



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



28 ANNANGROVE RD, KENTHURST NSW 2156
(P) 9654 2260
(E) KENTHURST@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG OR
STMADS@YAHOO.COM.AU
(W) WWW.STMADELEINE.ORG.AU
OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRI, 9AM - 4PM

31st March 2024

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Col 3:1-4

John 20:1-9

COMMENTARY: The scripture readings set out for the Easter Sunday Mass remain unvaried across the three-year cycle – though an alternative, 1 Cor 5:6-8, is given for the second reading. It is somewhat odd that, unless one takes the option of reading at Evening Mass the appearance of the risen Lord on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), neither the Easter Vigil Gospel nor that of Easter Sunday describes an appearance of the risen Lord. We simply hear about the disciples' discovery that the tomb of Jesus was empty. The scene from the Fourth Gospel, John 20:1-9, set out for the Gospel, joins the Synoptic tradition in associating Mary Magdalene with this at first very dismaying fact. Later, of course, she will meet the risen Lord. Now, following her discovery that the tomb is empty, she comes running to Simon Peter and 'the other disciple' (the significant figure the Fourth Gospel calls 'the disciple whom Jesus loved', identified in later Christian tradition with John, the son of Zebedee). Mary's running and her plaintive cry, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him', attest the anguish of continuing love and loss. The inference – Johannine irony at its best – is that some human agency (the gardener, the authorities, grave-robbers) have worked this final indignity on the Lord; even in death his body is to have no peace. So we are left with this tremendous sense of emptiness and loss.

ANXIOUS LOVE: At Mary's report, Peter and the other disciple likewise set out on a 'race' of anxious love. By having the other disciple beat Peter in the race and arrive first, the evangelist sets the scene for a significant distinction concerning what is to be seen in the tomb. Though he arrives first, the disciple does not enter the tomb immediately. Instead he bends down and sees the linen cloths in which Jesus' body had been wrapped lying on the ground. Peter goes in and, once inside, sees something else as well: not only the linen cloths but also the cloth (corresponding to what we would call a 'handkerchief') that covered his face, rolled up neatly in a place by itself. What, if anything, Peter deduces from this arrangement of the grave cloths we do not know. But when the 'disciple whom Jesus loved' eventually enters the tomb and sees the complete scene, the neatly rolled-up face cloth functions for him as a sign. It realises that the absence of Jesus' body was not due to human agency – robbers do not fold up neatly what they leave behind – but to a majestic, divine resumption of life. The One who had called himself 'the Resurrection and the Life' (11:25) has fulfilled his claim to have the power to lay down his life and likewise to take it up again (10:18). As the evangelist comments, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'. He did not see the risen Jesus – as later Mary Magdalene, Peter, the other apostles and eventually Thomas, would see him – but he saw enough to make him recall the scriptural prophecy that the Messiah would rise from the dead. In this way, before all the others, he came to faith in the resurrection.

A STAND IN FOR ALL OF US: The unnamed 'disciple whom Jesus loved' stands in there for all of us – believers of subsequent generations. Unlike Mary Magdalene, Peter and the insistent Thomas, we do not actually see (or feel or touch) the risen Lord. And yet, like that beloved disciple, we believe. We can see emptiness and absence not as failure and loss but as mysterious evidence of the divine power to bring life out of death, to call back into being 'things that are not' (Rom 4:17 [faith of Abraham]). In this respect, perhaps, there is something appropriate in the Gospel readings for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday not recording an appearance of the risen Lord. They draw from us a faith that in the Gospel for next Sunday Jesus will pronounce more 'blessed' in his words to Thomas: 'You (Thomas) believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe' (John 20:29). The First Reading (Acts 10:34, 37-43) gives an account of the sermon Peter preached in the house of the pious Roman centurion Cornelius. It provides a neat summary of the essential Gospel, which the four canonical Gospels expand. The Gospel reaches out to embrace the Gentile world, previously considered 'unclean'; its inherent power to reconcile overcomes the alienation of that world from God. In the Second Reading (Col 3:1-4) Paul reminds his audience that even now they share, in a hidden way, in the risen life of their Lord. Keeping constantly in mind the thought of his triumph over sin and death should light their present path with hope and joy.

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)



A Big Thanks to ~

The Catechists who prepared the palms

The facilitator of the Lenten Reflection and for organising the focus on the altar of the weekends: Careyanne Moylan

Maureen Jones and team for decorating the Altar on Holy Thursday

The volunteers who prepared the garden of Gethsemane for Holy Thursday

The musicians and choir members: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler, Alexandra Mifsud, Merle Fonseca, Doug Gerke, Rebecca Raad and all the singers and musicians

RCIA Coordinator: Steve Fry

The readers, ministers of the altar, collectors, welcomers

Supplier of the plants for the garden of Gethsemane: Shane Hunter

Sponsor of the flowers: Cosmo Murdocca

Thank you to Yolanda from the Easter Egg Warehouse in Castle Hill for donating the delicious Easter eggs for the children

Allan Drew Funerals for sponsoring our Paschal Candle

The Parish team and everyone else who helped us during the season of Lent and especially during Holy Week.

To everyone in the community for your active participation in the Lenten services in our parish.

God bless
Fr Giovanni

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION



Please continue to pray for our children and their families

Preparation Sessions: Sundays, 7 April and 5 May at 4pm. There will be a BBQ for children after the 5.30pm Mass on these dates.

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

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

From Parramatta Diocese Catholic Outlook from Rev Dr Patrick McNerney Columban priest, Director of the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations -Letter to my Muslim and Jewish Sisters and Brothers in Australia. "I pray that the God of Abraham—whose universal love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation we will all soon variously celebrate at Easter, Passover, and Eid—may bring peace and friendship to all the children of Abraham.". Jesuit Ignatian Spirituality Australia is holding an online spirituality conference 5th – 9th May called 'Song of the Senses' using Ignatian body prayer and imaginative contemplation.

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 : 0000388

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!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$2,104.50
2nd Collection (for Parish) =
Envelopes \$1,228 Loose \$1,771.40

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS



For the dearly departed: Maria Giuseppina Panetta, Blanche Melba Cardoza, Dan Doyle, Martin Mileto, James Peter Quinn, Norman & Chahida Hajje Sheaddy, George & Chahide Hajje, Betty & Mary Merhi, Hanna & Raymond Chiha, the Abraham Family, Vicki Doye, June Brennen, Erminia Vumbaca

Please pray for the sick: Pat Brush, Bob Burke, Felicity Rafferty-Davis, 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 Vincent Ferrer

Feast Day: 5 April

St. Vincent Ferrer is the patron saint of builders because of his fame for "building up" and strengthening the Church: through his preaching, missionary work, in his teachings, as confessor and adviser. At Valencia in Spain, this illustrious son of St. Dominic came into the world on January 23, 1357. In the year 1374, he entered the Order of St. Dominic in a monastery near his native city. Soon after his profession he was commissioned to deliver lectures on philosophy. On being sent to Barcelona, he continued his scholastic duties and at the same time devoted himself to preaching. At Lerida, the famous university city of Catalonia, he received his doctorate. After this he labored six years in Valencia, during which time he perfected himself in the Christian life. In 1390, he was obliged to accompany Cardinal Pedro de Luna to France, but he soon returned home. When, in 1394, de Luna himself had become Pope at Avignon he summoned St. Vincent and made him Master of the sacred palace. In this capacity St. Vincent made unsuccessful efforts to put an end to the great schism. He refused all ecclesiastical dignities, even the cardinal's hat, and only craved to be appointed apostolical missionary. Now began those labors that made him the famous missionary of the fourteenth century. He evangelized nearly every province of Spain, and preached in France, Italy, Germany, Flanders, England, Scotland, and Ireland. Numerous conversions followed his preaching, which God Himself assisted by the gift of miracles. Though the Church was then divided by the great schism, the saint was honorably received in the districts subject to the two claimants to the Papacy. He was even invited to Mohammedan Granada, where he preached the gospel with much success. He lived to behold the end of the great schism and the election of Pope Martin V. Finally, crowned with labors, he died April 5, 1419.

<https://www.catholic.org/saints>



EASTER/AUTUMN 2024 CATHOLIC

OUTLOOK MAGAZINE OUT NOW!

The Easter | Autumn 2024 edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now! This edition invites us to practise silence, deepen our interior lives and pray for a Gospel change of heart, how our communities celebrate Easter, seminarians preparing to 'go out into the deep', a handy Holy Week Mass Times guide, plus so much more. Pick up your free copy from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

SYNOD 2023 UPDATE: DECREE ISSUED AND DEVELOPMENT OF DIOCESAN PLAN BEGINS

In January, the Synodal Decree from our inaugural Diocesan Synod was issued, enabling us to move forward in the development of a Diocesan Plan. Join us in the next phase of our journey, as we discern a new path forward for our local Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. The Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church will launch at the Diocesan Gathering on Saturday 10 August. Learn more at parracatholic.org/synod

FREE ONLINE FORMATION ON SYNODAL

SPIRITUALITY: Dive into 'Synodal Spirituality' with this FREE online short formation course, taught by Sr Patty Andrew OSU. Part of the FaithLIFE series hosted by the Mission Enhancement Team, the course offers an exploration of communal discernment, active engagement, and creative faith responses to challenges in the mission of the Church today. Enrol now and take part in Pope Francis's vision for a synodal Church: <https://pffarra.thinkific.com/courses/synodal-spirituality/>

MET FAITHLIFE THEOLOGY SHORT COURSE:

FROM 16 APRIL Considering learning about theology? Wanting to expand your language for expressing your faith? Seeking ways to deepen the way you put your faith into practice? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Dr John Collins on Tuesdays 16 + 23 + 30 April! Registration and more dates get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE IN 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called SmartLoving can also be booked via the website. For more information email marriage@parracatholic.org or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

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

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

2024 DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA HOLY WEEK

MASS TIMES

Holy Week Mass and Reconciliation Times from parishes across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are available now on our Diocesan website (www.parracatholic.org) and on Catholic Outlook (www.catholicoutlook.org). Let us embrace the hope, love and joy that this season brings.

We are pleased to be able to share Bishop Vincent's EASTER MESSAGE for 2024

It can be viewed online at <https://youtu.be/3ghTzBEYqQA>

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 - PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE - Thursday, 11 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



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30 & 31 March		5:30PM EASTER VIGIL	8AM EASTER SUNDAY	10AM EASTER SUNDAY	5.30PM EASTER SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maureen & Rick Jones	Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington Heidi Bou-Harb	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Justin Sebire, Pat Waters, Anne Kyngdon	Margaret M Alicia Shaw	Sandra Tabone	Trish Maidens
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson, Fred & Xavier, Sophia B, Charlyze		Madison, Max & Elsie	
	MUSICIANS	Merle & Doug	Joan	Rebecca	
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	No Children's Liturgy
FLOWERS	Cosmo Murdocca		ALTAR LINEN	Catherine Diekman	
6 & 7 April		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	Piety Rocha		
	READERS	Anne Kyngdon Justin Kyngdon	John Walcott Nigel Saunders	Sandra Bonello Roslyn Earl	Jan Schroder Gael Carpani
	JNR MINISTERS	Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick			
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca			
	COUNTERS	Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Lisa Gerard
FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Catherine Diekman	