

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



First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2013



As the hope of Advent hurtles into our midst at the start of another church year, can we dare to hope for something much better than what is reported in the media? It is time

of remembering who is really in charge of everything, and settling our hearts on participating in the God of Peace's plan to bring to reality a world of peace with justice. Today's readings call us to make peace and to live peaceably towards an end known only to God. We again hear Isaiah in the context of violence: there are threats of conflicts and struggles flaring and threatening the world, shootings nearly nightly in our city, physical and psychological violence in neighbourhoods, homes, workplaces and even in our own relationships. We are aware of the absence of peace in the growing anger of the dispossessed, in the damage to the earth that will become a legacy for those who follow. And parts of the Philippines lie devastated from the recent Typhoon. Isaiah speaks of the Hope for a time when God's way will take priority - where people will be fed rather than succumb to violence; where people will be infected with genuine regard for each other and forget how to fight. In Advent we are reminded of the preciousness of life. The call is to wake up, to yearn for peace, rather than squandering our days on the wrong things. Can we begin by making time to look at one another and listen to one another? What hope is there of living less selfishly and more peacefully?

Rev Claude Mostowik MSC

ADVENT QUESTIONNAIRE-DECEMBER 1ST

A new liturgical year a new start

At all Masses on December 1, we thought we might try something different and give Parishioners the chance to think about what concerns them— at home, work and life in general.

As part of the Homily, you will be asked to fill out a simple questionnaire asking for three issues that are of most concern to you.

All anonymous, the results will be collated and a report given back to the Parish on December 15th. Start thinking about your life as a Sydneysider, parishioner of St. Vincent's Ashfield, as well as those of your family and friends.

What concerns you?

What would you do about it?

- **The Trading Circle**, thinking of Christmas Gift? The Trading Circle will be selling their goods after all masses today.
- **St. Vincent De Paul Society Christmas Appeal** will take place next Sunday 8th December at all Masses and at the 9:00am Mass at Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel. Envelopes will be on the seats for people to donate on this Appeal.
- St Vincent de Paul will be distributing hampers to those in need in the Parish. Baskets will be available under the giving tree at the front of the church for those wishing to donate non-perishable food items and gifts.
- **A Thankyou Party** will be held at St Vincent's Parish Offices on Thursday **12 December at 7pm**. This occasion is being used to thank parishioners for the way they have contributed to the parish over the past year through the various ministries in the parish. All parishioners are welcome.
- **Christmas Masses—Altar Servers** To assist with organizing the roster for Christmas Masses altar servers wishing to serve at this time are asked to write down their availability on the list in the altar servers sacristy.
- **Communal Penitential Service** **Wednesday 18th December at 7:00pm** Sacramental Reconciliation is available.

Farewell and thank you Mrs. Maria Havryliv

Mrs. Maria Havryliv has recently concluded her role as Principal of St. Vincent's Primary School. She had been Principal at the school for the past three years and had also served on the Parish Pastoral Council during that time. On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank Maria for her generous service to both the school and parish communities during her time with us and wish her well for the future. A thorough process which I am a part of has commenced for a new Principal at the School for 2014

Fr. Alan

“Behold” Daily Advent and Christmas reflections now available for \$4.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2013

Tuesday 24th December

6:00 pm	Christmas Eve — Children's Mass
8:00 pm	Christmas Eve
10:00 pm	Polish Mass
12:00 am	Midnight Mass

Wednesday 25th December

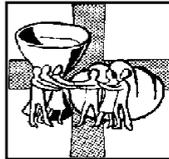
8:00 am	Christmas Day
10:00 am	Christmas Day
12:00 pm	Polish Mass

There will be NO evening Mass
in
English or Polish on Sunday night

Please note there will be 9:00am Mass
on Christmas Day at Cardinal Freeman Village
(137 Victoria Street Ashfield)

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

First Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted;
let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who
hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING: The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God
(Isaiah 2:1-5)

PSALM: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 121:1-5)

SECOND READING: The time has come, our salvation is near (Romans 13:11-14)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love
and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Stay awake, you must be ready (Matthew 24:37-44)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield
its increase.



Next Sunday's Readings

Second Sunday of

Advent Yr A

Isaiah 11:1-10

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12

The Order of Malta Lourdes Day Mass

The Order of Malta invites all parishioners to Lourdes Day
Mass 2013 to be celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral on
Saturday 7 December at 10am. The Principal Celebrant
will be His Eminence George Pell AO.

A blessing of the sick and for good health will take place
during the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought
from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes. Those receiving
the blessing will also be provided with a bottle of Lourdes
Water for their personal use.

If you are attending and are confined to a wheelchair or
require other special assistance at the Cathedral, please
contact our office on 9331 8477.

An Evening of Carols



The 6:00pm Choir invites
you to join us in song and
getting in the
spirit of Christmas
FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER
at 7:30pm
in the Church

Typhoon Haiyan Aid Response

Millions of people are now in need of emergency aid relief in the Philippines. Please give generously to the
Caritas Australia Typhoon Haiyan Appeal. Call 1800
024 413, donate online at www.caritas.org.au or send
your donation to GPO Box 9830 in your Capital City.

POPE INVITES RESPONSE ON FAMILY LIFE

Pope Francis has called an Extraordinary Synod (Meeting
of Bishops) to consider the pastoral challenges of the
Family in the Context of Evangelisation. This synod will
be held in Rome in October 2014. In preparation for this
meeting the Pope has asked the Vatican to contact every
Bishop around the world to consult with his Diocese to
ensure input is received from as many members of the
church as possible on a range of issues facing the family
today. On the notice board in the foyer there is a letter
from our Archbishop of Sydney Cardinal George Pell
explaining the call of Pope Francis. This is also available
on the Archdiocese of Sydney website at
www.sydneycatholic.org. There is also the ability to
complete an online version of the survey. Submissions
close on Friday, 6 December 2013.