



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

14th April 2024

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

1 Jn 2:1-5

Lk 24:35-48

COMMENTARY: One of the attractive features of St Luke's presentation of God's saving action is that people get a 'second chance.' An initial rejection of the message need not be final. This is made clear in the early chapters of Acts where, after Pentecost, the Apostles appeal to the Jewish leadership that had actually brought about the death of Jesus by handing him over to Pilate.

The language in which we hear this appeal in the First Reading, from Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, is uncompromising and, readers sensitive, as all should be, to Jewish-Christian relations, will perhaps flinch at the bluntness with which it recalls the story. Peter makes the point, though, that the leadership acted in 'ignorance,' not knowing what was really at stake. More significantly still, a correct reading of the Scriptures shows that their very act of rejection was already foreseen by God and destined to be woven into a wider pattern of salvation.

PATTERN OF SALVATION: Few Jews then and even fewer in subsequent generations have seen things this way. We should not read the text as an appeal to them now. But we can perhaps draw comfort from it in regard to our own failures and sinfulness and all that we regret about our lives. So often it is only much later that we realise the full consequences of wrongdoing on our part. Nothing, however, is too great a challenge for God's power to draw such things into a wider pattern of salvation far outstripping our own understanding.

The Second Reading, 1 John 2.1-5, again confronts us with the somewhat roundabout logic of this letter from the Johannine community. Much of its concern revolves around the claim to 'know God.' Some people – those of a Gnostic disposition – were obviously claiming to have a saving knowledge of God without that knowledge being reflected in the conduct of their lives. The writer insists that keeping the commandments, above all that of love (John 14:15, 21; 15:10), is the only sure test of real intimacy with God. The last sentence is very attractive: 'When anyone does obey ... God's love has come to perfection in (that person).' The statement reflects a clear sense of the divine initiative: the love of God has reached out to that person and enveloped their whole being. It has 'come to perfection' in the sense of going on to activate their own capacity to love – in regard to both God and fellow members of the community.

MEET THE RISEN LORD: The Gospel, Luke 24:35-48, takes us to the penultimate scene of Luke's account of Jesus' risen life (just before his departure from the earth at Bethany). It is Easter Sunday evening. The two disciples who have encountered the risen Lord on their journey to Emmaus have returned and shared their marvellous story. Now the disciples who have remained in Jerusalem are to meet the risen Lord themselves.

In the way typical of the resurrection appearances across all four Gospels, the risen Lord meets the disciples exactly where they are emotionally: fearful, agitated, slow to believe, thinking that what they are seeing is a ghost. Jesus takes considerable pains to overcome their disbelief by making clear the full physical reality of his presence. He urges them to see and touch him, and eats a piece of fish before their eyes (vv. 38-42). Luke dramatises here – perhaps in an overly realistic way – what Paul also insists upon, writing to the Corinthians (1 Cor 15:35-49): you cannot believe in the resurrection without believing that it involved – both for Jesus and for believers after him – full bodily existence.

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)



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

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on **Saturday 27 April at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains**, for Modules 4 and 5. More training opportunities will be available throughout May. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

FRIENDS OF ST MADELEINE'S: Please join us every second Friday in the St Madeleine Centre for a casual morning tea. Perhaps meet up with some old friends - or make some new ones. Everyone is welcome. Our first get together will be **Friday, 3 May at 10am** If you would like to come but require transport please contact the parish office on 9654 2260

CHOSEN RESUMES ON TUESDAY, 30TH APRIL AT 7PM - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 6 IN THE ST MADELEINE CENTRE
Never too late to join us
Enjoy watching with fellow parishioners
Everyone is welcome



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION



Please continue to pray for our children and their families

Our last preparation session will be on 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 Sandra mobile 0410 587 735 stmads.sacraments@gmail.com

Enrolment forms for Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be available in May

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

As we prepare for Laudato Si' week 19-26th May will share a reflection each week. This week please pray for our living planet - "Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect" LS #42 Jesus call that we "love our neighbour" is an invitation to cherish all of creation. Can you take time to appreciate your garden or a local park? Caritas Australia has launched a campaign "Act now for a safer world for all."

Please sign the petition at www.saferworld.org.au There is power in everyday Australians unifying their voices to inspire our leaders to take bold action.

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!

LAST WEEK'S EASTER COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$ 1,314.15
2nd Collection (for Parish) = Envelopes \$1053 Loose \$882.60

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS



For the dearly departed: Marlon

Alumios, Paul Cascun, Vickie Rose Camilleri, Joe Fuda, Mary Cumbo, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Joseph Tallon, Joseph & Louise Bonello, Maria Giuseppina Panetta, Blanche Melba Cardoza, Dan Doyle, Martin Mileto, James Peter Quinn

Please pray for the sick: Paul Refalo, 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

*Congratulations to
Chelsea & Edward
on their wedding*



Stay in touch through our
parish Facebook page:
[https://www.facebook.com/
stmadeleines](https://www.facebook.com/stmadeleines)

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL WILL TAKE PLACE IN THIS PARISH
ON THE WEEKEND OF 20 & 21 APRIL**

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

CCD FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES: May and June 2024 SRE catechists and all members of our faith communities are invited to participate in a series of formation opportunities organised by the Diocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Delve into St John's Gospel with a scripture expert, Dr Laurie Woods, over 5 weeks on 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 May. Continue your Journey of Faith for 5 weeks with Marilyn Hancock (Head, CCD) on 7, 14, 21, 28 June and 5 July. All sessions will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 9.30am to 1.30pm. For SRE Catechists to be accredited with Level 3 training, they must attend both sessions. Morning Tea will be provided. Enrol for one or both sessions via parracatholic.org/events or email ccd.training@parracatholic.org

DIOCESAN PENTECOST SCRIPTURE REFLECTION EVENING: 15 MAY What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Michele Connolly rsj on Wednesday 15 May 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES 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

cont'd rites of the Church and allowed to profess her vows. She recovered enough to become infirmarian and then sacristan, but chronic health problems persisted. She died on April 16, 1879, at the age of 35. Bernadette Soubirous was canonized in 1933.

Reflection: Millions of people have come to the spring Bernadette uncovered for healing of body and spirit, but she found no relief from ill health there. Bernadette moved through life, guided only by blind faith in things she did not understand—as we all must do from time to time.

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

St Bernadette

Feast Day: 16 April



Bernadette Soubirous was born in 1844, the first child of an extremely poor miller in the town of Lourdes in southern France. The family was living in the basement of a dilapidated building when on February 11, 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette in a cave above the banks of the Gave River near Lourdes. Bernadette, 14 years old, was not known as a virtuous girl though a dull student who had not even made her first Holy Communion. In poor health, she had suffered from asthma from an early age. There were 18 appearances in all, the final one occurring on the feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, July 16. Although Bernadette's initial reports provoked skepticism, her daily visions of "the Lady" brought great crowds of the curious. The Lady, Bernadette explained, had instructed her to have a chapel built on the spot of the visions. There, the people were to come to wash in and drink of the water of the spring that had welled up from the very spot where Bernadette had been instructed to dig. According to Bernadette, the Lady of her visions was a girl of 16 or 17 who wore a white robe with a blue sash. Yellow roses covered her feet, a large rosary was on her right arm. In the vision on March 25 she told Bernadette, "I am the Immaculate Conception." It was only when the words were explained to her that Bernadette came to realize who the Lady was. Few visions have ever undergone the scrutiny that these appearances of the Immaculate Virgin were subject to. Lourdes became one of the most popular Marian shrines in the world, attracting millions of visitors. Miracles were reported at the shrine and in the waters of the spring. After thorough investigation, Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions in 1862. During her life, Bernadette suffered much. She was hounded by the public as well as by civic officials until at last she was protected in a convent of nuns. Five years later, she petitioned to enter the Sisters of Notre Dame of Nevers. After a period of illness she was able to make the journey from Lourdes and enter the novitiate. But within four months of her arrival she was given the last *cont'd*



ST MADELEINE'S PLAYGROUP
St Madeleine's Centre
28 Annangrove Road, KENTHURST

- Every Thursday during school term, from 9.30am
- Play and activities for children 0-6 years old.



- Mums, Dads, Carers and Grandparents are all welcome!
- Bring a healthy morning tea and a hat for play.
- For more information, please contact Sarah - 0405 514 624 or Amy - aseychell3@parra.catholic.edu.au

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

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



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13 & 14 April		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Fran & Rocco Scardino	Sandra Tabone	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Dianne Millington	Piety Rocha	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Heidi Bou-Harb Robert Gerometta	Catherine Diekman Eileen Sherlock	Sandra Tabone David Hall O'Dwyer	Lidia Ceccato Joanna O'Neill
	JNR MINISTERS	Kerstin Grima			
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca	Joan	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Corrie Sebire & Sandra Tabone		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino
20 & 21 April		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5:30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Maria & Steve Fry Carol & Terry Scott		Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou Harb	Piety Rocha		
	READERS	Colleen Dunlop Pat Waters	Nigel Saunders Maria Fry	Sandra Bonello Karla Quinn	Jacqui Nisbet Tereza Barisic
	JNR MINISTERS	Jacinta, Amelia & Roderick			
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca			
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Tony Hooper		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino