

St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield

A parish under the pastoral care of The Congregation of the Mission known as Vincentian priests and brothers.

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Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday



Third Sunday of Lent C

March 3, 2013

Today we thank Irene Sykes, one of our Cardinal Freeman "Village people," for sharing her insightful gospel reflection.

Recently I was asked to write from my perspective, what I saw in Luke's Gospel for this, the third Sunday of lent. This was a most unusual request for me, as I have never done such a thing.

The first few sentences of Luke's Gospel tell us of the repugnance the people felt for Pilate's murder of the Gallileans "whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." Jesus reminds them that they should reflect on their own shortcomings and their being subject to God's judgment, rather than what Pilate has done. Pondering on this, I realise that I must not be judgemental to others and start to pay more attention to the way I behave with all around me; especially family, friends, and neighbours.

Next, there is the story of the fig tree which has produced no fruit for the past three years, and the landowner wanting to cut it down. The servant answered leave it alone sir, and I will nurture it and see if it produces fruit next year. This seems to me that God is willing to give all a second chance, which I also should do to those with whom I come into contact. The poor fig tree needed some TLC and then perhaps it would respond...perhaps if I give those around me some TLC they also will respond. It also reminds me that life is rather short, and one should use each minute of each day of this wonderful gift of life to be caring of self as well as others.

Recently I had to undergo a medical procedure and I can only commend all staff in the hospital, where I was treated, for the wonderful loving care they gave me and all others in the ward. These doctors and nurses were certainly producing good fruit. I thank God for such wonderful people in this world.

Confirmation

A Liturgy meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th March at 7:00pm in the Parish Meeting Rooms. The purpose of the Meeting will be to plan the Easter Ceremonies. All Welcome.

The Collection

The practice for collections dates back to the Early Church where gifts were brought forward so that the poor may be assisted.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal No. 73 States *It is well also that money or other gifts for the poor or for the Church, brought by the faithful or collected in the church, should be received. These are to be put in a suitable place but away from the Eucharistic table.*

As you may noticed our practice has always been to put the collection at the base of the altar at all of our Masses. I am very much aware that the collection represents your generous gift, the fruit of your labours and as such deserves to be highlighted in a suitable way. If anyone has any thoughts as to where a suitable place in the

for the young people of this parish will be celebrated on Sunday 12th May by Bishop Terry Brady.

To register for this sacramental program please take registration form from the back of the church (pamphlet racks) and return it to Marguerite at the Parish Office.

An Anointing Mass will take place at Cardinal Freeman Nursing Home on Tuesday 12th March 2013 at 11am. Thanks, Fr. Alan

Communal Penitential Service

How is your journey to Easter going? Is the destination in sight? Come to our Communal Penitential Service, with opportunity for sacramental reconciliation, on

Wednesday March 13 at 7pm

Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group

invites parishioners and friends to join them on Monday night 4th March in the Church at 7:30pm, to hear a talk given by Fr. Jack Soulsby S.M. on EVER GROWING FAITH.

Fr. Jack is an internationally well-known speaker who is full of enthusiasm for the Lord.

Supper will follow. ALL WELCOME.

Inquiries: Margaret Doyle at 9746 1916

PARISH STAFF:

*Fr. Alan Gibson CM
Carmen Yap*

Marguerite Martin

Let us pray together:

In our journeying with you,
may we never lose our sense of direction,
never lose sight of the landmark
towards which we travel.
And should cloud or rain obscure our vision,
may we draw closer to you,
so that our feet may tread
in you footsteps,
your words be our encouragement,
and your love our protection.
May we be a sign of your love
and a welcome to others this lent
encouraging them to tread in your footsteps.

World Youth Day 2013 is approaching quickly and we invite all young people across the Archdiocese to travel with us to Rio de Janeiro this July. It is looking to be a life-changing experience filled with faith, immersion opportunities and a chance to celebrate our Catholic faith. Registrations close in a few weeks, so please log on to www.syd2rio.com today and reserve your place in WYD 2013!

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12noon
Tuesday 7:00 am
Wednesday 9:00am
Thursday 9:00 am
Saturday 9:00 am
Sunday: 8am, 10:00am 6:00PM
Polish Mass 12 noon

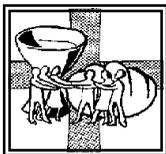
Reconciliation: Saturday 8:10am — 8:40am

Rosary: Saturday after 9:00am Mass

Morning Prayer: Saturday 8:40am

Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel

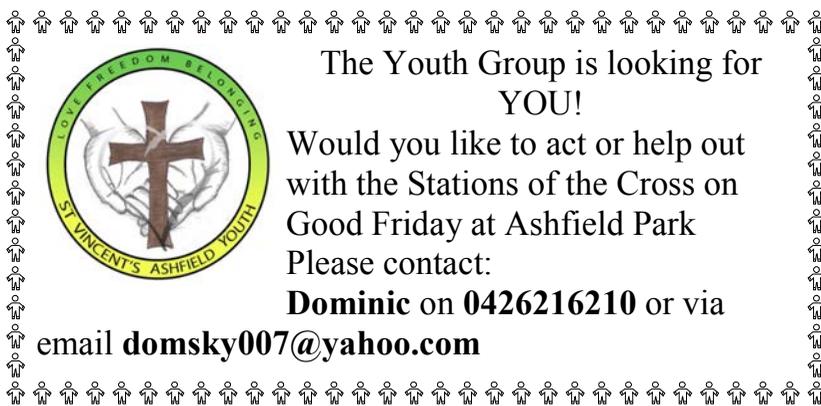
Sunday 9:00am



Ashbury Parish Weekday Mass: Monday to Saturday
8:00am

Summer Hill Parish Tues & Fri 9:00am Wed & Thurs.
8:30am

Stations of the Cross Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Stations of the Cross can do so by placing it in the envelopes provided.



The Youth Group is looking for
YOU!

Would you like to act or help out
with the Stations of the Cross on
Good Friday at Ashfield Park
Please contact:

Dominic on **0426216210** or via

email [domsky007@yahoo.com](mailto:domsy007@yahoo.com)

Please donate to Project Compassion so women like Salma and many women in rural Bangladesh can achieve healthy pregnancies and give their unborn babies the best start in life.

Solo Parents

There is a new Solo Parents Group being established in Strathfield. The first meeting is on Monday 4 March at 7.30 at St Martha's Parish Hall, 70 Homebush Rd Strathfield. Single parents are encouraged to attend.

The Grace of discernment: Retreat for Men Exploring the Priesthood

A retreat based on St. Ignatius' tried and tested insights on discernment at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush on Friday evening to Sunday afternoon (8-10 March). This retreat is for men at all stages of their discernment. Retreat programme: www.vocationcentre.org.ua under "Important Dates." It's free, but RSVP is required for catering & accommodation. Enquiries/RSVP: 9390 5970 or: vocations@sydneycatholic.org. Every enquirer's details are kept confidential. More information is on the poster on the Parish notice board.

Like the fig tree are we ready to grow? Are we ready to make the journey? If we are, will we help others to make the journey? When was the last time you invited someone to Church?

Third Sunday of Lent

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING: This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you (Exodus 3: 1-8. 13-15)

PSALM: The Lord is kind and merciful (Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11)

SECOND READING: All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit (1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Unless you repent you will all perish as they did (Luke 13:1-9)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.



Next Sunday's Readings Fourth Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9-12

Ps 33:2-7

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Luke 15:1-3. 11-32