

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish

28 ANNANGROVE RD KENTHURST NSW 2156 (P) 9654 2260 (E) kenthurst@parracatholic.org (W) www.stmadeleine.org.au Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9am - 3pm Wednesday 9am - 2pm

23 February 2025 | 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Be merciful as your Father is merciful

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23, 1 Cor 15:45-49, Lk 6:27-38

GOSPEL: Luke 6: 27–38 At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

COMMENTARY: The readings this week encourage us to be compassionate, towards ourselves, towards others, and in all that we do. In the First Reading, we see how David does not give way to revenge when he finds Saul asleep, vulnerable and under his power. David has a choice, and acts with loyalty and restraint. Saul has persecuted him, but David now spares his life because Saul is the Lord's anointed one. The Psalm is a song of praise, describing with gratitude God's own compassion and love towards all of his children. St Paul (Second Reading) teaches us that although we are earthly by nature, by modelling ourselves on Christ, the second Adam, we receive his life-giving spirit. All the readings prepare us for Jesus' challenging teaching in the Gospel. Jesus encourages us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hurt us, to lend without expecting a reward, to love without counting the cost. This is the way Jesus and his Father love us. As we ponder these texts as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we may wish to pray particularly for a spirit of reconciliation and forgiveness in our own lives, our communities, our country, and in all the situations of war, strife, injustice and suffering in our world.

REFLECTION I come to my place of prayer and take the time to settle, relax and become aware of being in God's presence. When it seems appropriate, I take up today's Gospel text and read it slowly. I may imagine myself sitting with the large crowd, hearing Jesus's words for the first time. Perhaps this demanding teaching is new to me, and I can hear mutterings around me. What do I find most startling? I consider my life, and what particularly challenges me – at home, at work, in my relationships with others? I ponder this and speak to the Lord. In what ways do I see his words offering freedom rather than being a burden? How can I respond? Maybe I find myself in what seems an impossible situation. I turn to the Father asking him to be merciful to me, and to give me the grace to be forgiving and compassionate. I end my prayer thanking the Father for all the goodness I have received, and praying that his love will permeate the world.

St Beuno's Outreach, Diocese of Wrexham

www.australiancatholics.com.au

PARISH VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Music Coordinators: Selina Calleia, Joan Sattler & Alexandra Mifsud Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Pauline Chaccal 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: Sally Coppini Finance Committee Chair: Carl Mathias Safeguarding Champion: Brendan Ford

Rev Giovani Presiga Assistant Priest To one who

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 Catholic College Phone: 9654 6700 Acting Principal: Ms Melinda Breakspear

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



Inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit and the Gospel, St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish,

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

BAPTISM OF PRIMARY CHILDREN

We have 13 children being prepared for Baptism on Saturday 1 March with baptism taking place on Sunday, 9 March.

Please keep our children and their families in your prayers.

RECONCILIATION Enrolment forms now available www.stmadeleine.org.au

All documents to be hand delivered to the parish office by Tues 4 March. Please do not email documents. Parent Information evening Tuesday, 11 March. Commitment Masses 15 & 16 March. Preparation Sessions Thursdays, 20 & 27 March and 3 April at 7pm. 2nd Rite of Reconciliation Wed 9 April 2025

FIRST EUCHARIST

Enrolment forms will be available in April and are due on Tues, 6 May 2025. Parent Information Evening Tuesday, 13 May. Commitment Mass 17 & 18 May. Preparation Sessions Thursdays 22 & 29 May and 5 June. Holy Communion Masses 15 and 22 June 12noon.

CONFIRMATION

Enrolment form available in June.

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

PRAYER AT ST MADS

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS



Tuesday at 10.30am via Zoom. Contact Careyanne 0438 791 813 or <u>careyannemoylan@hotmail.com</u>

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ST MAD'S BOOK CLUB

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



RCIA For enquires contact the Parish Office

To register contact Careyanne on careyannemoylan@hotmail.com



ST MADS ROSARY Thursday after morning Mass Monday Rosary Via Zoom Contact 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 kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PARISH NEWS

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST MAD'S Getting ready for Lent starting March 5th we have World Day of Prayer at Dural Salvo's on Friday March 7th, Clean Up Australia day Sunday March 2nd and our Parish Breakfast Saturday March 15th, looking forward to hearing James Atanasius story. It was a privilege to be invited by the Faith in Action coordinator at St Madeleine's Primary School Emma Sidoti to the opening of the Yarning Circle newly commissioned at St Madeleine's. Uncle Shane a Darug elder performed the smoking ceremony a beautiful way to welcome all into the space. A place of yarning and reflecting.

We are invited to Marian College on March 17th as they are visited by Kinchela Boys Home who will be giving a truth telling session.

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

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

For the dearly departed: Karen Bartolo, Frank Bucceri, Sr Maria Eufemia Buhagiar, Ramon Preller, John Spencer, Michael Bourke, Domenica Franceschina, Frank Agresta, Louis Sammut, Antonio Votano, Nancy Held De Miranda, Maria Giuseppina Panetta, Adalgisa Verteramo



Please pray for the sick: Judith Preston, Tony Mannah, Vlado Mlinac, James Hann, Faye Wong, Cutrone family, Kalem Saras, Anthony Attard, Roy Cutrone, Frances Perri,

Pat Brush, William Chapman, Rocco Scardino, Kia Bennete, Greg Lambert, David Tierney, Yvonne Bolland, Brenda Riley, Henry Field, Aura Krakowszky

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

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

Please ensure your details are kept up to date 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 : 100000064

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) = \$1,784.15 2nd Collection (for Parish) = Envelopes = \$1,190.00 Loose = \$1,353.30

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

Our Community

Congratulations to Carmel and Mike O'Connell On their 60th

Wedding anniversary





<u>WORLD DAY</u> OF PRAYER 2025 COOK ISLANDS

Date and Time: 7th March 2025 10am Location: Dural Salvation Army 277 New Line Rd, Dural

Contact person: Talitha 02 9651 3456

Lenten Programme:

The parish will be running a Lenten program to help us prepare well for Easter. The program includes a

number of scriptural reflections, audio commentary, artwork and time for prayer and reflection.

Join us on Wednesday nights during Lent at 7pm, in the St Madeleine centre.

Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 12th of March. The program costs \$8, and booklets can be purchased from the piety store. Hope to see you there.

PLEASE RETURN ALL PALMS FROM LAST YEAR'S PALM SUNDAY



These will be burnt for use on Ash Wednesday on 5 March 2025 Mass times 9.15am and 7pm

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. Next date: **Friday, 7th March 2025 at 10am**.

If you would like to come but require transport please contact the parish office on 9654 2260.

Parish Lent Breakfast Saturday March 15th 8:30am Parish Centre

James is passionate about human rights and the right

of people to have an equal opportunity in our society.



James Atanasius Mission Enhancement Team (MET) Parramatta Diocese



<u> The Season of Lent – Music</u>

The Gloria will not be sung or said during Mass

The Alleluia will not be sung – there will be alternative acclamations All music will be sombre and reflective during Masses

There may be silences

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a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis.

2025 A Jubilee Year for our Church themed "Pilgrims of Hope",

This week we pray for Deacons and their families

The logo for Jubilee 2025 represents solidarity and fraternity among all of humanity.

It shows four stylized figures coming from the four corners of the earth, embracing each other. The figure at the front is holding onto the cross, symbolizing the pilgrimage of life and the challenges faced. The cross leans towards the four pilgrims, representing Jesus' sacrifice and the Eucharist.

Have you downloaded the official Jubilee App "Iubilaeum25"? In the Catholic Church, Jubilee years are declared every 25 years by the Pope, inspired by the biblical concept of Jubilee as a time when debts were cancelled and slaves freed. Pope Francis has set out his vision for Jubilee 2025 where rich countries should cancel debts, not out of generosity but justice. Pilgrimage is part of the Jubilee Year and locally we are encouraged to visit The Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville



PLAYGROUP

Bunnings will be providing craft for our playgroup on

Thursday 6 March

and Thursday 3 April

If you would like to attend with your little one please RSVP to kenthurst@parracatholic.org

PIETY SHOP

Lenten Booklet \$8

We now have EFTPOS available n ever changing array of gifts and religious it

We have an ever changing array of gifts and religious items. Special orders are welcome too. We are open after every weekend Mass. Contact Sandra Tabone on 0413272400 for any special requests.

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

