



# Eternal life is not only the length of life forever but the quality of life right now. - Chuck Swindoll



The readings for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C ask us how far we are willing to go in practicing our faith and ask us to consider what the next life will be like. Sharing and breaking of the Word and the Bread in every Mass imply that we have faith and hope in a living God who loves us and whom we love. It is the love of God that gravitates us and it is that love that we are called upon to share with our brethren in various ways. It is in the light of God's love and our faith in Him, we believe in our eternal life. Being a 'living God' He invites us to live out our 'faith in resurrection' in our loving and humble service to one another that in turn is the foretaste of the 'after life. In the light of this understanding, let us reflect on the thoughts shared by Jeannine M. Pitas.

Every Sunday, Catholics around the world recite these words as part of our creed. But often, saying these words, I ask myself: Do I really believe this? Thus far, no one has come back from the dead to tell us what an afterlife looks like. The naturalistic worldview that permeates our

society suggests that there is nothing to look forward to after death; when our brains shut down, so do we.

This view is not too different from that of the Sadducees in today's gospel. At this moment in Luke's narrative, Jesus has made a triumphant entry into Jerusalem, expelled the money changers from the temple, and begun teaching. As the chief priests and scribes question his authority, I have to wonder: does he know that in under a week he will be put to death?

Among his challengers, a group of Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection, pose what seems like a trick question. Imagine a woman who married seven brothers in succession. If all of them die, who will be her spouse after the resurrection?

When I hear this gospel, Jesus' response startles me as much as it did those Sadducees. He essentially says, "none of them," but also suggests "all of them." He promises a reality where God's love is so full, so absolute, that our normal, fragile human bonds do not matter. In the words of spiritual writer Ronald Rolheiser, "all will be married to all"—a perfect fullness that is hard to imagine in our world of brokenness. The Sadducees are stunned into silence, and so am I.

It is hard to imagine paradise. Dante Alighieri's infamous Inferno, filled with elaborate tortures for a wide variety of sins, is much more tangible than his Paradiso, a lovely but abstract realm of perfect light. I catch the beatific vision in fleeting glimpses: watching the sun rise over yellow hills on a crisp autumn day, playing duck goose with a friend's joyful four-year-old son, or singing happy birthday to my 81-year-old mother as she lay in a hospital bed last month.

Has this world been so kind to you that you should leave with regret? There are better things ahead than any we leave behind.

While I often describe myself as what British writer Francis Spufford has called a "this-worldly Christian," my mother's recent health scare has compelled me to think hard about my parents' mortality and my own. I'm a 39-year-old woman with no siblings, no spouse, no children. While I'm fortunate to have many strong friendships, it sometimes feels like my octogenarian parents are the only permanent fixture in my life, and every day I draw closer to losing them. What will I do when they are gone? And where will they go? The truth is, no matter what our creeds tell us, none of us knows for sure.

Rushed to the hospital following a previously undiagnosed heart condition, initially needing supplemental oxygen as the nurses strove to bring her heart rate down, my mother came very

close to ending her life abruptly. Thankfully, she has been granted more time. After 9 days in the hospital and 11 in a rehab facility, she is recovering at home, accompanied by my father and a dear friend who is cooking nutritious food and organizing her pills. For me, this is where God's goodness is found, in daily acts of kindness that Paul reminds us we show one another, in our imperfect, broken, human love that offers glimpses of the fullness we seek. In these moments I hear the truth of those words we say each Sunday: "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come." (Source: US Catholic)

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word". (2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5)

God's blessings

Fr. Vince



# PARISH NEWS





#### PRAYER AT ST MADS The Sunday Gospel Tuesday at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com reflections Prayer Group Wednesday after morning Mass at 10am in the St Madeleine centre: Explanation of Sunday Mass Gospel, Pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy St Mad's Book Club To register contact Careyanne on <a href="mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com">careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</a> RCIA For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office St Mads Care Group Provide parish support and care such as meals, transport, shopping and assistance to members of our parish Contact Bernadette 0418 248 256 Thursday after morning Mass & Monday at 7pm Via Zoom: Zoom meeting ID 840 St Mads Rosarv 2707 2956 Contact Kay Brooks & Lydia Ceccato 0400 372 561 First Saturday of the month in the St Madeleine centre: Ring/email Parish office Baptism





#### **PIETY SHOP**

Preparation

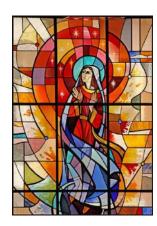
Calendars \$10 Christmas Cards \$7 Christmas Candles \$5 available in the piety stall

Are you looking for a gift for a special person for Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptism & Birthdays? Come and have a look in the piety shop. We have an ever changing array of gifts and religious items. Special orders are welcome too. We are open after every weekend mass. Contact Sandra Tabone on 0413 272 400



1 December 7-8pm: Told from the viewpoint of Psyche's sister, Orual, *Till We Have Faces* by CS Lewis is a brilliant examination of envy, betrayal, loss, blame, grief, guilt, and conversion. In this his final, and most mature and masterful novel, Lewis reminds us of our own infallibility and the role of a higher power in our lives.

Join us on zoom Meeting ID: 815 4470 1500



for booking 9654 2260 (Tues-Fri 10am-4 pm or stmads@yahoo.com.au)

# **Advent Day of Prayer**

Join us for a day of reflection and prayer for Advent and healing. We connect with place, spirit, and heart to heal our world, refresh our minds and strengthen relationships.

> Date: 26 November 2022 Where: St Madeleine's Kenthurst Time: 9.30 – 1.30pm and on. All welcome

Contact: Careyanne Moylan 0438791813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com

#### 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. You can drop off the envelopes at the weekend Masses or the parish office or you can do it electronically to:

Account Name : Kenthurst Catholic

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Parishioners wishing to donate or pledge their giving via direct debit, please pick up the form at the church and submit to Fr Vincent after completion

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#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,178.85 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$850 Loose = \$1,823.70 Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,874.23

Congratulations to all our recently baptised: Halle Zec, Lincoln Grima, Grace Geltch, Boston Saunders, Josephine Di Sano

#### PRAYER FOR OUR DEARLY DEPARTED

God our Father,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command
we return to dust.
Lord, those who die still live in
Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family,
relatives and friends,
and for all the dead
known to You alone.
In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever.

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S: \_Hills Yarning Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 6:30pm, Jesuit Mission — Water the Gift of Life Wednesday 9 November at 6.00 pm — which discusses the impact of a Jesuit-run project in Timor-Leste supporting over 5,000 vulnerable people through the provision of clean water. Contemplative Walk Kenthurst —Saturday, 19 November 9 am — 11 am Murray Park Rd Firetrail, Kenthurst For details for any of the events email <a href="mailto:sue@kcj.net.au">sue@kcj.net.au</a>.

Our screening of The Letter is shifting. Date to be confirmed.

19 November World Toilet Day

25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

#### 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 Shop: Sandra Tabone

Altar Linen Coordinator: Catherine Diekman
Parish Council Chair: Patrick Tuttle
Finance Committee Chair: Carl Mathias
Welcomers Coordinator:
Safeguarding: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

# PARISH TEAM Parish Priest

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

**Deacon** Michael Tan

**Parish Secretaries** 

Sandra De Nardi 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: Dr Gavin Hays

### **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

# **\$t Leo the Great**Feast Day:

10 November



With apparent strong conviction of the importance of the Bishop of Rome in the Church, and of the Church as the ongoing sign of Christ's presence in the world, Leo the Great displayed endless dedication as pope. Elected in 440, he worked tirelessly as "Peter's successor," guiding his fellow bishops as "equals in the episcopacy and infirmities." Leo is known as one of the best administrative popes of the ancient Church. His work branched into four main areas, indicative of his notion. of the pope's total responsibility for the flock of Christ. He worked at length to control the heresies of Pelagianism—overemphasizing human freedom— Manichaeism—seeing everything material as evil—and others, placing demands on their followers so as to secure true Christian beliefs. A second major area of his concern was doctrinal controversy in the Church in the East, to which he responded with a classic letter setting down the Church's teaching on the two natures of Christ. With strong faith, he also led the defense of Rome against barbarian attack, taking the role of peacemaker. In these three areas, Leo's work has been highly regarded. His growth to sainthood has its basis in the spiritual depth with which he approached the pastoral care of his people, which was the fourth focus of his work. He is known for his spiritually profound sermons. An instrument of the call to holiness. well-versed in Scripture and ecclesiastical awareness. Leo had the ability to reach the everyday needs and interests of his people. One of his sermons is used in the Office of Readings on Christmas. It is said of Leo that his true significance rests in his doctrinal insistence on the mysteries of Christ and the Church and in the supernatural charisms of the spiritual life given to humanity in Christ and in his Body, the Church. Thus Leo held firmly that everything he did and said as pope for the administration of the Church represented Christ, the head of the Mystical Body, and Saint Peter, in whose place Leo acted.

, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day



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WE NEED SOME MORE MEN TO JOIN THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE GROUP THAT INVOLVES THE MOWING OF THE GRASS AREA AROUND THE CHURCH AND LOOKING AFTER THE PLANTS.

YOU WILL BE ROSTERED AND IT IS NOT GOING TO TAKE MUCH OF YOUR TIME FOR SURE.

KINDLY CONTACT RICK JONES 0408512252 OR THE PARISH OFFICE



#### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

St Madeleine's Centre
at 10am to coincide with the
10am Family Mass

Deb Rankin Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator



Stay in touch through our parish Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/St-Madeleine-Sophie-Barat-Parish



#### **Positions Vacant**

Project Coordinator (part-time) – Catholic Youth Parramatta, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm Monday 7 November.** 

Diocesan Centre Receptionist – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 10pm Monday 7 November.

More details at: <u>parracatholic.org/employment</u> Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharing: 9 November

You are invited to a "Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharing" evening on Wednesday 9 November from 6.30pm to 8pm. These sharings are quarterly online gatherings for everyone who is interested in Social Justice, Care for Creation or Global Peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, find out and discuss what is currently happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. To receive a Zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

#### Open Invitation to the Parramatta Street Feast: 12 November

Parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to the Parramatta Street Feast on Saturday
12 November at 12pm to commemorate the World Day of the Poor. Come and share a meal and company
with members of our community who are on the margins of society. This free event will be held at Prince
Alfred Square in Parramatta from 12pm to 2pm. All are welcome. For more details contact met@parracatholic.org

#### Safeguarding Responding to Domestic and Family Violence Training: 22 November

You are invited to a face-to-face training on the topic "Developing a Respectful Response to Domestic and Family Violence" on Tuesday 22 November from 10am to 12pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. The training is based on the Australian Bishops' 2022-23 Social Justice Statement and hosted by the Office for Safeguarding, MET – Peace, Justice, Ecology, and Catholic Care. Please register for this elective safeguarding module and help raise awareness about domestic violence.

### Marriage Preparation Courses in 2022

Getting married in 2022? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit <a href="www.parracatholic.org/pmp">www.parracatholic.org/pmp</a> to view weekend course dates, to book and pay. An online preparation called <a href="mailto:SmartLoving">SmartLoving</a> can also be booked via the website. For more information, email <a href="mailto:met@parracatholic.org">met@parracatholic.org</a> or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017. Email <a href="mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org">safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org</a>

#### St Patrick's Cathedral Choir is seeking new singers

If you are a good singer and you sing alto/countertenor or bass, St Patrick's Cathedral Choir is looking for you. The Cathedral Choir is offering paid scholarships, remunerating at \$100 per Mass/service sung (\$5700 per annum approximately). Hear more of the Cathedral choir at <a href="facebook.com/choirSPC">facebook.com/choirSPC</a>. Interested applicants can submit their expression of interest at <a href="https://bit.ly/3sLep75">https://bit.ly/3sLep75</a>. The Choir will consider any application to any voice part, but at this time, are only offering paid positions to successful Alto/Countertenor and Bass applicants. They can only offer volunteer positions for the other voice parts at this stage.

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this country on which we worship



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# ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

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5/6 November	WELCOMERS		Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adrian Kennedy	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Heidi Bou-Harb	Eileen Sherlock	Jacqui Nisbet Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS				
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Pauline Chaccal
	FLOWERS	Teresa Capaldi		ALTAR LINEN	Jan Parslow
12/13 November	WELCOMERS		Fran & Rocco Scardino	Sacramental Team	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Justin Sebire Pat Waters	Catherine Diekman Maria Baldi	Sacramental Team	Sandra Bonello Frederick Kyngton
	JNR MINISTERS	Dom & Monica Bruggeling		Kerstin Grima	
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle and Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry