



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



**10th March 2019**  
1st Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
Romans 10:8-13  
Luke 4:1-13

## **“What use are victories on the battlefields if we are defeated in our innermost selves?”**

-Maximilian Kolbe



Living our Catholic Christian commitment today is indeed a complex challenge especially with the conflicting and confusing forces around us. We are challenged by the news concerning the historic child sexual abuse crimes in the circle of the ministers as portrayed by social media. It demands extraordinary courage and resolute determination to cherish our Christian values and to stand up for what we believe is both true and right in similar circumstances. Bishop Vincent Long says in his pastoral letter, ‘we are first and always a community of disciples following one master, Jesus Christ. We are not the Church of one leader be it Pope Francis or Cardinal Pell or any other bishop’. We remain the Church because of Jesus Christ.

“The scandals and the Church life may leave us down and weak, but the spirit who kept Jesus strong in the desert experiences of his life will do the same for us” (Donal Neary SJ). This season of Lent is a God-given gift for the entire Church—the People of God—to repent for wrongs done to others around us, the larger community and creation. It is a time for renewal of our commitment to God and His Gospel in our words and deeds.

The first Sunday of Lent presents to us the temptations of Jesus as he was about to start his public life: to comforts or sophistications, power and wealth. These three things can take us over and lead us astray. “The accountant of John D. Rockefeller, the wealthiest man that lived in the U.S.A was once asked how much money the world famous billionaire left behind. And without batting an eyelid, the accountant honestly answered, “Everything.” Indeed, money is a good servant, but a bad master. It is for this precise reason that Jesus urges us to be thoughtful and generous in sharing God-given wealth with the needy and the deserving, for in this will lie our ultimate and eternal reward. Remember the wise words of Martin Luther, “God divided the hands into fingers, so that money could slip through.” We are blessed with countless blessings to be used in service of God and neighbour. As we read the temptation narratives carefully, we can notice that Jesus overcame the temptations drawing strength and insight from the Word of God. A big source of energy for us is the Word of God. I would suggest to read a bit of the Gospel every day of your life. It is the Word of God that unites us as a community of love and service.

Like Jesus, we can also experience many ‘desert experiences’ throughout our lives -- times of change, decision, transition, growth, discovery, grief, loss and despair. Our commitment to God will undergo test and trials (Sirach 2:1). Temptations are sure to come so our readiness will avail us victory. The most plausible preparation is always to be found with a prayerful heart. St Peter would add to this by telling us to be sober and vigilant for our enemy, the devil, is prowling round like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour and we must stand up to him strong in faith (1 Peter 5:8). Let us believe that Jesus will not abandon us in these difficult moments of our lives and He is always there to speak to us in our conscience, through signs of the times and through people, whenever we are tempted to drift away from God’s standards.



*In early 2001 some towns in India were stricken by a plague of monkeys. The monkeys were so numerous they would invade homes, bite people, and make off with food supplies. It was agreed the monkeys would have to be caught and relocated. The people in these towns resorted to a traditional method for catching them. They gathered their old milk bottles, tied them to the ground, and then placed something sweet such as a lolly inside the bottle. Then when a monkey came along and saw the sweet, he would place his hand inside the bottle. But with the sweet enclosed in his palm, his fist would be too big to get back out of the bottle. Our monkey would pull and push in an effort to get that sweet out, but he would not let it go, not even as his captors approached. And so the monkey is caught, literally with his hand in the lolly jar!*

Bitterness, forgiveness: unless we let go of our hurts and bitterness, we will become trapped by the past, wanting to move forward yet unable to. This is difficult as we find it perversely attractive to hold onto our pain and bitterness.

Sin, Temptation: often in life we are like the monkey, presented with an attractive offer, yet knowing that unless we let go of it, it will destroy us.

As we embark on this Lenten pilgrimage, let us have an honest look at ourselves and re-centre our lives with new hope and renewed vision of the Easter promise.

**God’s blessings, Fr. Vince**



# The church, roads, and car park are progressing impressively.

If you are interested in contributing towards the construction and furnishing of the new church, Fr Vince would love to have a chat with you. If you have previously pledged for any item and are prepared to give your donation, please ring the parish office—96542260—for bank details.



**\*Stations of the Cross**  
every Friday of Lent at 7pm

**\*Join our Lenten Discussion Groups**

- > Wednesdays, after the 9:15 Mass, in the chapel—reflection on the Sunday gospels with Christ’s Catholic Community Prayer Group
- > Thursdays at 10am, at Mountainview Retirement Village—discussions guided by “Trust” Lenten program
- > Fridays at 7:30pm, after the Stations of the Cross—discussions following “All I Have is Yours” Lenten program
- > Sundays at 6:30pm, with supper after Mass, in the chapel—Unpacking the Pope’s 2015 environment encyclical **Laudato Si’ Care for our Common Home**. A group discussion for youth and all interested in learning more about the call to grow our green hearts.

**BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE PIETY STALL!**

**\*Annual Pilgrimage to Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa** on Saturday 30th March, leaving St Madeleine’s at 9am . We will be having a prayer session at 11am and then we will be sharing a meal together afterwards and return back by 3pm the latest. Please bring a plate to share. If you would like to come and reserve your seat on the bus, please sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer.



For more information please call Sandra Tabone on 0413272400.



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

This year’s Sacramental Programme will begin with a Parent Information Session **THIS Tuesday, 12th March** at 4:30 OR 7pm in the church for the **Sacrament of Confirmation** (for Year 5 and older who have already received First Communion).

For more information, check the parish website or email Sally Coppini at [stmads.sacraments@gmail.com](mailto:stmads.sacraments@gmail.com)

## OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

### LENTE PROGRAMME:

Fridays—15th & 29th March, 5th & 12th April; 10:30-midday  
31 Woodhill St, Castle Hill  
Register with Sr Anna Conway: #96596331  
or email: [anna.conway@mercy.org.au](mailto:anna.conway@mercy.org.au)



### TANGARA SCHOOL & REDFIELD COLLEGE Term 1 Open Day - Wednesday 20 March 2019

10.00am to 12.30pm (Tangara)  
9.00am to 2.30pm (Redfield)  
[www.tangara.nsw.edu.au](http://www.tangara.nsw.edu.au) • 9680 4844 |  
[www.redfield.nsw.edu.au](http://www.redfield.nsw.edu.au) • 9651 4066

### BAPTISM PREPARATION:

The next **Baptism** preparation session will be on Saturday, **6th April at 4:30-5:30pm** at the St Joseph Centre. To book, please call the parish office on 96542260. Thank you.



All are invited to attend the session on Wednesday, 13th March, 7pm at the ST JOSEPH CENTRE



### TALK 8: Sacraments: Baptism & Confirmation

### LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:

**1st Collection** (for Diocese) = \$1538.10  
**2nd Collection** (for Parish) **Envelopes** = \$1825.40  
**Loose** = \$1258.50  
**Credit cards/Direct Debit** ave weekly = \$2107  
**TOTAL** = \$5190.90 (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!**

### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

#### For the recently deceased

Edwina Myrtle Reid Gardiner, Bruno Boratto

#### For the dearly departed

Vincenzina Americano, Giovanni Dominello, Giuseppe Mileto, Maria & Rosario Agresta, Domenica & Francesco Campanella, Giusepina Papalia, Giuseppe Papalia, Benito Sabellano, Marietta Dominello, David Piper, Andy Fisher, Engracia Corpuz, Norman & Chahide Hajje, Shedly & Chahid Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, Mary Maait, Youssif Maait, Michele Vaccarella, Doreen Byrne, and Anthony D’Anastasi

#### For healing of the sick

Patrick Breen, Jacqueline Kelly, 4-mo old Florence Smith, Maria, Tricia, Rob, Michael Foley, Trish Takahashi, Samuel Abella, Doris Mendoza Quiroz, Harper Grace, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Anis Nicholas, Peter Balnaves, June, Dorothy Green, Pat D, Neil Rogers, Karen Bligh, Marlon Sabellano Alumios, 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, and Charles Vencyel





# St Madeleine's Dinner Dance

## Save the date!

This will be our main fundraiser this year.

Due to the building of the new church there will not be a  
Country Fair this year.

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Venue: TBA

Ticket information will be available soon.

How can you help make this event successful?

- By organising a table of friends and family to attend.
- By offering to provide 1 or 2 prize items listed on the forms in the foyer.

If we all help a little, it all comes together a lot easier.

Contact information:

[stmadsdinnerdance@gmail.com](mailto:stmadsdinnerdance@gmail.com)

Kim Parslow 0418 220 963

Sally Coppini 0407 942 986

#### 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

#### THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

Issues of The Catholic Weekly  
are available in the foyer  
for \$2 each.

In this week's issue:

- ◇ The school with no exams
- ◇ New ACU campus for Blacktown
- ◇ The Pell verdict: Monica Doumit, Peter Westmore, Greg Craven, Fr Flader, George Weigel
- ◇ Called to be a Knight
- ◇ What Francis's Summit meant

Pride scourges Jesus Christ;  
humility scourges the devil.

-St Madeleine Sophie

#### PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

**Welcomers Coordinator:** Amira Campo

**Music Coordinator:** 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/Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

**Adult Faith Formation:** Careyanne Moylan

**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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**Bella’s Law Group**

Belinda Sawaya  
0498235527  
[belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au](mailto:belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au)

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<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>		5:30pm Sat	8:00am	10:00am	5:30pm
	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Trish Keating	Maria & Steve Fry	Sandra Tabone & Amira Campo	Nicole Foxall & Joseph Spina
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Peter Balnaves	Neil John & Steve Fry	Phyllis Hannah	Sam Ursino
	<b>READERS</b>	Paul Cashman Mary Sammut	Dan Doyle Bill Dowers	Ann & Mark Lee	Simmy Cesamolo
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Colleen Dunlop Dianne Millington	Fran Sanders Kathy White	Sandra Tabone Roslyn Earl	Selina Calleia Jason Hatcher
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Tara & Sam Coddington		Christopher Kang Kerstin Grima	Thomas Foxall Thomas Barker
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	---	Joan & David	Bobby & Doug	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(12 Mar) Sandra Tabone		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Marie Coddington
<b>FLOWERS</b>	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Sonali Arnold	
<b>16/17 MARCH</b>	<b>WELCOMERS</b>	Judith Gauci	Fran & Rocco Scardino		Joseph Spina
	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	*Emilie Mifsud –Head JS	Neil John	Jhun Javier	Sam Ursino
	<b>READERS</b>	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Eileen Sherlock Maree McNeil	Rosanna Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Janelle & Stephen Bawden
	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Berenice Hart-Gerometta Judith Gauci	Nuri Wardrop Lorraine Ewer		Marian Piper Janelle Bawden
	<b>JUN MINISTERS</b>	Monica & Dom Bruggeling	Patrick McNeil	Luke Masiello James Whittle	Josh Fogarty Sara Sawaya
	<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Bev & Pat	Joan & David	Bobby, Mark, Matt and MJM	Youth Group
	<b>COUNTERS</b>	(19 March) John Hourigan and Kay Brooks		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>	Deb Rankin
	<b>FLOWERS</b>	NO FLOWERS IN LENT		<b>ALTAR LINEN</b>	Sonali Arnold