

03 October 2021 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Genesis 2:18-24 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

"To be happy with a man you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all" ~ Helen Rowland

A married couple came to a marriage counselor for advice. No sooner were they seated, than they began speaking at the same time in a duel of criticisms. When they finally stopped for lack of breath, the counselor suggested that now they tell each other all the good they see in one another. There was a total silence. Then each one was given a ballpoint pen and a sheet of paper and told to write down something praiseworthy about the other. Neither of them wrote. They both sat and stared at the paper. After what seemed like a long time, the husband started to write something. At once the wife also began to write – fast and furiously. Finally, the writing stopped. There was silence again. The wife pushed her paper over to the watching counselor. He pushed it back signaling that she was to give it directly to her husband. She reluctantly shoved the paper halfway across the table. He took it and in turn, slid his paper towards his wife. Each began to read. The counselor watched. Soon a tear slid down the cheek of the wife. She crumpled the paper in her fist and held it tight. That proved that she treasured the sudden revelation of good things her husband had expressed about her. The whole atmosphere of the room changed. There was no need for anything to be said. Praise had healed a thousand wounds. The husband and wife left arm in arm.

So, it is true what Franklin P. Jones had said: "The difference between marital and martial is a matter of where you put the letter I."

In today's gospel, the Pharisees point out that the Mosaic Law allows an Israelite man to divorce his wife. A verse on marriage from the Book of Deuteronomy states that when a man finds in his wife 'something indecent,' he writes a bill of divorce, hands it to her and dismisses her from his house (24:1). It is like throwing garbage into the garbage can. How about if the wife finds something indecent in her husband, can she also write a bill of divorce and hand it to her husband? It is not stated. Jesus takes a clear and strong stand on the permanence of marriage. He is drawing the inspiration from the creation account that they should be equals, friends, soul mates to each other. They are one to the end. What God has united; man must not divide. That's why marriage is a covenant not a contract. But what we witness is something different. The permanency in marriage seems to be out of place in society and divorce is accepted as a way of life.

It is most disheartening that divorce and separation have wrecked many marriages. It has become a common phenomenon in our society as innumerable applications for divorce besiege courthouses on a daily basis just as marriage tribunals are getting busier every day. Today, people are getting married not for better and for worse but as long as the parties are finding it convenient. Problems and challenges are not strange in marriage unions. Adam and Eve who began this enterprise had their challenge at the time they ate the forbidden fruit and their eventual fall (Genesis 3). This did not set them apart as they went further to live together and to procreate.

In most marriages, couples are not living together, they are just staying and existing together. Some marriages at most have lost taste and vitality. Problems arise in marriages because from the outset some marry for the wrong reasons or the wrong persons. There is a story about two married women who went out for lunch break. While they were eating one of them discovered that her friend was wearing her wedding ring on the wrong finger, and she inquired: "Hey you are wearing your wedding ring on the wrong finger!" The other immediately replied "Yes because I married the wrong man!"

It is a fact that marriages are crumbling because those who went into it did so with some motives that have no relationship with love. Love here is not merely based on physical and material attributes (for instance what you see or feel) which are bound to fade. The love that we mean is the one St. Paul took time to examine in 1 Cor 13:1-13. Among other things St. Paul established that love is patient and kind, selfless, truthful, hopeful, it neither is jealous, irritable nor finds glory in evil things. (4-7). Life in general brings a lot of challenges. There are problems in life whether you are married or unmarried. The effective and efficient way of handling life's concerns it to get closer to God and to be stronger in faith, love and forgiveness. As the saying goes, "A happy and lasting marriage is the union of two forgivers". May we pray for all families, especially the ones struggling for one reason or another!

Just for fun:

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years. The Wizard says, 'Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you.' The old man says without hesitation, 'I now pronounce you man and wife.' (Sources are duly acknowledged)

God's blessings,



Live this day ... That's why it is PRESENT

COVID-19 has posed many challenges for the world. Personally, I have had many highs and lows but one thing I have taken away from this experience is that family and faith will always prevail. Celebrating mass together from our living rooms has kept us together as a community; a community of faith, hope and love.

Living with my family of 6 during lockdown has been an interesting experience but it is the quality time that I will look back upon in years to come and cherish the most. Whether it is cooking with Mum or being in the garden with Dad, I am forever grateful to be able to spend this time with them.

This lockdown has put a lot into perspective for me. It has made me consider all the times I wished life would slow down and take a break. Now that the fast-paced lifestyle we're used to has slowed down, all we want to do is speed it up again. It has made me put into perspective how some of us live to work when we should be working to live. Working as a teacher throughout this pandemic has been difficult but I am grateful to have kept working and doing what I love each day. I am also grateful for the parents and carers who assisted their children in learning from home. I understand that most parents can't wait to send their children off to school again but I hope that they have all appreciated the additional time they have spent with them.

Although we feel this time is difficult, and as though we are stuck in an endless tunnel, if we continue to walk with Christ, we will soon see the light. This week, take the time to reflect on something you are grateful for. Write a list of things you are looking forward to doing and reflect on all the moments this year that have made you smile.



Don't stress about 'tomorrow' when it is still 'today'. Let tomorrow's problem be solved tomorrow...not today.

Katherine Touma

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/



ZOOM ROSARY CHANGE, EXTRA ONE NIGHT

'The family that prays together stays together" We invite parishioners and others to join us to pray the Rosary asking our loving Mother Mary to intercede for the suffering humanity due to the pandemic. Join us on Zoom on Mondays at 7 pm Meeting ID: 840 2707 2956 and Thursdays at 9:45am Meeting ID: 884 0505 6508 If you have any special intention in offering the rosary contact Lidia 0400372561 or Kay 0429965858



SUNDAY GOSPEL

Come join us via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am for an hour to pray and discuss the coming Sunday's gospel. If you would like to know more about the gospels, what it can mean to your life, pray with others, or just make new friends we would love you to join us. For more info and Zoom details contact Careyanne on 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com

ST FRANCIS FEAST DAY

Blessing of animals & a time of prayer & reflection for the closing of the Season of Creation & our moving forward in the steps of Laudato Si.

4 October 2021 9.30am -12.30pm. Zoom Meeting ID 828 5539 8518



SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MADS

It was so good to join with many in our Social Justice committee at the Refugee Sunday webinar. Some actions that our parish could get involved with, include working with CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains in the newly formed charity Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA) as they train and support parish groups to host refugees in settling into Australia. Parish mentor groups are matched with a Refugee or Refugee family to welcome into their community. **Community Refugee**

Contact: Celia Vagg, celia.vagg@ccss.org.au, 0433 628 438

Sponsorship Australia 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

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:-

Kenthurst Catholic Church Account Name

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 MADS 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

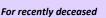
ST MADS BOOK CLUB



This work revises, restructures, edits, augments, and develops the early works into a single coherent case for belief. It does not shy away from the biggest challenges to faith inside and outside of the Church but outlines a contemporary and accessible response to the issues that confront and sometimes confound

believers today. 27 October 2021, 7.30pm. To join our Zoom group, email careyannemoylan@hotmail.com

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



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

Giovanni Scarpin (30th anniversary), Giuseppina Scarpin, Giulia and Fulvio Russo, Eduardo and Maria Piccoli, Maria Battaia, Domenica Scarpin

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 Cathy Voss, Mary Madden, John Donnelly, Louise Lambert, Charlie, Frank Tabone, John Lippman, Giuseppi 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.

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

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska Feast Day: October 05

Saint Faustina's name is forever linked to the annual feast of the Divine Mercy, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and the Divine Mercy prayer recited each day at 3 p.m. by many people.

Born in what is now



west-central Poland, Helena Kowalska was the third of 10 children. She worked as a housekeeper in three cities before joining the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 1925. She worked as a cook, gardener and porter in three of their houses. In addition to carrying out her work faithfully, generously serving the needs of the sisters and the local people, Sister Faustina also had a deep interior life. This included receiving revelations from the Lord Jesus, messages that she recorded in her diary at the request of Christ and of her confessors. At a time when some Catholics had an image of God as such a strict judge that they might be tempted to despair about the possibility of being forgiven, Jesus chose to emphasize his mercy and forgiveness for sins acknowledged and confessed. "I do not want to punish aching mankind," he once told Saint Faustina, "but I desire to heal it, pressing it to my merciful heart." The two rays emanating from Christ's heart, she said, represent the blood and water poured out after Jesus' death. Because Sister Maria Faustina knew that the revelations she had already - con't-Source: https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-maria-faustina-kowalska





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. Please email Maria Kervin on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org for training dates, registration and for Zoom meeting details - 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	
03 OCT 2021	10 OCT 2021
Rosanna Ceroli Belinda Da Ruos	Nigel Saunders Adriana Kennedy

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

Digital Content Creator

Diocese of Parramatta

Applications close 10pm, Monday 4 October

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment



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.



Joseph Q. Lenn



In three weeks, Catholic Mission will share the essential mission work of Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, as they reach out to vulnerable mothers and their babies during their time of need.

You will have the opportunity to respond to this great work and help Sister Chalaad reach out to more mothers and their babies.

Please come with an open and generous heart.





Freecall: 1800 257 296 catholicmission.org.au/thailand



A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: That Catholic Shop is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From Sacramental gifts, statues, books, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of Aid to the Church in Need to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit www.thatcatholicshop.com.

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



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 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.

Join Bishop Vincent at Mass for the opening of the Plenary Council

On Sunday 3 October at 11am AEDT, you are invited to join Bishop Vincent as he celebrates a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit for the Plenary Council from St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Watch the Mass live on the St Patrick's Cathedral Facebook and YouTube channels. The official opening Mass for the Plenary Councill will be celebrated by Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB from St Mary's Cathedral, Perth at 2pm AEDT. Watch the opening Mass via plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1

Season of Creation 2021

Pope Francis and Christians around the globe in praying and taking action for our common home during Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct). For more information, resources, and activities in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation

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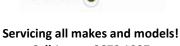
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