

“A LIE HAS NO LEG, BUT A SCANDAL HAS WINGS” - Thomas Fuller

One of the three messages of Jesus in today's gospel is not to be a scandal for 'children'. I think the word children refers also to the vulnerable, weak, neglected, helpless, insignificant and hopeless in a society. Jesus is very serious in making a statement that "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea." Let us try to reflect a bit on this concept of scandal.



The English dictionary defines scandal as "an action or event regarded as morally or legally wrong and causing general public outrage". The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines scandal as an "attitude or behaviour which leads another to do evil. The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbour's tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission, another is deliberately led into a grave offense." (#2284). Jesus underscores that we should not cause 'a little one' to sin or do something that endangers others and the wellness of the family and community at large. We read a lot about scandals in the Scriptures.

"Scandal destroys, it destroys the faith! And that is why Jesus is so strong: 'Beware! Watch out!' It would do us good to repeat this today: 'Be on your guard!' All of us are capable of causing scandal" Pope Francis. In one of his homilies, The Holy Father noted that Christ calls on all to forgive because it is that which identifies them as Christians. "A Christian who is not able to forgive," he said, "causes scandal: he is not Christian."

"We have to forgive, because we have been forgiven. This is in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught us about it there," he continued. "Human logic is incapable of fathoming this. Human logic leads us not to forgive, to seek revenge; it leads to hate, division."

The Pope went on to lament how families break apart because of their inability to forgive. If one does not forgive, he stressed, it means that he/she does not understand what it means to be forgiven by God.

Concluding his homily, Pope Francis told the faithful that only through the light of faith is one capable of living without scandal and always forgiving. One doesn't get faith by reading books or going to conferences, he said. "Faith is a gift of God that comes to you, and this is why the Apostles asked Jesus, 'Increase our faith!'"

We give scandal and become stumbling blocks to others: a) when we are unkind or unjust in our treatment of them, b) when we humiliate them by hurting and damaging their self-image, c) when we discourage, ignore, or refuse to accept them, and d) when we become judgmental of those who are still struggling to reach a level of commitment that we feel is too low to be useful.

Today, Jesus calls us to give up anything (attitude, behaviour) that causes scandal to others and destroys our faith and to build up His Kingdom of love, peace, and justice. In this process, we must not have the position that others must change, and I don't need to change. Mother Teresa was asked, "What must we change in the Church?" and she said: "You and me." As the first reading and the gospel noted, we are given the Spirit which assists us to refrain from being a scandal to others in any way, and helps us to embrace the 'little ones' in great love and justice.

God's blessings,

Fr. Vince



PARISH NEWS

LIFE IN LOCKDOWN

How grateful must I be to call Australia my Home. However, my heart, at this moment cannot stop thinking of my Mother land Sri Lanka due to the fact that the pandemic has taken a big toll on many lives across the island. Earlier they were just numbers but now they are names and faces.

It is no secret that we took life for granted. There is no right or wrong way to live but this lockdown is definitely a wake up call for all of us. Life was like a fast forward video clip, insanely fast and keeping up to the pressure can be all consuming. So perhaps this is God's way of teaching us to slow down.

Yes, it has been difficult but Lockdown has made me appreciate the many blessings we have in this beautiful country.

I have enjoyed spending lots of time with the children, morning, noon and night (yes sounds crazy but I know they won't stay with me forever). We spent time trying out new recipes and experimenting on food we normally don't make at home. What's more, we went for walks and discovered some beautiful spots close to home and also spent time in our garden, enjoying the gifts of Mother Nature!

The prospect of seeing family and friends in the near future, and to take on the challenges that arise has been one thing that has helped me through this. It's given me hope and guided my actions.

So finally the most important and valuable lesson is prayer. Reading a few verses from the Bible daily has given me more strength. Here is a cherishing verse that guides me throughout this current pandemic.

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation, so why should I be afraid. The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble.

Sonali Arnauld



PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to thank you so much for your ongoing support, which has been very vital to keep our Parish going strong. We continue to pay off the loan towards the construction of our beautiful church. May we ask of your generous contribution towards the upkeep of the parish with its various incidental expenses. You can drop off the envelopes at the parish office or you can do it electronically to:-

Account Name : Kenthurst Catholic Church
BSB : 067950
Account Number : 00000388

Please, include your name and envelope number in the reference description or simply state 'donation' if you have not joined the Planned Giving Program. You can specify if it is for the first collection (to the diocese for the maintenance of clergy) or second collection (for the upkeep of the parish). Your good will and support are very much appreciated.

ST MADRS CARE GROUP

Our parish is a community gathered to worship God, bring His light to the world and care for his body. We have responded to this by creating the **St Mads Care Group** whose mission is "to bring Christ's light through giving hope and service to others." Our aim is to "provide to members of our parish practical support and care such as meals, transport, shopping and assistance". If you are interested in joining us, would be willing to cook an occasional meal for those in need or know of anyone who needs assistance, please contact us through Bernadette, 0418 248 256



ALPHA PROGRAM

We are moving into our second session of the **Alpha** program held via Zoom. Anyone interested may still join us. The program will include a short, day retreat; still to be decided whether it can be in person or not.

Wanted: People to pray for the success of Alpha during the sessions.

Call Suzanne on 0410 936 108 or Careyanne on 0438 791 813 for more information.

SUSPENSION OF MASSES AND SACRAMENTS

All public Masses & Sacraments are temporarily suspended due to the current lockdown. Join us for live streamed mass at 9am (Tues—Fri) and 10am on Sunday <https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses-113377783718546/>

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR - LIVE STREAMED

Come and encounter the Lord in an hour of prayer and adoration
 Friday, 01 October 2021 at 7pm

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleines-Masses-113377783718546/>



PARISH ZOOM ACTIVITIES

Activity	Date	Time	Zoom Meeting ID / Contact Info
Sunday Gospel	Every Tues	10:30am	Contact Careyane on 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com
Rosary	Every Mon Every Thurs	7:00pm 9:45am	Meeting ID: 840 2707 2956 Meeting ID: 884 0505 6508
Book Club	28 Sept 21	7.30pm	Get your free copy at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco-20150524-enciclica-laudato-si.html Contact Careyane on 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MADS

Please join the Diocese of Parramatta in signing the "Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition", endorsed in Monsignor Bruno-Marie Duffé' letter: thecatholicpetition.org
 Congratulations to Dr Sandie Cornish from the Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace's has been named as one of 20 periti or expert advisors to assist the Plenary Council. Other periti include Rev Prof Frank Brennan SJ, Dr Sandra Lynch and Rev Dr Patrick McInerney SSC who will assist the 280 members of the Plenary Council which begins its historic first assembly next month. ABRAHAM CONFERENCE The Abraham Conference plays an important role in bringing Jews, Christians and Muslims together to discuss contemporary issues of concern for the members of the three religions and for the wider society. Women Leaders in the Abraham Traditions: Role Models for Our Time.

Sunday 10 October 2021, 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm AEDT in NSW, <https://events.humanitix.com/2021-abraham-conference>



PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:

For recently deceased

Aureen Dunn, Filonila Cruz, Sr. Mary Conway, Fatima Lizi, Engracia Corpuz, Barry McBride, Doris Jacobs, Kevin Cook, Joseph Galea, India, Fr Peter Caruana, Fran Sanders, Edith Irwin, Jim Shipley, Philomena Beresford, Lenard Gauci, Maureen McCartney, Romano Bandiera.

For the dearly departed

Marine & Mansour Nasri, Jack, Vincenzo Tonitto, Matty Maguire, Angelina Pardo-Adan, Mulvihill and Culligan family, Dermot Murphy, Emmanuel Galea, Ivan Ceccato, Helena Culligan, Laurie Riley, Tm Mulvihill, Maria Ceroli, Costantino Giudice, Sr Rona Collins.

For healing of the sick

Margaret Doyle, Josh Kennedy, David Parslow, Maureen Burke, Imelda Pellison, Jasminka Medak, Murphy Family, Kerry Rogers, Michael O'Conner, Joe Fuda, Keith Dawson, Aura Krakowszky, Nancy Anne Kazzi, Vince Luca, Kylie Baker, Lara Sawaya, Sheila Cañabano, Candida Irugalbandra, Florence Smith, Gregory Borg, Maria Peach, Paul Byrne, Andy, Patrick Breen, Jacqueline Kelly, Tricia, Michael Foley, Samuel Abella, Harper Grace, Pat D, Anis Nicholas, Margaret Collison, Margaret Gaudry, Dorothy Green, Neil Rogers, Karen Bligh, Desmond Grogan, Louise, Vanessa, Ben Johnson, Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Giuseppe Grasso, Sarah Bilford Beattie, Patrick, Faye Willing, Ben Eberand, Callum Goracz, Patrick Griffiths, Catherine Bourke, Tina, Marie, Joe, and Charles Vencyel.

**If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please let us know by email, phone call, or by dropping a note in the locked box outside the parish office.*

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Alexandra Mifsud, Selina Calleia & Joan Sattler

Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Deb Rankin

Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton

RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

Playgroup Coordinator:

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones

Friendship Group: Jenny Puleo

Ministry to the Nursing Homes Coordinator:

Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

Adult Faith Formation: Careyanne Moylan

Property Maintenance Manager: Rick Jones

Piety Stall: Sandra Tabone

Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman

Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle

Finance Committee Chair: Aaron Cauchi

Welcomers Coordinator:

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Rev Vincent Savarimuthu
Parish Secretaries: Sharyll Netto, Susie Lee
Sacramental Coordinator: Sandra De Nardi

St Madeleine's Primary School

Phone: 9654 6751
Principal: Mrs Barbara Young
Marian College
Phone: 9654 6700
Principal: Mrs Jayne Campbell

PARISH SERVICES

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00 am, 5.30pm

Children's Liturgy TBA

Weekday Masses: 9:15 - Tuesdays to Fridays
9:45-10:15 Fridays - Adoration
Prayer Group: Wednesdays after the 9.15 am Mass
Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm
Baptisms: Every Sunday at 11:20 (Must make a booking)
Weddings: By appointment

Saint of the Day

Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael
Feast Day : September 29



Angels—messengers from God—appear frequently in Scripture, but only Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are named. Michael appears in Daniel's vision as "the great prince" who defends Israel against its enemies; in the Book of Revelation, he leads God's armies to final victory over the forces of evil. Devotion to Michael is the oldest angelic devotion, rising in the East in the fourth century. The Church in the West began to observe a feast honoring Michael and the angels in the fifth century. Gabriel also makes an appearance in Daniel's visions, announcing Michael's role in God's plan. His best-known appearance is an encounter with a young Jewish girl named Mary, who consents to bear the Messiah. Raphael's activity is confined to the Old Testament story of Tobit. There he appears to guide Tobit's son Tobiah through a series of fantastic adventures which lead to a threefold happy ending: Tobiah's marriage to Sarah, the healing of Tobit's blindness, and the restoration of the family fortune. The memorials of Gabriel and Raphael were added to the Roman calendar in 1921. The 1970 revision of the calendar joined their individual feasts to Michael's.

Source: https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saints-michael-gabriel-and-raphael

Join us for live-stream Masses on Sunday at 10 am on

ON AIR

https://www.facebook.com/



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish

ON-LINE DIOCESAN TRAINING COURSE: SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS

Could I please request everyone who has a particular role in the parish to participate in the Mandatory Safeguarding Training conducted via Zoom by the Diocesan Professional Standards Office. The training relates to two diocesan documents: "Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults" & "Code of Conduct for Caring for Children". The training aims to ensure that all those who work with children and persons in positions of responsibility in our Parish have read and understand the documents. I do appreciate your readiness to resume serving our Parish community once the Covid restrictions are eased. Training dates presently available are 9th, 16th & 23rd Nov at 9:30am or 2pm. To register and for Zoom meeting details, please email Maria Kervin on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org - Fr Vince



Our Parish Winter Appeal will be held once the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, those who love to contribute may do so by dropping in your contributions at our Parish Office

READERS ROSTERS

26 SEPT 2021

03 OCT 2021

Sandra Tabone
Phyllis Hannah

Rosanna Ceroli
Belinda Da Ruos

KINDERGARTEN 2022

We are still accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2022 and welcome your application. Please check the school's website www.stmadeleineskenthurst.catholic.edu.au to download the application and forward it to the school office as soon as possible.



POSITIONS VACANT

Human Resources Partner
Diocese of Parramatta

Human Resources Manager
Diocese of Parramatta

Accountant(General)/Analyst
Diocese of Parramatta
Applications close 10pm, Sunday 26 September

Digital Content Creator
Diocese of Parramatta
Applications close 10pm, Monday 4 October

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Advertisement for Oakhill College, Religious Education (RE) Teacher position. Full time, Stages 4-6. Includes application details and contact information.

Project Compassion 'BE MORE' certificate of appreciation presented to St Madeleine Sophie's Parish. Includes a photo of a woman and child and contact information for Caritas Australia.

Seeing how distressed his parishioners were at being locked out of their church, Fr Joseph (Joe) Lam, parish priest of St Finbar's Parish in Glenbrook has written a book of reflections to help them cope and even find goodness that might come from the pandemic. He's also donating the proceeds of the book, I Will Cause My Spirit To Enter You And You Shall Live: Biblical Theological Essays on the Pandemic to the Diocese of Parramatta's Clergy Support Foundation. For over 15 years, Fr Joe has lectured theology in Germany, Italy, Belgium, Africa, the US and Australia. He has authored six monographs & over 60 peer-reviewed articles in German, English, Italian and Spanish. Costs \$AUD9.99 plus postage. It can be purchased directly from Fr Joe. To order a copy, email Fr Joe at joseph.lam@parracatholic.org.



Volunteer in Australia and Overseas The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close 30 Oct 21. Visit www.cagliero.org.au



ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY

ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity & peace in the world on 18 Oct. Register and learn more at www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Many parishes around the Diocese are celebrating Masses online. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

'The Well' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

Thank you for caring for our retired clergy

Thanks to your kind and compassionate support, the [Clergy Support Foundation](http://www.parracatholic.org/clergy-support) can continue to ensure our priests' physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing is nurtured. And, where needed, support our ageing priests' daily living, health care and medical expenses; along with home comforts and essentials for living well. Donations for the Father's Day Appeal can be made at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

Young people of the Diocese – we are with you

"I am with you always" – Matthew 28:20. The Diocese has launched a new website in response to the mental health crisis impacting our young people. The website parracatholic.org/withyou contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families.

World Day of Prayer for Creation & Season of Creation

Pope Francis has designated September 1 as the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*. Join Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying for and taking action for our common home on 1 September and during the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

Diocese of Parramatta launches Plenary Council resource website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. The first assembly starts in October, so visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.



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