

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



Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 3, 2013

So often we have that unforgiving attitude where we can not possibly believe that someone really can change. *A leopard does not change his spots* or can he?

We have all heard the stories of the corrupt politicians or crooked businessmen who did time and found God in that time. I feel cynical when I hear these stories because I wonder what is their angle, what's in it for them?

So we move to the story of the little man up the tree. It is so familiar. Zaccheus is the model of conversion. What was in it for him?

Without being there the story is clear. Zaccheus was hated because he was nasty, greedy, malicious, and obviously enjoyed ripping people off. He would not have done anything without there being 'What's in this for me' angle.

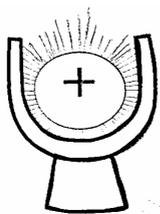
Jesus picked him to be the 'demonstration model.' Through Zaccheus, hardened antithesis of all that Jesus preached, Jesus revealed the power of God's love, mercy and compassion. This was as miraculous a healing as a leper's skin becoming clean, or a cripple walking, outwardly proved by Zaccheus' willingness to repay all his bad dealings four times over and sharing his wealth with the poor.

How did the people of Jericho react I wonder?

We are all called constantly to this conversion, turning to Jesus. This may mean climbing out on a limb, over the heads of those who may judge us, to meet Jesus and to share the meal that can bring the vision of God to reality.

Marguerite Martin

First Holy Communion



Over the next two Sundays we will be celebrating First Holy Communion with 28 children and their families. The front pews will be reserved especially for the children and their families.

SYDNEY ALLIANCE

The Sydney Alliance will be holding a Leaders Assembly on Wednesday 20th November from 6pm-8pm at Granville Boys High School, 14 Mary Street Granville. The purpose of the Assembly is to bring together our partner organizations from across the Sydney Alliance to work out our strategy for the next 18 months. Together we'll discuss and decide which issues will become our city-wide agenda. Dinner will be supplied during the assembly. Please bring \$10 donation to cover costs. A few people from the parish will be attending. Please see Fr. Alan if you are interested in attending.

On **Wednesday 13th November** an inspection on the entire parish property will be undertaken. The purpose of the inspection will be to work out a long term maintenance plan for the parish. As several hours of inspection of the Church will be required Mass on that day will take place at **6:00pm** instead of the usual time of midday (12pm).

- **Parish Dinner** The Parish Dinner will take place in the evening on Saturday 29th March 2014. Please put this date in your diary.
- **Finance Committee** As part of our Ministry of Stewardship members of the Finance Committee will give a brief report outlining our financial position on all of our Masses this Sunday 3rd of November.
- **Charitable Work Fund Appeal** The 3rd and final Charitable Works Fund for the year will take place this Sunday 3rd November. Should you wish to donate please place on the envelope on the second collection.
- **Bushfire Appeal** Last Sunday I made mention in the parish bulletin about the bushfire appeal through the St. Vincent de Paul society stating that anyone wishing to make a cash donation could give it to me. During the week I had a wonderful offer from representatives of the MINI Vinnies from St. Vincent's Primary School that they come to each mass this Sunday and collect any cash donations from anyone who wishes to donate to this appeal. This initiative came completely from these student representatives and is to be applauded. In addition the Catholic Education Office (CEO) will double the final amount that they raise. So for anyone wishing to donate they will be out in the foyer after mass to collect and I, in turn, will collect the money from them for safekeeping. Anyone who wishes to donate directly to the St. Vincent De paul Society online can still do so by going to website www.vinnie.org.au/nsw-bushfire-appeal-nsw.
- **Stations of the Cross** During this past week enquiries were made as to progress of the work being currently done to restore the Stations of the Cross. It is still anticipated that they will be completed by the end of December.

From the
Pastor

St Vincent's Parents and Friends

present

Carnival

A fun filled family day
in the grounds of
St Vincent's
with

Rides, face painting, cake stalls,
sausage sizzle, trash and
treasure stall, raffles and so much
more!

When: **Sunday 1 Dec**
after 10am Mass.

Parish Masses this week:

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

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

Morning Prayer: Saturday 8:40am

Saturday 9:00am - Rosary after mass

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

Polish Mass 12 noon

Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel

Tuesday 9:00am Sunday 9:00am



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

Summer Hill Parish Mass: Monday: No Mass Tuesday 8:30am. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

FIRST READING: You have mercy on all things because you love everything that
exists (Wisdom 11:22—12:2)

PSALM: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God
(Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14)

SECOND READING: The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and
you in him (2 Thessalonians 1:11—22)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! God loved the world so much he
gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost
(Luke 19:1-10)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your
presence, O Lord.



Next Sunday's Readings

Thirty-second Sunday in
Ordinary Time

2 Maccabees 7:1-2. 9-14

Ps 16:1. 5-63. 8. 15

2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5

Luke 20:27-38

St Vincent's Community
Praying Together

As our HSC students
Prepare for their exam today
We thank you God
For their talents and gifts.
Help them remember all they
have learned.

Be gracious with what they have
overlooked.

Calm their nerves and anxiety
We know this test won't change your love
for them.

We ask you God to guide their way.
Holy Spirit journey with them, always.
Amen

St Vincent Pray For Us

Carnival Assistance Needed

If you can assist on the day of the carnival in
any capacity, helping on a stall, helping to set up
or put away please contact Dewi 0401461864.

Any donations of trash or treasure greatly
appreciated.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend —
relationship enrichment for married couples 8—10
November at Mt. Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
bookings: 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au.
Information: www.wwme.org.au

**Columban Calendars 2014 available for \$10 and
Catholic Weekly for \$2 from Lillie**