

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



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 21, 2013

One of the things I find reassuring about today's Gospel is that the Church seems to have been wrestling with women's leadership since the very beginning. It's the issue that will not go away.

When it comes to interpreting scripture, I am always pleased that I'm a Catholic. We're not fundamentalists or literalists. We believe that the truth of the scripture lies not just in the words themselves, but also in the careful interpretation of the text in history. The story of Martha and Mary is a complex narrative. It can be read on at least two levels.

The first level is extraordinary enough: it focuses on Mary who assumes the position of the Rabbi's student and is defended against any attack on her right to be there. In first century Palestine, Jewish women were 'not permitted to be taught the Torah, but only instructed about how they should live their lives in obedience to its demands. They were not permitted to touch the scriptures nor to take part in public debate or official liturgical ritual.' (Fitzmyer, Luke p.892) From this context we can see the sort of freedom Jesus envisaged for women, against the practice of his own day.

On another level, however, this story focuses on Martha. The writer of Luke's Gospel tells us that we are in Martha's home and, that with Jesus as special guest at table, she is serving the members of her household with care and devotion. Martha comes across as strong and outspoken. Mary, meanwhile, is passive and silent. It is likely this story is criticising a call in Luke's community for women to move away from the leadership Jesus gave them and to adopt again the traditional roles to which the Jewish/Christians were more familiar.

To that end today's story from such a community holds a key to our own dilemma. Just as Jesus broke through the gender boundaries of his own day, so too must we. We must renew our commitment to ending anything that degrades, exploits or dehumanises women throughout the world.

Fr Michael Tate

Blessed Sacrament Chapel Meeting 30 July

Many Parishioners by now have had a chance to inspect the recently repainted chapel, and feedback to date is very positive. On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank Lynne Bryant and Linda Stoney for their magnificent work on the new veil for the tabernacle. The Blessed Sacrament Chapel Subcommittee wants to build on stage 1 of the improvements to the Chapel, and is convening a meeting for all interested parishioners on Tuesday 30 July in the Parish Office, commencing at 7:30pm. All welcome.

Pastoral Students Parish Visitation

Lino, Qorio and Romano have all expressed interest in doing some visitation around the parish during their stay here over the next two and half months. If you would like to receive a visit from them would you please put your name down on the list which is in the foyer of the Church or alternatively contact Fr. Alan on 9798 2501 or email alan@vinash.org.au.

Monday, 22nd July

Mass will be celebrated at **9:00am**
(There will be **NO 12 noon**)

Building the St. Vincent's parish community— Sydney Alliance

As part of our steps towards fostering a greater sense of community within St. Vincent's parish, we warmly invite you to attend a parish meeting on Sunday 28th July from 4—5pm.

The meeting is a great chance to meet another St. Vincent's parishioner, and learn about why others are exploring the principles of the Sydney Alliance and how it can foster not only a sense of belonging within the Parish, but strengthen relationships with the broader community.

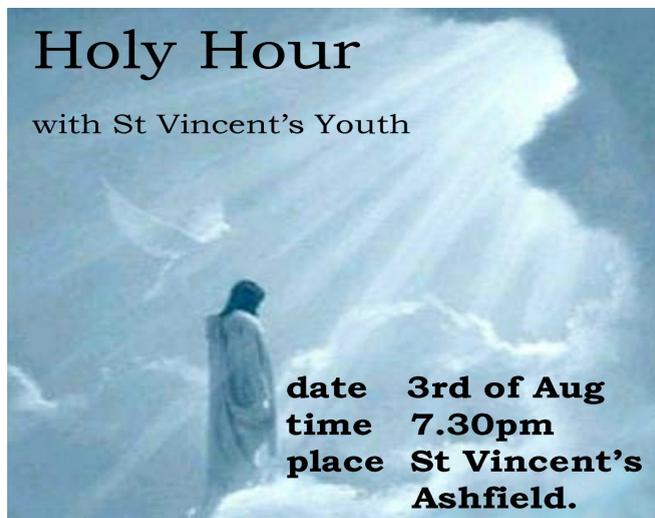
If you would like to find out a bit more about your fellow parishioners, are interested in helping build a greater sense of community within our parish, pop along for an hour to the St. Vincent's Hall on the 28th July.

For more information, call Stephen Fenn on 0423 027 657 or have a chat with Fr. Alan.

Stations of the Cross

Work on the first 7 Stations of the Cross will be completed by the second week of August.

Yoga Classes resume Monday 22nd July 6:30pm. Call Ann Adams for details at 0419 427 486.



Holy Hour

with St Vincent's Youth

date 3rd of Aug
time 7.30pm
place St Vincent's Ashfield.

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 9:00 am
Tuesday 7:00 am
Wednesday 12 noon
Thursday 9:00 am
Saturday 9:00 am

Sunday: 8am, 10:00am 6:00pm

Polish Mass 12 noon

Reconciliation: Saturday 8:10am to 8:40am

Rosary: Saturday after 9:00am Mass

Morning Prayer: Saturday 8:40am

Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel

Sunday 9:00am



Receipts for donations to the Planned Giving, CWF and Project Compassion for the Financial Year 2012– 2013, are now available at the back of the church.

Many thanks to all those who continue to support the Parish through the weekly planned giving envelope.

Celebrate World Youth Day in Sydney on 28 July!

Join the Sydney pilgrims in Rio by celebrating World Youth Day on 28 July in Sydney. Get together with friends to make your own pilgrimage, beginning at 8am from the tomb of our Aussie Saint, Mary Mackillop, walking across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to arrive at the oldest church in Sydney – St Benedict's, Broadway. Watch a live telecast of the prayer vigil with Pope Francis, direct from Rio Di Janerio, including talks, testimonies and music from Dr Robert Tilley and Gary Pinto. Celebrate with a Brazilian feast and spend time in prayer with Adoration and Mass. Catch up with friends, make new ones, and enjoy a day of pilgrimage, prayer, food and fun! For more information and to register contact Catholic Youth Services on 9764 4357 or events@cys.org.au.

The Feast of Our Lady of Tezito will be celebrated at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, cnr Victoria and Westminster Roads, Gladesville on Sunday 28th July at 1:30pm with Mass, followed by a procession. The day of apparition will be marked by Mass at 7:30pm preceded by the Rosary on Tuesday, 23rd July. A Triduum will take place 7:15pm on 25th, 26th & 27th July with a special Youth Mass on Thursday 25th July. All Welcome

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

Summer Hill Parish Tues & Fri 9:00am

Wed & Thurs. 8:30am

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time C

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: 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.

FIRST READING: Lord, do not bypass your servant (Genesis 18:1-10)

PSALM: The just will live the presence of the Lord (Ps 14:2-5)

SECOND READING: The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints (Colossians 1:24-28)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part (Luke 10:38-42)

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



Next Sunday's Readings
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:20-32

Ps 137:1-3. 6-8

Colossians 2:12-14

Luke 11:1-13