

# 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](http://www.vinash.org.au) E-mail [vinstaff@vinash.org.au](mailto: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



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2014

Today's First Reading, Psalm and Gospel all relate to the way in which we are called to live in right relationship with God and with one another. By declaring that he has come not to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to complete—fulfil—them, Jesus is making it perfectly clear that his ministry and teaching is in alignment with and in accordance with the historical tradition, and he is not setting out to overthrow the Jewish tradition. Rather, throughout his ministry, Jesus repeatedly call the people to be true to the teachings of old and to live them with integrity and dedication. His constant complaint is against those who live by the letter of the Law and ignore what we would call the spirit or intention of the Law. This is the root of his swipe at the shallow virtue of the scribes and Pharisees in today's gospel. The criticism that Jesus levelled at these two groups was that their adherence to the Law made no room for the compassionate heart that the writings of the Prophets demanded.

Greg Sunter

The law of Jesus takes the laws of old and turns them into the two Great Commandments, Love God and Love each other. If I truly love God then I enter into communication with the heart of what matters and "What matters to God?" Everybody matters absolutely, even those who seem to not follow the law. To be absolute about that is right and what is wrong can appear the safe way to live, yet life throws at us those shades of "in between", that can cause us great angst as we are taken from the safety of knowing what is right and wrong and to be drawn into making exceptions to the rule. Jesus call us to understand the spirit of the law is to truly enter into the heart of what matters. Marguerite Martin

**Sydney Alliance** The City Wide Assembly will take place on Wednesday 26th March from 7pm to 8.30pm at Sydney Town hall. The three issues which will be put forward for the 2015 State Elections will be Housing, Transport and the Work Start Programme. Parishioners are encouraged to give serious consideration to attending this event. Should you wish to attend you will need to register. To register online please go to website <http://www.sydneyalliance.org.au/news/2014/01/29/bridging-sydney/>. For those without internet and would like to attend please see Fr. Alan.

**Parish Dinner** will take place on Saturday 29th March. More details to follow.

**Mass on Monday  
17th February**  
will take place at **9:00am.**  
Instead of the usual time  
of midday

**Fr. Alan's absence** Fr. Alan is away on holidays from the parish from Thursday 13th February until Tuesday 4th March 2014. Fr. Jim Maloney will be celebrating masses during the week as well as the 8am and 10am on the Sundays during Fr. Alan's absence. Fr. Roland Maurer from Croydon will be looking after the 6pm masses on Sunday 16th February and Sunday 23rd February. One of the Columban Fathers from Strathfield will celebrate the 6pm mass on Sunday 2nd March.

**LENT IS APPROACHING!** Ash Wednesday  
March 5 **When I wake up on Easter Sunday  
Morning, how will I be different?**

Have you thought what you may do this Lent to achieve this joyous transformation Pope Francis urges us to bring joy back into our relationship with God and the World. **Lent is the time for change and for renewal.** So How do I do it?

**EASY!** Put your name down for a Lenten discussion group at the back of the Church and tap your friend on the shoulder and ask them to join you. These can be held in homes, maybe your home, or in the Parish House, Meet new people! Share your faith We will use the Encounter program from Wollongong diocese as our base material this year that has marvellous reflections by Sr Hilda Scott, a Benedictine Sister from Jamberoo and Fr Greg Homeming, a Carmelite Priest. Guaranteed to lift your heart and change your Easter!

**Royal Commission** You may have noticed that the Royal Commission has currently moved on to other institutions. It is anticipated that the Catholic Church will be called forward again in different stages throughout this year. The whole point is getting it all out in the open so that it does not happen again.  
Fr. Alan

# Little Sparks Playgroup



Do you want to:

-  Have fun with your child?
-  Meet other parents and children?
-  Play, sing, laugh, share and try new things?

Then come along and try our Little Sparks Playgroup in the hall at St Vincent's School. Everyone is welcome, we have mums, dads, grandparents and aunts. We have families from many different countries

St Vincent's School Hall

Thursday's from 9am to 11am  
Bring some fruit to share.

Sinead Kent 0420653637

Family Educator St Vincent's School



## DATES FOR DIARY

5th March	Ash Wednesday	Masses 12pm & 6:30pm
17th April	Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm
18th April	Good Friday	Stations of the Cross at 10am (both Church and Ashfield Park) - Passion of the Lord at 3pm
19th April	Easter Vigil	6pm
8th June	Sunday	Confirmation at 2:30pm
19th — 21st	August	First Reconciliation
16th — 23rd	November	First Communion at all Masses

**St Bakhita Centre for Sudanese Refugees**, 2 Hornsey Rd, Flemington (Homebush West) is again in need of volunteers. Hours are 9.30 – 12.45 Tuesday to Friday; or 5.30 – 8 (approx.) on Thursday evening. Volunteers usually volunteer for one session only. We are urgently in need of:

1. An Office Manager/Communicator
2. Child Minders
3. Early Education Teachers or Pre-School Trained Volunteers
4. Anyone who can assist with Basic Computer Skills/Tafe Support/English Skills/Driving Theory/Citizenship

If you can assist, please contact Sr Maria Sullivan on 0408 615 671 or [mariasull@bigpond.com](mailto:mariasull@bigpond.com)

Thanks for your generosity and support over many years.

### Parish Masses this week:

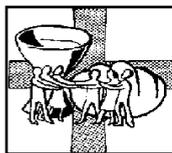
Monday 9:00am  
Tuesday 7 am  
Wednesday 12 noon  
Thursday 9:00am

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

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**ENTRANCE PROCESSION:** Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**FIRST READING:** He never commanded anyone to be godless (Sirach 15:15-20)

**PSALM:** Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34)

**SECOND READING:** God is his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began (1 Corinthians 2:6-10)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you (Matthew 5:17-37)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
Matthew 5:38-48