



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

17th March 2024

5th Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34

Heb 5:7-9

Jn 12:20-30

COMMENTARY: As we enter on the final weeks of Lent, the Lectionary sets before us readings that focus more strictly on the death that Jesus is to undergo in Jerusalem and the meaning of that death for the world. The First Reading, from Jer 31:31-34, features a passage destined to become significant in the New Testament tradition. Faced with the failure of the people in respect to the original Sinai covenant, the prophet Jeremiah records the divine intent to forge a “new covenant” with the house of Israel and Judah. The difference between this covenant and the former one will be that, instead of laws and requirements written on tablets of stone and so imposed on human beings “from outside”, as it were, this will be a covenant “written” deep in people’s hearts. Not only will they know its requirements, they will also have the capacity to observe them willingly in the context of a renewed and intimate relationship with God.

GIFT OF THE SPIRIT: St Paul sees this promise fulfilled in the gift of the Spirit (2 Cor 3:3-6; Rom 8:2). Likewise, the accounts of the institution of the Eucharist, in their Pauline (1 Cor 11:23-25) and Lukan (Luke 22:19-20) form, have Christ say over the cup, “this is ... the new covenant in my blood”. The shedding of Christ’s blood on Calvary inaugurates the “new covenant” of which Jeremiah spoke; believers of subsequent generations re-enact their entry into that new covenant and receive its benefits each time that they fulfil the Lord’s command, “Do this in memory of me”. A tradition running across the New Testament brings out the personal cost to Jesus of undergoing the death he endured to bring us into this new covenant. It does so by portraying a moment of shrinking on his part from going through with it. The most dramatic portrayal of this motif comes in the three Synoptic accounts of Jesus’ agony in the Garden of Gethsemane when he prays for a time to his Father that the “cup” held out before him be removed (Matt 26:36-39; Mark 14:33-36; Luke 22:40-44).

PRECIOUS TRUTH: The short extract from Hebrews (5:7-9) in the Second Reading contains an echo of the same tradition. As a sense of the divinity of Christ increased in the early Church tradition the memory of a very human shrinking from death on his part might well have been suppressed. That it was preserved alongside the growing sense of his status as divine Son of God was doubtless because it enshrined so precious a truth. That Jesus found what was required of him so costly as to lead him to beg that it be removed witnessed to the extremity of his love. Every believer can, then, make their own the words of Paul: “(He) loved me and delivered himself up for me” (Gal 2:20).

In what way did Christ “learn obedience through what he suffered” (Heb 5:8)? The sense of this odd phrase seems to be that it was in his passion that Christ plumbed to the depth what obedience to his mission from the Father involved. Being Son did not shield him from suffering. On the contrary, by going through with his suffering and death he paid the cost of being faithful to who he was precisely as his Father’s Son. The Gospel, John 12:20-33, contains a momentary Johannine echo of the same motif in the Fourth Gospel. Jesus exclaims, “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – ‘Father, save me from this hour?’” (v. 27). What sparks off this reaction in Jesus – and the parable about the grain of wheat that precedes it (v. 24) – is the arrival on the scene of “some Greeks”. The reason that Jesus reacts in this way can be seen from the end of the passage when he says, “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself”, together with the comment of the evangelist, “He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die” (vv. 32-33).

RICH HARVEST: The “Greeks” are the forerunners of all those people from afar (including the Gentile world) whom the love of Jesus, demonstrated supremely upon the cross, will draw to the Father and so to eternal life. The arrival of these Greeks and their desire to “see” Jesus indicates that the “hour” of his death is at hand. Their presence also shows that his dying, like a single grain falling upon the earth, will produce a “rich harvest”, that is, the drawing of all to eternal life. In this way the cross will overthrow the ruinous grip of the “prince of this world” (Satan) upon human life.

We can detect a hint of the mission of the later church as, first Andrew, then Philip, “mediate” the access of these Gentiles to Jesus.

Brendan Byrne, SJ, FAHA, taught New Testament at Jesuit Theological College, Parkville, Vic., for almost forty years. He is now Emeritus Professor at the University of Divinity (Melbourne).

Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, a community of faith and service, strives to be a witness for Christ's love far and wide, reflecting the humility and wisdom of St Madeleine, the Patroness of the parish.

PARISH NEWS



PRAYER AT ST MADS

The Sunday Gospel reflections	Tuesday at 10.30am 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 the 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 9am-3pm or kenthurst@parracatholic.org)



2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

will take place on
Wednesday, 20 March 2024
at 5.30pm and 7pm

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION



Please continue to pray for our children and their families.

There will be a BBQ for children after the 5.30pm Mass this Sunday.

Preparation Sessions: Sundays, 17 March, 7 April and 5 May at 4pm.

2nd Rite of Reconciliation Wednesday, 20 March at 5.30pm and 7pm.

Confirmation will take place on Wednesday, 22 May and Thursday, 23 May at 7pm.

Practice will take place on Sunday, 19 May at 3pm for Wednesday, 22 May and 4pm for Thursday, 23 May

For any queries
stmads.sacraments@gmail.com
Sandra mobile 0410 587 735

Please note enrolment forms for Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be available in May

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 for completion and return to the office.

Thank you for your generosity!

ATTENTION: ALL MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

A Music Ministry practice/meeting for Easter Masses will take place in the Church at 7pm on both Monday, 25 March 2024 for Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday and Tuesday, 26 March 2024 for Good Friday and the Easter Saturday Vigil

For more information or to let us know you're coming along, please contact Selina Calleia on 0416 265 233 or s.calleia@hotmail.com

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,923.65
2nd Collection (for Parish) = Envelopes \$1,164 Loose \$2,184.65

Avg weekly Credit cards, direct debit \$1,864.38

SAFEGUARDING: All volunteers in our parish are required to undertake safeguarding training.

Training has been organised for **Saturday, 11 May 2024** 10am—3pm in the St Madeleine Centre
RSVP kenthurst@parracatholic.org
NOTE: This is for parishioners who have not yet completed safeguarding training

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

Join with the parish Laudato Si' circle as we undertake Stations of the Cross, 7pm Friday 22nd March from the Catholic Climate Movement, lamenting our climate crisis. The theme for Season of Creation this year is To hope and act with Creation, and the symbol is The first fruits of hope, inspired by Romans 8:19-25 The biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom 8:22). Saint Francis of Assisi understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Canticle of Creatures. Along with our Sister, Mother Earth, creatures of all kinds, including humans, cry out because of our destructive actions causing climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, and human suffering as well as Creations suffering. Reconciliation with Creation is part of our Lenten journey.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS



Recently deceased: Vicki Doye

For the dearly departed: Jim Gibbons, Rita Vumbaca, Vincenzina Americano, Angelo & Lonza Farrugia, Sam & Joe Farrugia, Mary Fitzpatrick, Ky Frendo, Geoff Burcham, Benito Sabellano, Anton Hasham, Samira Hasham, Jennifer Hasham, John Nati, Giuseppina Murdocca, Eugenio Loccisano, Rita Franceschina, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Maria Giuseppina Panetta, Frank Agresta, Adalgisa Verteramo, Maria Lisciotto, Ermenegildo Lisciotto

Please pray for the sick: Geoffrey Bolland, Miriam & Vansen Tsueng, William Chapman, Rocco Scardino, Kia Benete, Nathan Luezzi, Greg Lambert, David Tierney, Dawn Phillips, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Henry Field, Aura Krakowszky, 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 in the foyer of the Church or email the office kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud
Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chacal
Baptism Preparation: Angelique Easton
RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

SRE Coordinator: Maureen Jones
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
Safeguarding Champion: Brendan Ford

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Rev Giovanni Presiga

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, 10:00am, 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

9.15am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00pm

Baptisms: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday
at 11:30am

(Must make a booking)

Weddings: By appointment

St Mad's Women's Breakfast

Come and join us to explore the
concept of "I was in prison, and you came to
visit me."

We welcome Lee Downes who has had a long
career in the NSW Corrective
Services, is an investigator and a
consultant in correctional management and
operations.

16 March, 8.30 – 10am

St Madeleine Centre

Sign in at back of church or call

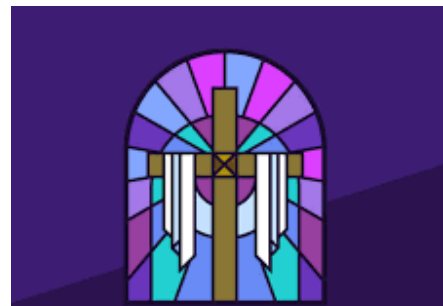
Sue

0432716577

Carmel

0417237013

St Mad's Lenten Retreat



23 March 2024

St Madeleine Centre

9am for 9.30 am start

to 12.30pm

Info: Careyanne

0438791813

Join us for **renewal, reflection, healing,**
transformation, prayer, adoration
community, belonging.
Sign on sheet in church.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Our Lady of the Rosary
8 Diana Avenue, KELLYVILLE

Sunday 7 April, 2024

beginning 1pm

- ✦ Relic of St Faustina
- ✦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- ✦ Divine Mercy Novena
- ✦ Divine Mercy Chaplet
- ✦ Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Holy Mass 3:00pm

Celebrant: Mons. Cezar Echano

Images, banners & statues
welcome

- Confessions
- Veneration of the Relic after Mass.
- Religious items will be on sale.
- Enquiries:
Steve Boland on 0405 206 695

NOVENA OF MERCY

Good Friday, 29 March to
Saturday, 6 April

St Faustina's Relic resides
permanently at
Our Lady of the Rosary
Kellyville

JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

St Joseph

Feast Day: 19 March



The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a "just" man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God "justifying" someone, it means that God, the all-holy or "righteous" one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really "right" for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not. By saying Joseph was "just," the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage. It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this "quietly" because he was "a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame" (Matthew 1:19). The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage.

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

St Benedict's Country Fete

Sunday 7 April 2024

10am to 3pm

2 FAGANS ROAD ARCADIA PH: 9653 2312

Trash & Treasure - Chocolate Wheel - BBQ
Devonshire Tea - Coffee - Cakes
Flowers & Plants - Rides and lots more...

PLAYGROUP: We have craft activities organised with Bunnings for our **Playgroup on Thursday, 4 April at 9.30am** - in the St Madeleine Centre. All parents and carers are welcome with their little ones

RSVP kenthurst@parracatholic.org

Please contact the parish office if you are sick
and would like to organise a home visit
by Fr Giovanni



Lenten Programme 2024

Join us as we pray together to help us be renewed and prepare for Easter. Join us Tuesday nights, one or all six, at 7pm in the St Madeleine Centre. Meet new people and renew friendships.
Careyanne 0438791813

Lent is a time to focus on prayer, to open our hearts and minds to God who loves us. YOU are invited to experience God's Peace and Love by slowing down and reflecting in a small group each week. **EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 10 am** In the St Madeleine Centre

St Madeleine Sophie's Daily Prayer

Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Give me a heart that is one with your own;
A humble heart that knows
and loves its nothingness;
A gentle heart that holds and
calms its own anxiety;
A loving heart that has compassion
for the suffering of others;
A pure heart that recoils even at the
appearance of evil; A detached heart that
longs for nothing other than
the goodness of heaven;
A heart detached from self-love and
embraced by the love of God,
its attention focused on God, its goodness its
only treasure in time and in eternity



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16 & 17 March		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott	Teresa Capaldi	Sacramental Team
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Steve Fry		
	READERS	Pat Waters Robert Gerometta	Catherine Diekman Eileen Sherlock	Rosana Ceroli Adriana Kennedy	Sacramental Team
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima, Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick		Grace, Luciana & Lily-Anne	Madison
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca Raad			
	COUNTERS	Corrie Sebire & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sandra Bonello
FLOWERS	Lent		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry	
23 & 24 March		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS	Corrie Sebire	Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Justin Sebire Pat Waters	Maria Baldi Maria Fry	Sandra Tabone	Trish Maidens
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson and Sophe C		Aaliyah, Samuel	Sophia B, Charlyze & Oliver
	MUSICIANS		Joan Sattler		
	COUNTERS	Sonali Arnold & Tony Hooper		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Sally Coppini
FLOWERS	Lent		ALTAR LINEN	Maria Fry	