEEKEND	WELCOMERS	John Cice	Margaret Thornton	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	
	ACOLYTE	John Puleo	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Geoff and Jacinta Mifsud	Pat Lynch Gerry McArdle	Ann & Mark Lee	
	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	Pat Waters Dianne Millington	Eileen Sherlock Michael Parslow	Marian Piper CareyAnne Moylan	
	JUN MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima Emilie Mifsud	Olivia Easton	Christian Maait	
	MUSICIANS	Alexandra	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark & Matt	
	COUNTERS	(8 May) Frank & Ivanka Valencic, Kay & Archie Brooks		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Back on 20th May
	FLOWERS	From the Palmer family		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio
12/13 MAY	WELCOMERS	Trish Keating	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Jenny & Peter Firkins	
	ACOLYTE	Vince Luca	Neil John	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Dan Doyle Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	
	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	Colleen Dunlop Maria Aiossa	Tricia Spencer Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	
	JUN MINISTERS	Tara & Sam Coddington	Vincent Macdonald	Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	
	MUSICIANS		Joan & David	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	(15 May) Sandra Tabone & Michelle Romeo		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Back on 20th May
	FLOWERS	Dianne Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Barbara Madafiglio