"Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness."

-Lucius Annaeus Seneca

A church had collected clothing for the poor and homeless. The parish youth group volunteered to sort, fold and pack the clothes. The kids made a game of it, trying on items that caught their imaginations, creating weird costumes, merrily clowning as they worked. Then one of the kids felt a lump in the pocket of a worn cardigan sweater. He reached in the pocket and found a little bundle. He opened it to find a gold wedding ring. On the paper wrapped around the ring was written in a shaky hand: “I have no need of this now. I hope it will help you.”

The hilarity in the room was hushed. The ring glowed as it was passed silently and reverently from one young hand to another. No one joked, no one presumed to try on that sacrificial gift for a needy stranger.

Tenderly, the ring was refolded inside the note. It was secured inside the pocket of the sweater with a strong safety pin; the sweater was then packed off with the other clothes. But for the students, the radiance of the ring remained.

[Phoebe Ann Lewis, Catholic Digest.]

Sometimes we never know how much a kind word we utter will mean to someone else or how even the smallest act of charity we extend will transform another person’s life. Christ asks us to embrace the faith of the sower: to be willing to plant seeds of kindness and joy wherever and whenever we can in the certain knowledge that it will, in some way, result in a harvest of God’s life and love. (Source: A Connections Sampler)

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.” As implied in the statement of Martin Luther King, it is the simple things and the small things that we do with generous hearts in our everyday lives that make the biggest difference. That is the clear symptom of the presence of God and His Kingdom.

Jim Abbott won an Olympic gold medal, played professional baseball, pitched a no-hitter, wrote a bestselling memoir and has positively impacted the lives of thousands of people through his inspirational talks and volunteerism.

With all of that success, Jim Abbott still enthusiastically recounts how one of his greatest inspirations was one of his earliest — Don Clarkson, his third grade teacher.

Jim was born with only one hand. Jim couldn’t tie his shoes and it humiliated him. One day Clarkson, Jim’s teacher, pulled him out of his third grade class and taught Jim to tie shoes with one hand. Jim never forgot that thoughtful act, and it inspired Jim throughout his life. Since then, Jim has spent significant time volunteering and helping kids with physical disabilities. I bet Clarkson never knew that his seemingly small act would inspire Jim to help so many others.

Let us be the face of Jesus in extending kindness to all—to the aged and the young, to animals, to nature, to those low of stature as well as the high.

God’s blessings, Fr. Vince
We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this country on which we worship

**Enrolling now for Kinder 2019**

St Madeleine’s Primary school is now taking applications for Kindergarten 2019. Enrolment forms can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the school’s website [www.stmadeleineskenthalhurst.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmadeleineskenthalhurst.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacrament of FIRST RECONCILIATION**

Preparation sessions for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation are underway. The celebrations of First Reconciliation will be on Tuesday, 26th June at 5:30pm and 7:30pm.

Let us pray for the children and their families on their journey of faith.

**The next Baptism preparation session will be on Saturday, 7th July 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.

**COME AND SEE OUR PIETY STALL!**

Beautiful items are available at our piety stall for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, even anniversaries and birthdays! The stall is open after the 8am and 10am Sunday Masses, and during Sacrament preparation sessions.

**PETER’S PENCE COLLECTION**

The Peter’s Pence Collection is traditionally taken up throughout Catholic parishes around the world either on 29 June, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, or on the Sunday closest to this Solemnity. This collection helps provide the Holy Father with funds for emergency assistance to those in need. The proceeds enable Pope Francis to assist the most disadvantaged in emergency situations including victims of war, oppression, and disasters.

We will have our collection on the weekend of 14/15 July. Thank you for your generosity.

**PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- **For the recently deceased**
  - Frank Wurtz, Rosaria Alfia “Sarina” Iannazzo, Edward Francis Rodrigues, Jimmy Curtin, and Ross Sattler

- **For the dearly departed**
  - Frenk Piperata, Tato Piperata, Caterina Musso, Filomena Coreoglioniti, Francesco Coreoglioniti, Pietro Ceccato, deceased of the Ferraro family, Jed Manning, Angelina Cice, Joseph Culligan, James Mulvihill, the deceased of the Mulvihill and Culligan families, Bill Gray, Peter Sebire, Sam Dominello, Domenico Piperata, Annena Piperata, Anna Bonsanti, Ubaldo Turcato & family, and Marcello Pellizzon & family

- **For healing of the sick**

We will hold our Vinnies Winter Appeal next weekend on 23rd/24th June. Envelopes will be available for those who would like a receipt for their tax deductible donation.

**WARMTH FROM HOME**

Donations of scarves, beanies, socks and gloves can be placed in the tub in the foyer. These will be distributed to warm the homeless this winter.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A LITURGICAL MINISTER IN OUR PARISH:**

- the Office for Worship will be conducting Liturgy Ministry Formation Courses beginning this August.
- Compulsory Introductory Session—16 Aug
- **Ministers of the Word** (2 sessions): 23rd and 30th August
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Communion** (2 sessions): 13th and 20th September
- **Communion to the Sick and Dying**:
  - 27th September

Sessons are held Thursday, 7:00pm, Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown
You can get an enrolment form from the parish office.

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:**

- **1st Collection** (for Diocese) = $ 1124.70
- **2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = $1687
- **Loose** = $762.80
- **Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = $2107
- **TOTAL** = $4556.80 (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!

**Congratulations to Romeo Terry Lum for his Baptism this weekend!**

Let us remember to pray for our new church, especially this week as the Development Application will be discussed at the Planning Panel meeting on Thursday, 21st June.

**LET US PRAY**

Let us pray for our new church this week as the Development Application will be discussed at the Planning Panel meeting on Thursday, 21st June.
Strangers Save the Day at Six-year-old’s Birthday Party

When Ashlee Buratti threw a birthday party for her son Glenn, a six-year-old with a mild form of autism and epilepsy, not one of his 16 classmates invited turned up. Buratti took to Facebook to describe how heartbroken she felt as the youngster kept asking, "When will my friends come?"

"To see the look on his face killed me inside," she wrote. Her local Florida community was quick to rally to the cause. Buratti was inundated with requests from parents asking whether they could come along with their children. In total, about 15 children and 25 adults came to eat cake and give gifts, including a bike.

Then the local sheriff’s office got involved, with a helicopter flyover over Glenn’s home. A nearby fire crew also put in an appearance and the birthday boy was invited to have a look round a fire engine and take a ride on a police motorbike.

"It was just amazing," says Buratti. "The people who came out were so awesome."

In total, about 15 children and 25 adults came to eat cake and give gifts, including a bike.

OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

HOLY LAND PILGRIMMAGE WITH FR VINCENT—16 NOVEMBER 2018

If you are interested in joining, please contact Susan Clark P—90998035; M—0405429988; E—susan@itravel-au.com

OMLC PARRAMATTA OPEN MORNING TOUR

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, June 20, 2018. Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2020. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can become a Mercy Girl.

GRANNY FLAT FOR LEASE

One bedroom granny flat with kitchen, bathroom and lounge area available. Including 1 car garage on 5 acres in Kenthurst. $400 per week. Contact Dee on 0412911195.

RELIC OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

Parishioners and friends of St Anthony of Padua are invited to join the celebrations commencing with Mass and 9 days of Novena on St Anthony’s Feast day, Wednesday 13 June 2018, culminating in the reception of the Holy Relic on Thursday 21 June and Masses and public veneration of the Relics on Friday 22 June. See St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie website www.stanthonychurch.org.au or phone 02 9631 3316 for full details of the celebrations.

MOUNT ST BENEDICT CENTRE: 29 JUNE

The Labyrinth is an ancient way or path of pilgrimage leading to a deeper understanding of the continuing call of our Creator God into the transforming, all embracing presence of transcendent light and love. In this one-day workshop we invite you to experience the meditative walking of the Labyrinth itself and the peace, healing and wholeness it can bring you. 29 June 10.00am-3.00pm with facilitator Ralph Kershler. Cost: $30 Morning Tea provided, BYO Lunch. Reserve your place by email mttsbenedict@goodsams.org.au or phone 02 8752 5390

AT THE WELL: 29 JUNE

Young women are invited to an informal and intimate gathering to encourage dialogue on topics such as faith, love, career and life. Guests include Sr Rosie Drum, Malia Lolesio and Joy Adan. Friday 29 June from 7pm at 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. $5 entry. Tickets are limited and registrations required at parrarocatholic.org/the-well. Contact Qwayne, Local Engagement Leader, Catholic Youth Parramatta for more information on 02 8838 3481 or qwayne.guevara@parrarocatholic.org

CATHOLIC MEN’S SEMINAR: 3 AUGUST

The 2018 ‘Faith in Marriage’ Seminar address is entitled ‘Marriage & Men in Contemporary Society’ and will be given by Robert Falzon co-founder of menALIVE. All parishioners are warmly welcome to attend this free event on Friday 3 August at 7.30pm at the Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. Please RSVP to lmf@parrarocatholic.org or phone 02 8838 3460.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops’ decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God’s people are invited to reflect on the question: “What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?” Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au
**MANY THANKS TO THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO OUR PARISH!**

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<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
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<td>Popular Dr Selina Lew and Dr Darren Callea</td>
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<td>17 Conrad Road, Kellyville Ridge (8 mins from Rouse Hill) 8883 1522</td>
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**MICHELLE’S HAPPY HENS & DUCKLINGS!**

SPECIALISING IN
* Laying Hens & Chicks
* Fertile Eggs (Chickens & Ducks)
* Ducks & Ducklings

Located on Facebook!

**HILLS FAMILY FUNERALS**

“A Tradition of Care and Concern”

Funeral Planning and Pre-Arranged Funerals

For personal attention please call Richard Spiteri or Pina Parrealla at 9659 0900

“Si, parla Italiano”

**GLENHAVEN PRIVATE PRESCHOOL**

*Preschool for children 3-6 years
* School Terms 8:30am – 3:30pm (closed school holidays)
* Situated in peaceful; bushland setting
* All teachers highly experienced and qualified

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**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND**

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**COUNTERS**

**FLOWERS**

If you are interested in advertising in our weekly parish bulletin, please ring the Parish Office at 96542260 or email: stmads@yahoo.com.au for details.

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www.northcomenswear.com.au Like us on Facebook

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