

27th August 2023

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23 Rom 11:33-36 Mt 16:13-20

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:19

Dear Sisters and brothers,

Congrats and thanks to Fr Adam for guarding the port and thank you to every one of you for your kind support to him and the parish team in their ministry at the parish during my absence. It is good to be back in the journey of our faith as a big family of God.



Most of us have a bunch of car keys, house keys and keys to the office. Keys give power and access to those who have the key and deny access to those who don't. We have got our own personal or family or company electronic gadgets today. No one can have access to anything unless you know the password which is to be revealed to you by the owner. Let alone the hackers! That revealed knowledge, the Password is another kind of key, a key that opens up a whole world and gives one access to the world of the internet.

Today's first reading and the gospel are about Keys to whom they were entrusted and what they might mean. The reading from Isaiah tells us about Eliakim who is to receive keys as "Master of the Palace." He places the key on his shoulder and describes how he is to use the key: "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the House of Judah." These words reveal the prime role of the 'keeper of God's keys' – a father who loves and protects His family. In a similar way, Jesus lays the keys of the kingdom on Peter's shoulder.... along with God's words to Eliakim: "be a father to them." The keys stand for authority or power given to the ministers and the baptised which comprise faithfulness, compassion, belongingness, leading each other in the values of Jesus and so on.

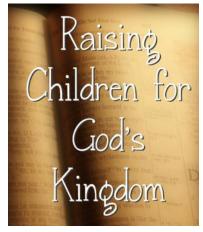
The play of keys is an inspiration for all of us: "The readings allow for God to declare who holds keys, who binds and frees. It also reminds that when these powers are used out of alignment with the divine ways, a shake-up will come about. While the parallel with the Gospel is somewhat slender, it contains a salutary reminder to our Church leaders and especially today that the keys are not bestowed without accountability, and the faithful expect wisdom in their use, not sterile legalism. This is in line with the breadth of realism envisioned by Pope Francis. It is also in tune with the current thinking around the structure of a synod and synodality. We are in the midst of these deliberations, but it is important from the standpoint of the reading that the 'keys' are not used to lock out discussion and emerging points of view. Rather, the synod is a key to unlocking clericalism and exclusive uses of power, concerns brought to us by Pope Francis, and which echo much of the ruminations of the baptised.' From Paul comes a most wonderful reading, poetic, imaginative and challenging. How rich are the depths of God, how deep the ways of the divine. Paul is insistent that these are the ways of God, and are not our ways, nor do they belong by right to the Christian community. The apostle to the gentiles is allowing us a sense of the mystery of God's love as unfathomable and without end. Yet it is only to God that glory be given. There is a match here with Peter's confession that Jesus surpasses any understanding of the prophet or messiah. (G. Moore). As parents, you have

been given the keys of 'parenting,' to build the lives of your children on the solid rock of Faith in God, trust in other people, and hope for a bright future despite the complexities rocking society at present. The way children see us respond to others, what they hear us say, and what they see us do, will shape who Jesus is in their lives. Taking a moment to pray for guidance and wisdom before we act or react to a situation may be just enough to let Jesus in.

On a personal note: I will commemorate the life of my beloved mum, Arockia Mary, on 1st September at 7 pm with Holy Mass in our church. Followed by a light supper (finger food). You are most welcome to join me in thanking the Lord for the gift of my mum. For enquiries: Sally 0407 942 986.

God's blessings

Fr. Vincent



PARISH NEV





| PRAYER AT ST MADS | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| The Sunday Gospel reflections | Tuesday at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or careyannemoylan@hotmail.com | | | | |
| 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 careyannemoylan@hotmail.com | | | | |
| RCIA | For enquires contact Fr Vincent or Parish Office | | | | |
| St Mads Rosary | Thursday after morning Mass Monday Rosary Via Zoom Contact Kay Brooks & Lydia Ceccato 0400 372 561 | | | | |
| Baptism Preparation | First Saturday of the month in the St Madeleine centre: Ring/email Parish office for booking 9654 2260 (Tues-Fri 10am-4 pm or stmads@yahoo.com.au) | | | | |





St Mad's Men's Breakfast



Come and join us to learn about the Edible Garden Trail. Share your ideas about veggie growing in the Hills.

2 September, 8.30-10am

St Madeleine Centre 28 Annangrove Rd Kenthurst

Sign in at back of the church or call:

Sue Carmel

0432716577 0417237013

THE CHOSEN

St Madeleine Centre Tuesday evening 7pm 29th August S2 Episode 5 Never too late to join us Everyone is welcome! Season 1 now available on Netflix.

For information Loretta m. 0419260637

St Mad's Women's Breakfast

Come and join us to explore the concept of "Finding Heaven's Heart."

9 September, 8.30 - 10am



Sue Martin, our deanery rep, brings with her great expertise and commitment to ecology and Ignatian Spirituality. Her current & recent roles include Reconciliation with Creation project

officer for the Australian Province and globally being part of the Ecojesuit team; and National Director - Catholic Earthcare Australia.

Sign in at back of church or call:

Carmel Sue 0432716577 0417237013

FUNERAL OF THE

LATE SALVATORE "SAM" DOLORES

Date Monday, 28 August 2023 Time: 11am at St Madeleine's

Our prayers and condolences with the Dolores family

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S Season of Creation is coming, the theme "Let Justice & Peace Flow". Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation is asking us to be bold. Pope Francis also announced he is writing a second part to his 2015 environmental encyclical Laudato Si', saying he is updating Laudato Si' to cover current issues. Congratulations to the Hills Yarning team on your work to change the street name associated with the Stolen Generations Marella mission where Bernie Mullane now is located. Please join our Season of Creation weekly contemplation visit www.jisa.org.au/season-of-creation

Please ensure your details are kept up to date **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

Church BSB : 067950 Account Number: 00000388

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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,206.10 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$1,022.10 Loose = \$954.35 Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$2,037.23

Congratulations to our newly baptised Cristiano Garuccio Frankie Christodoulou Loretta Falcone

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently deceased: Salvatore Dolores

For the dearly departed: Michael Joseph Duffy, Mary Cumbo, Virgilio Inoc, Carlo Esposito, Salvatore Barbaro, Josephine Campo, Ivan Ceccato, Angelina Pardo-Adan, Sacco family, Sultana family, Spadaro family, Pulis family

Please pray for the sick: Cherry Luezzi, Henry Field, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Catherine Saunders, Aura Krakowszky, Hoani Alexander Barker, Sofia Viizzo, Antonia Desanti, and Jennifer Burgess

If you would like someone to be included among these requests, please use the Mass offering envelopes found at the entrance to the Church or email the office kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud Junior Ministers Coordinator: Maree McNeil Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chaccal Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton

RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry Playgroup Coordinator: Amy Seychell

SRF 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 Champion: Suzanne Kingston-Hunt

PARISH TEAM Parish Priest

Rev Vincent Savarimuthu

Assistant Priest Rev Adam Carlow

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 during school term Weekday Masses

9:15am Tuesdays to Fridays 9:45am - 10:15am Fridays - Adoration

Prayer Group: Wednesdays after the 9.15 am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm **Baptisms:** Every 2nd and 4th Sunday

at 11:20am (Must make a booking) **Weddings:** By appointment

St Augustine of Hippo

Feast Day: 28 August



A Christian at 33, a priest at 36, a bishop at 41: Many people are familiar with the biographical sketch of Augustine of Hippo, sinner turned saint. But to get to really know the man is a rewarding experience. There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he lived his life, whether his path led away from or toward God. The tears of his mother, the instructions of Ambrose and, most of all, God himself speaking to him in the Scriptures, redirected Augustine's love of life to a life of love. Having been so deeply immersed in creature-pride of life in his early days and having drunk deeply of its bitter dregs, it is not surprising that Augustine should have turned, with a holy fierceness, against the many demon-thrusts rampant in his day. His times were truly decadent: politically, socially, morally. He was both feared and loved, like the Master. The perennial criticism leveled against him: a fundamental rigorism. In his day, Augustine providentially fulfilled the office of prophet. Like Jeremiah and other greats, he was hard-pressed but could not keep quiet. "I say to myself, I will not mention him/I will speak in his name no more/But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart/imprisoned in my bones/I grow weary holding it in/I cannot endure it" (Jeremiah 20:9).

SYNOD

PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESAN SYNOD

O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

Keep us anchored in your love.
Open our hearts as we listen and discerr
Reveal to us the way we are called
to go out into the deep.
Give us the courage to pursue
the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and foreve

Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us



The **Bishop's Father's Day Appeal** will be held in the parish on the weekend of **2 & 3 September**.

Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod - copies available in the

Church - All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod

Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week

as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/

World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities.

RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-

Congratulations to Frances and Ryan

On their wedding this weekend at St Madeleine's



Our Diocesan Synod will be held from 12-15 October 2023

The question that will guide the Synod is: what ways can we respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to be

In what ways can we respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to be a more synodal Church in the Diocese of Parramatta?

Mandatory Safeguarding Face-to-Face Training Opportunities

Mandatory Modules 1-3: St Canice's Church, Katoomba on Saturday 28 October, 10am-3pm.

Renewal Mandatory Safeguarding
Training (4 points): Tuesday
29th August 2023: Renewal Module 5 Legal Compliance – Risk of Significant
Harm & Mandatory Reporting Venue:
Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish
Greystanes Time: 10.00am-11.30am

Please register for these face-to-face renewal modules at: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

For further information please contact Maria Kervin at:

maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned giving envelopes are available in the Church.

For any queries please contact the office ph.9654 2260 or kenthurst@parracatholic.org





SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FIRST EUCHARIST

Preparation Sessions at 4pm on 27 August and 10 September

Holy Communion dates Sunday, 17 September and Sunday, 24 September

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

www.franciscanmedia.org



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|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | 5:30PM VIGIL | 8AM SUNDAY | 10AM SUNDAY | 5.30PM SUNDAY |
| 26 & 27 August | WELCOMERS | Corrie Sebire | Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell | Sandra Tabone Zakia Touma | Joseph Spina Sacramental Team |
| | MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR | John Puleo | Piety Rocha | Phyllis Hannah | |
| | READERS | Colleen Dunlop Justin Sebire | Catherine Diekman Maria Baldi | Sandra Tabone Sally Coppini | Sacramental Team |
| | JNR MINISTERS | Emerson Sebire | | | Oliver Twyford & Sophia Bou-Abbse |
| | MUSICIANS | | Joan Sattler | | |
| | COUNTERS | Paul Vella and Tony Hooper | | CHILDREN'S LITURGY | Sandra Bonello |
| | FLOWERS | Wedding | | ALTAR LINEN | Rosa Carlino |
| 2 & 3 September | | 5:30PM VIGIL | 8AM SUNDAY | 10AM SUNDAY | 5:30PM SUNDAY |
| | WELCOMERS | | Rosa & Tony Carlino | Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy | Joseph Spina |
| | MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR | Dianne Millington | Steve Fry | Joe Touma | |
| | READERS | Lidia Ceccato | Nigel Saunders John Walcott | Karla Quinn Roslyn Earl | Jan Schroder Gael Carpani |
| | JNR MINISTERS | Kerstin Grima | | | Ben Barker |
| | MUSICIANS | | | | |
| | COUNTERS | Sandra Tabone & Parish Team | | CHILDREN'S LITURGY | Pauline Chaccal |
| | FLOWERS | Calla Lily | | ALTAR LINEN | Marian Piper |