



St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish



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

21st April 2024

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12

1 Jn 3:1-2

Jn 10:11-18

COMMENTARY: We continue our journey through Eastertide, experiencing the joy of the Risen Lord. This fourth Sunday of Easter traditionally features Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and is also kept annually as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In the First Reading, Peter explains that the miracle he has been able to perform came not from him, but from the name of Jesus Christ, the keystone rejected by the builders. The Psalm, normally sung by pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem, is a thanksgiving prayer from someone who has been rescued from an ordeal. It uses the same cornerstone image as the First Reading. Like Peter, the psalmist acknowledges the Lord as his Saviour. The writer of the Second Reading stresses that we are God's children. Although we might find the path difficult, and feel unsure of what the future holds, we will be transformed into God's likeness when we meet him. In the Gospel, Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd, who is prepared to lay down his life for us; he knows us intimately and wants to bring everyone into his fold. On this Day of Prayer for Vocations, we might pray that everyone should be willing and able to fulfil their own vocation. We continue to pray for war-torn countries, that they will find a Good Shepherd to guide them out of conflict.

SECOND READING - 1 JOHN 3: 1-2 - Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

REFLECTION: I settle down to pray in a place which I find comfortable, or wherever I can spend some time undisturbed. I reflect on my mood just now. Am I looking forward to this time with the Lord, or am I driven by a sense of 'must' or 'ought'? However I feel, I am here now, and I trust the Lord will be with me, whether I am aware of it or not. After a couple of long breaths, I start reading St John's words. Maybe the text is like an old friend, or perhaps it has always puzzled me. 'What are you going to tell me today Lord?' I pause, and ponder. If I find difficult to pray the text as it stands, I may want to make it personal to me and put it in the first person: 'Think of the love that the Father has lavished on me, by letting me be called God's child; and that is what I am.' I stay with this awhile. What happens? In what way has the meaning of the text changed for me? Perhaps I recall instances where the love of God has been lavished on me and on my loved ones, and eased a difficult situation. I might want to express my thanks and gratitude now. Life as a follower of Christ is not always easy. I may have had to make uncomfortable, counter-cultural choices. I speak to the Lord about these situations. What happens as I listen to him? What the future holds is not yet clear. How much does this bother me? As my prayer comes to an end, I may like to ask for greater trust. Glory be to the Father . . .

GOSPEL - JOHN 10: 11-18 - Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

REFLECTION: Before starting to pray, I seek to come to quiet in whatever way works best for me. Perhaps I have my Bible, a cross or a well-loved picture near me. I take a few deep breaths. I then read the text slowly, stopping when I feel I need to reflect on its meaning. I may need to do this several times. How does the image of Jesus as shepherd, and myself as one of his sheep, resonate with me? Perhaps I spend some time reflecting on the qualities needed to be a Good Shepherd: a shepherd who defends his charges, and defends me. I may want to express my gratitude to the Lord, who will not abandon me when I need his protection and help. How do I feel when I realise Jesus the Good Shepherd knows me intimately, just as I am. Do I find this comforting . . . threatening . . . or . . .? Jesus is concerned for everyone, even if they are not of this fold. I ponder. How do I behave towards Christians who are not in full communion with my own church? Do I share Jesus's yearning for unity? Finally, I may want to spend a few moments considering Jesus laying down his life of his own free will for me, and taking it up again. I speak to him openly about what arises in me. When I am ready, I thank the Lord for being with me today in my prayer.

PARISH NEWS



PRAYER AT ST MAD'S

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

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>

Brendan Ford ~ Safeguarding Champion
Mob 0448 683 146

MUSIC MINISTRY PRACTICE

FOR MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

on new Mass Setting "Mass Shalom"

Date: **Monday, 22 April 2024**

Time: **7pm**

In the Church

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



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

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S

Was a wonderful gathering at Baabayn for the young mum's book "Why are our Children Proud to be Aboriginal" on Tuesday. Lots of yarning, dancing, weaving. Hills Yarning started a weaving group getting ready for The Hills Council event in July, all are welcome to attend. Getting ready for Laudato Si' week in May, this week we consider Our Water, "Access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right" LS #30 We respond in Australia, water must be treated as a scarce and precious resource. How can you embed water-saving practices at your place? The Parramatta Diocesan Synod Public Think Tank Sessions have been announced going for three weeks starting May 1st is theme 1 Inclusive & Welcoming. May 8th is theme 2 Humble & Healing Church and May 15th is theme 3 Listening Church. Lots our social justice voice can share in the Think Tank sessions all are welcome visit the Synod website for more information.



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

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 EASTER COLLECTIONS:

1st Collection (for Diocese) = \$1,390.25
2nd Collection (for Parish) =
Envelopes \$942.30 Loose \$1,200.15

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS



For the dearly departed: Ben & Paula Dieudonne, Adelaide & Davide Baldi, Jack Schelazi, Felicity Davis Rafferty, Marlon Alumios, Paul Cascun, Vickie Rose Camilleri, Joe Fuda, Mary Cumbo, Anthony, Rose & Lawrence Apap, Joseph Tallon, Joseph & Louise Bonello

Please pray for the sick: Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel, 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 Krakowsky, 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
Fabiola & Cameron
on their wedding*



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parish Facebook page:
[https://www.facebook.com/
stmadeleines](https://www.facebook.com/stmadeleines)

A SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL WILL TAKE PLACE THIS WEEKEND

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://pfarra.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 "Now a young man followed him wearing nothing but a linen cloth about his body. They seized him, but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked" (Mark 14:51-52). Others hold Mark to be the first bishop of Alexandria, Egypt. Venice, famous for the Piazza San Marco, claims Mark as its patron saint; the large basilica there is believed to contain his remains. A winged lion is Mark's symbol. The lion derives from Mark's description of John the Baptist as a "voice of one crying out in the desert" (Mark 1:3), which artists compared to a roaring lion. The wings come from the application of Ezekiel's vision of four winged creatures to the evangelists.

Reflection: *Mark fulfilled in his life what every Christian is called to do: proclaim to all people the Good News that is the source of salvation. In particular, Mark's way was by writing. Others may proclaim the Good News by music, drama, poetry, or by teaching children around a family table.*

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

St Mark

Feast Day: 25 April



Most of what we know about Mark comes directly from the New Testament. He is usually identified with the Mark of Acts 12:12. When Saint Peter escaped from prison, he went to the home of Mark's mother. Paul and Barnabas took him along on the first missionary journey, but for some reason Mark returned alone to Jerusalem. It is evident, from Paul's refusal to let Mark accompany him on the second journey despite Barnabas's insistence, that Mark had displeased Paul. Because Paul later asks Mark to visit him in prison, we may assume the trouble did not last long. The oldest and the shortest of the four Gospels, the Gospel of Mark emphasizes Jesus's rejection by humanity while being God's triumphant envoy. Probably written for gentile converts in Rome—after the death of Peter and Paul sometime between A.D. 60 and 70—Mark's Gospel is the gradual manifestation of a "scandal": a crucified Messiah. Evidently a friend of Mark—calling him "my son"—Peter is only one of this Gospel's sources, others being the Church in Jerusalem (Jewish roots), and the Church at Antioch (largely Gentile). Like another Gospel writer Luke, Mark was not one of the 12 apostles. We cannot be certain whether he knew Jesus personally. Some scholars feel that the evangelist is speaking of himself when describing the arrest of Jesus in Gethsemane *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**



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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		Grace	Madison, Oliver
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca			
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Corrie Sebire		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Nick Ceroli		ALTAR LINEN	Rosa Carlino
27 & 28 April		5:30PM VIGIL	8AM SUNDAY	10AM SUNDAY	5.30PM SUNDAY
	WELCOMERS		Brendan Ford Carmel & Mike O'Connell	Teresa Capaldi	Joseph Spina
	MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR	Heidi Bou-Harb	Steve Fry	Phillys Hannah	
	READERS	Heidi Bou-Harb Pat Waters	Margaret Mieczkowski Tony Hooper	Adriana Kennedy Sally Coppini	Trish Maidens Patrick Tuttle
	JNR MINISTERS	Emerson and Kerstin	Grace	Aaliyah, Lily-Anne	
	MUSICIANS	Rebecca	Joan	Merle & Doug	
	COUNTERS	Paul Vella & Parish Team		CHILDREN'S LITURGY	School Holidays
	FLOWERS	Wedding		ALTAR LINEN	Marian Piper