

# St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield

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

12 Bland Street, Ashfield 2131 www.vinash.org.au E-mail vinstaff@vinash.org.au  
Phone: 9798 2501; 9798 2503 (for urgent matters Marguerite 0414 566 961) Fax: 9798 2504  
Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday



## Palm Sunday

March 24, 2013

*This week we thank Mr Kerry Guerin who shares his Palm Sunday reflection with us. Kerry is a member of the Monday Evening Charismatic Prayer Group, who meet in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 7.30pm. Kerry is also part of the Parish Finance Committee.*

Today we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem prior to his Passion and death. Most of those cheering him so enthusiastically were expecting some kind of political Messiah. They thought that he would throw out the hated Roman conquerors and establish a new Kingdom of Israel with himself as King. This was not to be. Jesus was not about power and politics as we understand them. Within a few days Jesus will tell Pilate that he is indeed a king, but that his Kingdom is not of this world. Pilate, of course, did not understand at all.

Two thousand years later, when we reflect on the Paschal mystery and the events that followed it, we understand the meaning of the Kingdom much better. Jesus' Kingdom, the Kingdom of God, has both broken in upon the earth but far transcends any earthly Kingdom. It is not a Kingdom for the philosophers and theologians to speculate about. It is a Kingdom for each and every one of us to experience and live. In this Kingdom, it is OK to face and admit our vulnerability and our need for help. We sin and are powerless to change our own behaviour.. We carry inner wounds that we are unable to heal. We wound others because we ourselves have been wounded. We sin because we have been sinned against.

In the Kingdom, we can break this deadly cycle. We can find forgiveness and cleansing of our sins. We can find the power to forgive those who have hurt us. We can find healing for our inner wounds. The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of saving, healing, transforming and empowering grace, earned for us by the Passion and death of Jesus. Like the crowds in Jerusalem at that first Easter, we can proclaim: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." However, we can proclaim it for reasons that are very different from theirs.

St. Vincent's  
Parish Ashfield  
2013



## Easter Vigil

As the Easter Vigil will commence from outside in the school grounds parishioners are asked to bring torches.

## Easter Vigil Supper

We ask especially for prayers for Linda and Carol who will receive the sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and Communion at the Easter Vigil, this year starting at 7pm.

After the Vigil please come welcome and celebrate a supper with us in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate, with something nice to share!

As you check the Easter Schedule for ceremonies please note well the **Christian Seder in the Parish Hall on Holy Thursday night at 9pm** following the Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper.

The Christian Seder follows the format of the Jewish Passover meal that Jesus was celebrating with his apostles at the Last Supper. It is a ritual meal where the youngest asks the oldest, "What and why are we celebrating?" and the story unfolds, with the ritual eating of special foods. All are welcome. For further info ring Rosanna 0413 113 188

## Thursday March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm  
Passover Meal 9:00pm

## Good Friday March 29

Stations of the Cross 10:00am  
(Church & Ashfield Park)  
Polish - Stations of the Cross 12 noon  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

## Saturday March 30

Reconciliation 8:00am—9:30am  
RCIA Prayer & Preparation  
for Easter Vigil 9:30am  
Polish - Easter Food Blessing 12 noon

EASTER VIGIL MASS 7:00pm

## Sunday March 31

Easter Sunday Masses 8:00am, 10:00am  
and 6:00pm  
Polish - Easter Sunday Mass 12 noon

Last week we met with 33 candidates and their parents, who have registered for Confirmation on Saturday 25 May at 3pm. They have been Challenged to look at our Catholic identity based on our discipleship of Jesus. One third of these candidates were baptised at St Vincent's.

**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 your 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.

**Parish Masses this week:**

Monday 12noon  
 Tuesday 7:00 am  
 Wednesday 12noon  
 Thursday No Mass  
 Saturday No Mass  
**Sunday:** 8am, 10:00am 6:00PM  
 Polish Mass 12 noon



**Reconciliation:** Saturday 8:00am to 9:30am  
**Rosary:** Saturday after 9:00am Mass  
**Morning Prayer:** Saturday 8:40am  
**Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel**  
 Sunday 9:00am

**Parish Pastoral Council**

The Parish Pastoral Council is currently looking for 2 more people. If you are interested in serving the parish in this way, please see Fr. Alan after Mass or contact him at the parish office on 9798 2501 or email alan@vinash.org.au.

**Communion Request**

A Eucharistic Minister is required to give Communion on a weekly basis to a parishioner in Queen Street, Ashfield. Please see Fr. Alan if you are able to help.



**Little White Book** six minute reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Easter (Year C) to Pentecost  
 Sunday is now available at \$4 from Lillie in the foyer.

**Good Friday**

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from the Good Friday collection. Last year, Australian Catholics donated \$1.3 million to this cause despite tough economic times and natural disasters which put a strain on family budgets and financial resources.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please remember Christians of Holy Land again on this Good Friday. Also, please pray for peace and harmony will become a reality in the birthplace of Jesus, the 'Prince of Peace'.

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA—PROJECT COMPASSION**

Just a reminder to please return all Project Compassion boxes and envelopes by Thursday 28th March (Holy Thursday) so that they can be part of the procession of the preparation of the Gifts at the 7pm Mass that evening.

**We hear the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem. Today Jesus starts his journey to the cross. Born a small child, a carpenter and a preacher, a simple man riding in as a King to a criminal on the cross to a Saviour on high, will you help carry his cross? Will you help carry the cross of others in our community? He was one of us, the Son of God, a sign of love to us all. You yourself are like him, one of us will you be a sing of his Love?**

**Palm Sunday**

**ENTRANCE PROCESSION:** Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.  
**FIRST READING:** I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed (Isaiah 50:4-7)  
**PSALM:** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24)  
**SECOND READING:** He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high (Philippians 2:6-11)  
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!  
 Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!  
**GOSPEL:** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (Luke 23:1-49)  
**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



**Next Sunday's Readings**  
 Sunday of the Resurrection  
 Acts 10.34, 36-43  
 Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23  
 Colossians 3:1-4  
 John 20:1-9