

## 6th August 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Pet 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Both Moses and Elijah had powerful encounters with God on the top of a mountain – it is appropriate that it is they who appear beside Jesus in the transfiguration account. We recall how Moses travelled up Mt Sinai to receive the Law from God in the form of the Ten Commandments. We also recall Elijah's experience of God on a mountain, where he fled for his life from Queen Jezebel to the summit of Mt Horeb. The word of the Lord came to Elijah and told him to stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord was about to pass by. Elijah experienced the Lord in the whisper of a gentle breeze.

Moses and Elijah are joined by three of Jesus' apostles on Mt Sinai - Peter, James and John. While Moses and Elijah are depicted in the Old Testament as being the closest to God, we might say something similar about Peter, James and John's relationship to Jesus. As Moses and Elijah played prominent roles in leading the people of God, now these three will play a prominent role in the future of the Church. Peter will take up the servant mantle as the first pope, while James and John, nicknamed the 'Sons of Thunder,' because of their boldness, will also become leaders in their own right. John will receive Mary as his mother at the foot of the cross, while James will be the first apostle to receive a Marian apparition.

The transfiguration thus becomes a kind of meeting point between God's appointed human leadership from both the old testament and the new, with Christ at the centre. This meeting point looks back to the past with Moses and Elijah, to the present with Peter, James and John, and to the future in the coming glory that Jesus will win through the cross. On Mt Sinai, God's salvific work, throughout the history of humanity, is made present.

The other thing that is revealed on Mt Sinai has to do with the identity of Jesus. On one hand, we know Jesus in the ordinary, a man with parents and family, born in Nazareth, and who worked as a carpenter. But here on Mt Sinai, we see something extraordinary. Jesus is revealed, not only as man, but also as messiah. While he has a human nature, he has a divine nature too. Throughout his ministry, this carpenter from Nazareth works miracles, and this miraculous nature of Jesus culminates to the disciples on the mountain top. The Son of the Father has come in all of his glory.

We now play a part too in the history of God's salvific work	k. We join ourselves with Moses, Elijah	, Peter, James and
John, and bring the glory of Jesus to the world. Stay close t	to Jesus, and have a lovely weekend.	

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Fr Adam





PRAYER AT ST MADS				
The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday at 10.30 am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or <a href="mailto:careyannemoylan@hotmail.com">careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</a>			
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 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)			





Our 5.30pm Mass last Sunday with Marian students providing music followed by pizza - was a success! A special thanks to all involved

We would love to see this continue in the parish.

We invite all young people to meet with Fr Adam after this Sunday's 5.30pm Mass in the St Madeleine Centre

PARISH VOLUNTEERS: Please contact the parish office if you can help as a reader, musician, or with the powerpoint. All volunteers please ensure we have current contact details. Volunteer registration form found at the entrance to the Church or use the QR Code.



#### **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**

New planned giving envelopes are in the Church.

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



THE CHOSEN - The first multi-season series about the Life and Ministry of Jesus.

Viewing in the St Madeleine Centre each Tuesday evening 7pm

Next episode: 8th August S2 Episode 2 – I Saw You

Never too late to join us, Everyone is welcome!!!! Catch up with Season 1 now available on Netflix. For information Loretta m. 0419260637

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S National Homelessness Week (7-13 August) raises awareness of homelessness. Did you know that domestic and family violence is the leading cause of homelessness in Australia? 25th August Vinnies invites you to join them for their sixth annual Vinnies Western Sydney Community Sleepout to raise vital funds to help prevent homelessness in Western Sydney. WSU, Parramatta Campus janice.stokes@vinnies.org.au, Hills Yarning is supporting the Yes Information session August 13th Hornsby RSL 3-5pm berowraforyes@gmail.com "We do want our culture to be a gift to this country. We want everybody to be proud that they live in the country with the longest continuous culture on the planet. We want everybody to share in it." Sherry Balcombe Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Melbourne

#### 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) = \$1,217.60 2nd Collection (for Parish) Envelopes = \$800 Loose = \$1,811.50 Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,874.23

#### **PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS:**

For the dearly departed: Salvatore

Barbaro, Josephine Campo, Ivan Ceccato, Angelina Pardo-Adan, Sacco family, Sultana family, Spadaro family, Pulis family, Michael Caruana, Theresa Caruana, Anthony & Maryann Vella, Sr M Efrasia Caruana, Joe Vella, Victoria Caruana, Diana Caruana, Joe Camilleri, June Payne, Rev Fr Peter Caruana, Bob Sakr, George Boulos, Frank Agresta, Giuseppina Esposito, Tunnouse Takchi, Norman & Chahide Hajje, Sheaddy & Chahida Hajje, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, George Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Vincenzina Americano, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Dermot John Murphy, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap

Please pray for the sick: Henry Field, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Catherine Saunders, Aura Krakowszky, Hoani Alexander Barker, Sofia Viizzo, Margaret Martin, 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

#### 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

#### Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)



Feast Day: 9 August 2023

O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strenath to serve You. Enkindle Your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me. I do not see very far ahead, but when I have arrived where the horizon now closes down, a new prospect will open before me and I shall meet with peace. ~ St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was 14, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led to her baptism in 1922. Twelve years later she imitated Saint Teresa by becoming a Carmelite, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. Born into a prominent Jewish family in Breslau, Germany-now Wroclaw, Poland-Edith abandoned Judaism in her teens. Excelling as a protégé of Edmund Husserl, one of the leading phenomenologists, Edith earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1916. She continued as a university teacher until 1922, when she moved to a Dominican school in Speyer; her appointment as lecturer at the Educational Institute of Munich ended under pressure from the Nazis. After living for four years in the Cologne Carmel, Sister Teresa Benedicta moved to the Carmelite monastery in Echt, Netherlands, in 1938. The Nazis occupied that country in 1940. In retaliation for being denounced by the Dutch bishops, the Nazis arrested all Dutch Jews who had become Christians. Teresa Benedicta and her sister Rosa, also a Catholic, died in a gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942. Canonised by Pope John Paul II in 1998.

http://www.franciscanmedia.org



#### PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESAN SYNOD

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

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit

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



Follow our World Youth Day pilgrimage from home! 170 young people from Western Sydney and the

Blue Mountains have officially taken off to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal for an experience of a lifetime. Our pilgrimage will travel through some of the most beautiful and sacred parts of Europe and you are invited to follow along from home. We will be posting videos, photos and articles throughout the trip, so you can see and hear what our pilgrims are experiencing. Sign up today by visiting catholicoutlook.info/WYD23News or scanning the QR

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

> The question that will guide the Synod is:

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

#### FaithLIFE—3 night short course on **Synodal Spirituality: Beginning** 22 August

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. But what does that mean as an expression of Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via https:// pfparra.org.au/faithlife/

#### **VINNIES 2023 WINTER APPEAL – HELP END**

#### THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS DEVASTATING OLDER WOMEN

This weekend: 5 & 6 August 2023

Women over 55 are experiencing homelessness at alarming rates. Right now, in Australia, we're experiencing a range of crises: the escalating cost of living, a shortage in affordable housing, gender inequality which negatively impacts women's superannuation savings, and a rise in elder abuse. And, sadly, older women are being hit hardest.

For many older women who are relying on their pension as their only income, they're at a severe disadvantage when competing against double income earners in the rental market.

If they dedicated their lives to raising children, women often have much less in superannuation or savings than men. So if anything goes wrong, they'll have no financial safety net.

Elder abuse is also becoming more common. Many older people become homeless after their relationship with their adult child goes downhill. Sadly, this is likely to happen easily, when an adult child is the main carer for their elderly parent.

Your donation in this winter appeal will help make sure older women in crisis have a safe place to sleep, food, clothing and a chance to rebuild their lives.

Our parish collection will be held during masses this weekend.

We thank you in advance for your generosity.





#### SACRAMENTAL **PROGRAM FIRST EUCHARIST**

Enrolment completed by attendance at Parent Information Evening Tuesday, 8 August 2023 at 4.30pm or 7pm and

Commitment Masses on the weekend of 12 & 13 August

Preparation Sessions 4pm: 20, 27 August and 10 September

stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

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 August		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Anne Kyngdon	Rosa & Tony Carlino	Michelle Eamer Adriana Kennedy	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Steve Fry	Joe Touma	
	READERS	Anne Kyngdon Frederick Kyngdon	Nigel Saunders John Walcott	Karla Quinn Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Fred & Xavier Kyngdon		Luciana Sanchez	Ben Barker
	MUSICIANS				
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerrard
	FLOWERS	Diane Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold
		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Fran & Rocco Scardino	Zakia Touma Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
ıst	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
August	READERS	Justin Sebire Colleen Dunlop	Eileen Sherlock Maria Fry	Sue Martin Sally Coppini	Sandra Bonello Lidia Ceccato
12 & 13	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson Sebire			Grace Bonello
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
	FLOWERS	Diane Bennett		ALTAR LINEN	Sonali Arnold