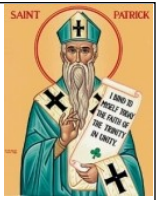


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH



'Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus'

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 19th July 2020 ~ 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

Our Mission Statement: *'Help others to recognise, through their experiences, that Jesus who died and is risen is the truth that lights up their lives'*

Our Vision Statement: *'That the parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish grow as missionary disciples and live as community in Christ inviting all people into our Parish, welcoming them to our Parish life and embracing the rich diversity of our community'*

'Gardening for the Soul' © Mary Coloe

The gospel continues on from the parable of the Sower that we heard last week. Divine Wisdom, now present in Jesus, continues to teach those who would listen. If God, the householder, sows only good seed why is it that there are such mixed results? The parable makes two points. Firstly that an enemy is responsible for the weeds, not the householder; secondly that the householder will deal with these weeds at the harvest time.

It is important to read this parable in its context. Jesus is dealing with why so many do not respond to his teaching, for his ministry receives a very mixed response. In the symbolism of the parable, the reign of God that Jesus announces is met by vigorous opposition from the powers of evil. This is the reality in Jesus' time, the reality faced by Matthew's community and it continues to be our reality. The voice of the Gospel continues to struggle to be heard in our present society.

Other values are presented as offering a better way of life – if we allow asylum seekers in, our 'white Australian' quality of life may change – if we stop embryonic research we may lose our scientists and possible cures for many illnesses.

With many of the complex issues we face it is not easy to discern the weeds from the wheat. On the two issues named above good people of faith hold different views. The parable seems to suggest that the servants need to live with both the wheat and the weeds and leave the task of judgment to God. Jesus offers this teaching to console and encourage his followers. Their task, as servants, is to sow goodness. The task of destroying evil is God's.

Perhaps an even greater challenge is to realise that the parable speaks about me. The paradox within my own life – I too have to learn to live with the wheat and the weeds within my own heart.

Many years ago I read a story of Tony D'Mello's; it goes something like this. **The preacher came and asked the class, 'If all the good people wore white and all the bad people wore black, what would you wear?'** Mary Jane answered, **'I'd wear polka dots!'**

For all our good intentions, and efforts we will probably continue to struggle with some issues all our lives. The garden of our soul will always need a little weeding. These inner struggles will continue to call us to conversion and we will continue to need to call on God and allow God to be the gardener of our souls. Knowing the weeds and wheat within our own individual lives, can help us be a little more patient, or tolerant of the weeds and wheat around us – in our families, communities, our Church. This is not an invitation to complacency but a reminder to 'get real' as young people say.

The reading from Romans is from chapter 8, and earlier in this letter Paul had lamented,
'When I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.'

For I delight in the law of God in my inner self, but I see in my outer self another law at war with my soul' (7:21).

I think Paul speaks of this same inner struggle of knowing the weeds and the wheat which leads him to rely on the Spirit of God as he says in the reading today.

'The Spirit helps us in our weakness... The Spirit intercedes for us ... the Spirit searches the inner hearts of all people.'

Paul then continues,

'If God is for us, who can be against us' (8:31).

In the struggle to live a good meaningful life, we can sometimes be our own worst enemy in being far too harsh and unforgiving towards ourselves. The Parable may invite us to greater kindness towards ourselves and to leave the task of major garden work to God.



PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082
P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH

Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper

Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine

School/Parish Liturgy L. Patricia Smith

Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	5pm	St Bernard's
	6pm	St Patrick's
Sunday	8am	St Patrick's
	9am	St Bernard's
	10am	St Patrick's
	6pm	St Patrick's

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Bernard's	8am	Mon, Tues and Thurs.
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.

[NB: First Friday Healing Mass @ St Bernard's and Night Vigil @ St Patrick's, not yet restored to schedule]

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 9.30 am at St Patrick's
Every Friday After 9am Mass at St Bernard's

SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES

[applying the current 4m² requirement]

St Patrick's: 101 persons

at St Bernard's: 60 persons

Physical Distancing - people from the same household may sit together in the church. Couples and families can be seated together however, social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.

Additional restrictions are at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.

Emergency sick calls 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours only) - HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services. *Be sure to notify the Pastoral Centre if hospitalised and you would like our own priests to attend.*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS and PRAYERS

ORDINARY TIME
Monday 20/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Micah 6:1-4, 6-8; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday 21/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday 22/07
 Feast ~ St Mary Magdalene
 Mass of the Feast, Gloria
 Preface of The Apostle of The Apostles
 Song 3:1-4 or 2 Cor 5:14-17;
 Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday 23/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Mt 13:10-17

Friday 24/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Jer 3:14-17; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday 25/07
 Feast ~ St James, apostle
 Mass of the Feast, Gloria
 Preface of Apostles I-II
 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish
 Remembers & prayers for...

RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Wilhelmine (Wilma) Brayshaw, Jocelyn Ibanez, Antonietta (Toni) Dal Pozzo, Wilfreda Attilo, Sally O'Donoghue, Ester Filart, Gabrielle Kirby, Denise Plumber, Noelene Smith, Fely Ocampo

ANNIVERSARIES: Anthony Gerard Smith, Pastor Alvarado, Dr Ken Gray, Eric Geoffrey Warren, Jim & Marie White, Vicente & Filomena Bañaga, Ruby & Reginald Warren, Herminia Bañaga, Elde & Andrea Daria, Gary Simpson, Geoff Hore, Harry Fox

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Araceli 'Chichi' Datoc, Barbara McMullen, Alan Brooke, Leslee (Joy) Mustey, Craig Sequeira, Shirley Kelymack, Judy Farrell, Maureen Brophy, John Cosgrove (Snr), Marie Mickelson, Margaret Hinton, Dan Leavy, Alfredo R De Ramos, Marie Mickelson, Doug Hawkins, Felicity Fone, Graeme Kachel, Antonio, Anna Nicholson, Pat Bowden, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Erick Enriquez, Charles Abela, Elaine Estrellado, Maureen Sharpe, Penny Rigor, Jwona Nowak, Irena Fellmann, Elaine Longmuir, Michael McGaulley, Estrellado, Cathy Gleeson, Rosalinda de Ramos, Jaz Pitts, Georgia Meyers, Angela Smith, Matthew Franklin, Jeanette Bakker, Ewa Rakozy, Jean Cook, Betty Borg, Morrie Ramsden, Brian Neary, Edwina Subramany, Aiko Concepcion, John Buckley, Ellen Asistente, Sam Calacoci, Barbara Jones, Arlene Joson, Kath Lock, Cadia Maestri, Marcelina De Ramos, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy, John Macy, Tom Dawson, Narelle Cartwright, Mary Fernandes, Patricia Sanders, Monique Leyden, Frederick Novak, Barbara & Maciej Maciejewski, Alfredo De Ramos Sr.

Please advise the office if names can be deleted from the sick list.



UPDATED: As of Wednesday 1 July, the Aust. Govt. and the DBB introduced new Guidelines.

- * The number allowed to be present in a church is now to be calculated on the basis of one **person to each 4m²**. Using this formula we can accommodate **101 persons in St Patrick's** and **60 persons in St Bernard's**.
- * Once the capacity in numbers is reached, the doors of the church will be closed.
- * If unwell - **DO NOT** come to mass and please, see your doctor;
- * Sanitise your hands on arrival and departure;
- * Follow **ALL** directions from the **USHERS**;
- * The collection plate will be brought to you—please **DO NOT TOUCH** the plate.
- * Tap n Go is available at the back of the church for those who do not want to handle cash.
- * **Normal Social Distancing is expected in and around the church at all times.**
- * When Mass is concluded please leave the church quickly to allow for cleaning—please disperse immediately and **DO NOT** congregate outside the church after mass;
- * **Weekday attendees MUST** write your name and contact details in the book (please use your own pen);
- * **Weekend** masses can be booked via the parish email: parishkccp@bbatholic.org.au
- * Your health is important to us. To ensure your safety and that of each other, please help us by following all the above points. *Take care, stay safe, stay well.*

Whilst Baptisms / Funerals / Weddings never stopped during Covid-19 it is great news that restrictions on people attending these in our churches have also been lightened inline with the numbers shown above.

MASS BOOKINGS:
 When you attend Mass you will be asked if you wish to book the same Mass for all weekends in July. This will happen again in August when you may book for another month in advance and continue in this pattern. You may still book for individual Masses via the office email, parishkccp@bbatholic.org.au—in this way it is hoped you will be guaranteed a seat at Mass.

AFTER MASS CHURCH CLEANING:
 We are in need of volunteers to remain at the end of weekend masses to disinfect the pews prior to the next Mass.
Please consider giving 5 minutes of your time to keep everyone safe. Thanks.

St Bernard's Restoration Appeal:
Your continued financial assistance to pay for this much needed restoration is appreciated.

In this Golden Anniversary Year we ask that you consider making even a small contribution towards the works done to preserve St Bernard's Church, Berowra Heights.

Donations can be made over the phone with a credit or debit card, by cheque or direct deposit and even cash. For assistance or more information please call the office.

KCCP BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:
BSB: 062 784 **Account:** 1238 8001
Name: Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish - Church Account

When making donations to our bank account please be specific if you wish to split your donations between the 1st and 2nd collections.

Please BE THERE FOR ME - CCD (Catechists / Scripture Teachers) Recruitment Campaign

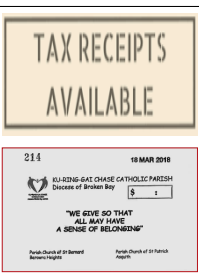
In a few weeks, most Catechists will return to classes in public schools, sharing the Gospel message of love, service and hope. Some of our dedicated Catechists are unable to return at this time due to Covid-19 concerns, **so parishes are looking for relief catechists to fill in.**

CCD has developed a short recruitment video as part of the campaign: *Be There For Me.* YouTube link is <https://youtu.be/IONdRTBJwwo> *It really is worth a look !*



When it rains...it pours in Berowra !

We have gone from having no response to our appeal to having 3 ladies willing to share this role. Our thanks go out to Gen, Judy and Ela who will represent St Bernard's this year on the committee for this wonderful ecumenical event hosted by all Christian Churches in the local area. Be sure to keep an eye on the bulletin for further details closer to the date for the 2020 **'Carols under the Star'** spectacular.



Tax Receipts now available:
 Tax Receipts for the 2019/2020 Financial Year are now available. If you have not already received yours via email please check the back of the church. **Also, some Planned Giving Envelopes are still awaiting collecting from our Churches.** Please collect yours *as soon as possible.* [To make the switch to credit card giving, please call the office on 9456 2450].

The 250 Club! **Week 14:**
13/07/2020

Winning number: 170 ~
Amount: \$25 ~


WINNER **Winner:**
C J Fone
 (aka Mungo, the Cat, how purrfectly delightful!)

Our prayers and condolences to the Dal Pozzo and Brayshaw families on the passing of two long term parishioners of our parish.
Antonietta (Toni) Dal Pozzo was farewelled from St Patrick's last Friday and will be greatly missed by her sons Paul and John.

Requiem Mass will be celebrated for the Repose of the Soul of Wilhelmine (Wilma) Brayshaw at St Patrick's, Asquith, on Thursday 23 July 2020 at 11am
May perpetual light shine upon them both always.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June: The Way of the Heart.

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.





WHEN WORDS FAIL © Fr Michael Tate

My mother who, to my knowledge, never recited the Rosary as such, in the last month or so of her life would constantly exclaim the words ‘Hail Mary’ and I would finish the prayer for and with her.

One of the most moving and beautiful moments one has as a priest visiting people who are dying is that, despite apparently losing most ability to converse, invariably they are easily able to recite with you the Hail Mary.

Of course, what is especially moving in these instances is the concluding petition:
‘Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.’

Facing death, facing the ultimate encounter with Divine Love, facing the unimaginable transformation of our existence, we abandon our own words and seek the intercession of one who already shares in Christ’s divine glory. In the ‘Hail Mary’ we ask the one who is ‘blessed among women’ to pray for us as our own words fail.

But there is an even deeper intercession below the articulate level, available to us at any time. In writing to the Romans St Paul tells us, **‘When we cannot choose words to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means.’**

We have all been in various situations.

One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels.

STOP! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One’s heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don’t come easily even though one wants to pray.

STOP! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Sometimes we have the idea that God has to be assaulted with a torrent of words to get the message we are trying to convey into his loving presence. But when Our Lord was teaching his disciples how to pray he said

‘In your prayers do not babble as the pagans do, for they think that by using many words they will make themselves heard.’
(Matt 6:7)

Perhaps this is all accentuated by the constant messaging of ‘social media’. So that, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come. We fear that God will think we have given up praying. We should fall back on tried and tested, short and simple prayers such as the ‘Our Father’ or the ‘Hail Mary’ – the little mustard seeds which we sow in faith.

These are good, but there can be occasions when we are faced with situations where St Paul encourages us to relax beyond even these wonderful short prayers.

We can relax with the wordless confidence that comes from what we learnt from St Paul two weeks ago, that the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling place in our hearts.

It is little wonder then that,

‘When we cannot choose words to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way which could never be put into words and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means.’

HOLY SPIRIT, DIVINE COMPANION DWELLING IN OUR HEARTS, PRAY FOR US. AMEN.

A letter to the People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay ~ [Bishop Anthony 14 July 2020]

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last week I reflected upon how Jesus is the foundation of our mission as a community of the Church, especially in his respect, protection, and care for the children, the vulnerable, and indeed all people. These are a description of our “core values”: respect, care, and protection of others. They are always Christ-centred and people oriented.

As a community of the faithful, an essential element of our vocation requires that we are to be vigilant in living these values. In our Diocese of Broken Bay, we are blessed to have a dedicated team whose mission is to assist us via ongoing formation and education regarding the safety of our children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

For my part, as your bishop, I meet regularly with the Director of the Office for Safeguarding. Together we discuss how as individuals and as a community we will ensure that our standards meet best practice procedures, which are correct and most effective. The work of our Safeguarding team allows me to have oversight of child related activities in our parishes, schools and works of mercy; screening and training procedures; visiting clergy audits; and Redress compliance.

I am grateful for this work as it allows full transparency and accountability and it is supported by external processes in collaboration with the Office of the Children’s Guardian. It is helpful to recognise this good work while at the same time recognising the need not to become complacent. Within the Diocese, there is one Office for Safeguarding because we are one community of the Church. The Office includes three different teams for Chancery, Catholic Schools Office, and CatholicCare, which are under the direction of the Diocesan Director. Our Diocesan website has a dedicated page for the Safeguarding Office’s work and activities. On that page, you will find links to training and education, policies, resources and research.

Our Gospel values drive all this good work. It is important for me to ensure that our community of the Church is vigilant and that we have robust external processes to assist us in our mission to proclaim and live the Good News of Jesus Christ and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all. Blessings on your week, + Anthony

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

Safeguarding in our Parish means...

Safeguarding is for the protection of all—because everyone has the right to feel safe. At KCCP we strive to be pro-active in the protection of all parishioners, volunteers, clergy but most



especially we are vigilant towards the protection of the children and vulnerable adults of our community. We are committed to doing everything we can to keep you safe including implementing measures, principles, and practices promoting transparency in all ministries. Safeguarding is another way of saying:

We are looking out for you ~ we care about you ~ we will go the distance to protect you.

If you have a concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person or vulnerable adult, tell someone who can help.

These people in our Parish can help:

Margaret Cooper, Parish Secretary, 9456 2450 (Mon-Fri 9am to 3.30pm); Michelle Chahine, Youth Coordinator, 0424 191 449 or contact the Office for Safeguarding (Chancery) on 8379 1605 or by emailing: safeguarding@bbccatholic.org.au

ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 25th / 26th July – 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; 1 Kg 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Matthew Waite	Denis Steiner	Mani Subramany	Malcolm Cross	Vicente Sanchez	Keith Fone
Reader (1)	Jerome Gomez	Clare McLoughlin	Les Fogden	Sue Lum	Hayley Rodrigues	Fiona Fone
Reader (2)	Anne Maree Hutchins	Matthius McLoughlin	Miguel Do Rego	Cynthia Gilbertson	Cora Cuasay	Mary Stokes
Usher / s	Jerome Gomez	Vince & Georgina	Chris Smith	Phil Daidone	Michael Halliday / Sean	Les Fogden
Sacristy Care/Church	Ning Biyo, Reese Nguyen, Peter Nguyen, Cecilia Waite (f), Gwen Wood (s)		Scott Smith, Winston Rodrigues, Paul Mathew, Antony Davis, Maria Hon			
Maintenance	Teams A & B		July: David Hartmann, Matthew Tancred, Gerry Duffy			

Working in a child-related ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay: Paid and volunteer workers who have direct face to face contact with children (under 18 years) are required by law to obtain a Working with Children Check number. Please note though, exemptions may apply in some cases. The Parish is the employer of the paid or volunteer worker and therefore is required by law to verify the Working with Children Check number. All paid or volunteer workers engaged in a child-related role must have a clear Working with Children Check to work in a child-related ministry. This disclosure references the legislation, *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.



The farmer scattered good seed

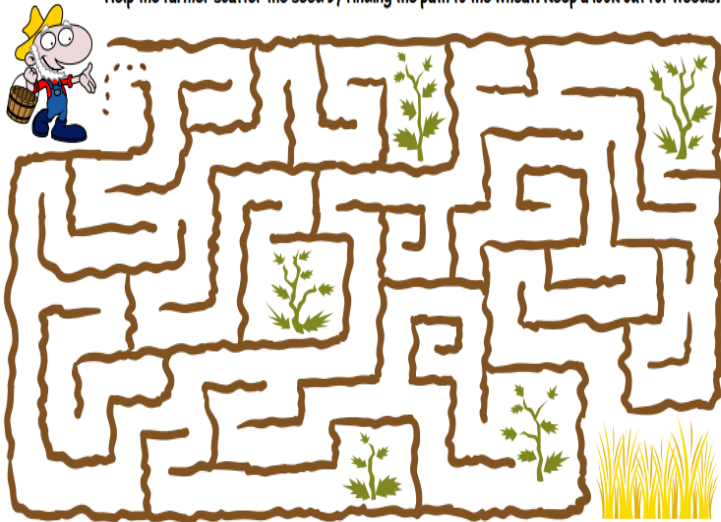


The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat.

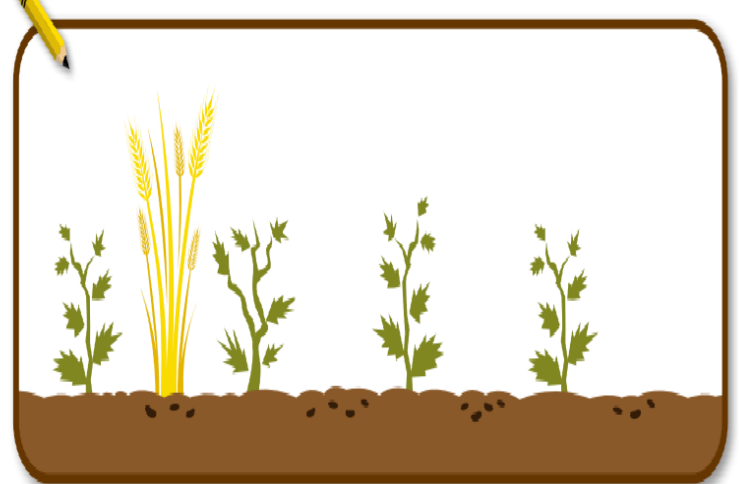
Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, before gathering the wheat.



Help the farmer scatter the seed by finding the path to the wheat. Keep a look out for weeds!



Draw the wheat growing in between the weeds where you see seeds on the ground.



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Plenary Council 2020 - Official New Dates for the Plenary Council Assemblies

The two assemblies for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will be held in Adelaide October 3-10, 2021, and in Sydney July 4-9, 2022.

The full media release is at <https://mcusercontent.com/466af249e088db70ab864d088/files/546b4bd4-6cod-4bf5-818c-a2bef105584d/> For more information on the latest Plenary Council news, subscribe at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenary-post/>



Have you heard of the Memory Innovations Centre?

Programs focus on having fun, connecting with others and stimulating your brain.

Cooking, exercise, dance, art and mind exercise programs available. Visit us for a free trial session in Waitara or join our online programs – open to all in the Diocese!

Call Jessica on (02) 9481 2659 or visit www.catholiccaresdbb.org.au/mic



Catholic Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation Weekend.

We are open for a face to face marriage preparation weekend August 1-2 at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills. Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and married life. Spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. Further information and registration: www.engagedencounter.org.au