

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 0410 894 651) Fax: 9798 2504

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



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 4, 2013

Over the last few weeks I have heard much about the Happiness Project. They actually measure the happiness of a nation with a Gross National Happiness Index (GNHI). Australia does very well apparently! The organization for economic co-operation and development (OECD) measures our happiness on criteria such as jobs, income, environment and health.

"Money, while it cannot buy happiness is an important means to achieving higher living standards," the Index said. Yet "money can't buy me love" the Beatles sang. We live in a world where worth has a dollar sign. We do judge and measure success and status by position, possessions and wealth. It is part of our human condition to be impressed by the trappings of success. Yet it is all so empty without the most important part of our humanity, our relational skills. Another indicator of happiness is how much are we prepared to go beyond self and self interest to give and share with others.

All the readings today are warning about the false security of material wealth.

Ecclesiastes calls it 'Vanity of Vanities'. Paul calls us to keep 'our thoughts on heavenly things,' and Jesus uses the strongest language. He calls the man who builds up wealth 'a fool.' In those days a fool was a really lonely person, a person not connected. 'The fool' in the gospel had disconnected himself from God. When it comes down to it, how many possessions do we need when we are standing before God? How will he measure how successful we have been? St John of the Cross wrote *In the Evening of Life we shall be judged upon our Love*. Surely this is the true measure for happiness!

Marguerite Martin

THE CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF)

PASTORAL APPEAL is being held this weekend.

The dedicated members of Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Chaplaincies and Seminaries are grateful for your donation which goes towards helping them fulfil their mission—to provide pastoral and charitable support to those in need in our Sydney community. Through your generosity, the CWF is able to accomplish much good work needed. For those of us who have been blessed with abundance, today is an opportunity to remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters. Thank you for your kind donation.

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.

Blessing of the Garden of Grace

This Wednesday 7 August at 2.30 pm Bishop Peter Comensoli will be visiting St Vincents School to bless the Garden of Grace. The Garden of Grace grew out of the contemplation of the Year of Grace. Its installation was a co-operation between the parents and children of St Vincents ably led by Sinead Kent and the youth of St Vincents Parish. Both shared hard work, inspiration and creativity and graced moments. Thank you to all who contributed on behalf of all who will benefit.

Holy Hour

with St Vincent's Youth

date 17th of Aug
time 7.30pm
place St Vincent's
Ashfield.

PARISH STAFF: Fr. Alan Gibson CM
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin



Thursday Aug 8 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
 Mary Helen MacKillop was born in Fitzroy, Melbourne on January 15, 1842. Together with Fr Tenison Woods, Mary founded the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph in 1867, an Order dedicated to the education of poor children. Mary faced many challenges, not least of which was her (questionable) excommunication by Bishop Shiel in September 1871 – an excommunication lifted five months later. By 1891, there were three hundred sisters working in nine dioceses in Australia and New Zealand. An ordinary Australian woman, yet a woman of heroic holiness, goodness, warmth and determination, Mary died on August 8, 1909. On October 17, 2010 Mary MacKillop, Saint Mary of the Cross, was declared a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI. One of her best known sayings is 'Never see a need without doing something about it!'

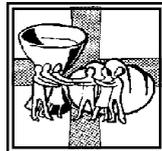
Mass for Pregnant Mothers on Sunday 25 August at 10:30am, the Most Rev Terence Brady & the Most Rev Peter Comensoli will celebrate the Annual Mass for Pregnant Mothers at St. Mary's Cathedral. All women who are expecting a baby and those who would like to show support for them are most welcome. A morning tea will follow in the Cathedral Chapter Hall. Enquiries and registration can be directed to Imfevents@sydneycatholic.org 9390 5283.

Grace & Silence Retreat Day

We would like to invite young women aged 17–30 yrs who are discerning their vocation to marriage, single or consecrated life to the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa for a Grace & Silence Retreat Day on Saturday, 31st August; 9:30am–4:30pm; 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa. Grace & Silence commences with a short impulse followed by Eucharistic Adoration; silent prayer and reflection and concludes with a group rosary and afternoon tea. Cost \$20 which includes lunch. For further information and registration contact: Sr. M. Julie 0408 738 334 or juliebrrcar@gmail.com

Parish Masses this week:

- Monday 12 noon
- 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

Asylum Seekers — Where To From Here?

Prof. Gillian Triggs, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission will be presenting a talk on Tuesday 27 August 2013 at 7:00pm. The talk supported by the Good Sams Foundation will be held at Trixie Forest Hall, St. Scholastica College, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe Point. Admission—Donation at the door. Tea/Coffee available at conclusion of the evening. Flyer with information attached.

Ashbury Parish Weekday Mass: Monday to Saturday 8:00am Summer Hill Parish Tues & Fri 9:00am
 Wed & Thurs. 8:30am

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time C

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay

FIRST READING: What do people gain by all their work? (Ecclesiastes 1:2: 2:21-23)

PSALM: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17)

SECOND READING: Seek the things that are above where Christ is (Colossians 3:1-5.9.11)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: To whom will all this wealth of yours go? (Luke 12:13-21)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.



Next Sunday's Readings

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9

Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22

Hebrew 11:1-2. 8-9

Luke 12:32-48