

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

August 3, 2014

Loaves and Fishes. That is all they had. This miraculous meal is a well known gospel story and is often referred to when a meal is needed for a large number of people. But for the people who sought Jesus the satisfaction was not just in the meal.

Jesus needed time to reflect and withdrew to a quiet place, on a boat, to contemplate the death of his cousin John the Baptist. Over 5000 people heard were he was and waited. They sought him but were so desperate to see him that they left home without preparation for a journey. Let's look at the actions of Jesus.

He saw the large crowd.

He took pity on them.

He healed their sick.

He commanded his followers to give them food themselves.

He had them bring the meagre loaves and fishes.

He asked the people to sit.

He took the offering, he prayed over it, he broke and gave to the crowds.

On the crowds behalf one can see what hope that they had in Jesus. When he saw them his pity was true identification with all their needs. He then healed the obvious, he healed the unobvious. They stayed to listen, to watch. When evening came and the disciples stomachs were rumbling, it was to them he said *Give them something to eat yourselves*. They collected only 5 loaves and 2 fish. It was here Jesus pre-emptive actions fed many with the promise to feed all the tribes of Israel in the 12 baskets that were left. He took the meagre offering, he prayed and blessed, he broke and he gave. This was the Jesus way. He was to take himself, to pray, to be broken as gift to us. This love can not be collected in baskets but goes on and on... *Marguerite Martin*

SEARCHING?OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?

Are you searching for a sense of belonging, a place of welcome, a sense of community, where there is God and meaning?

Have you ever wondered about the Catholic Church and what it teaches? Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?

Our parish community invites you to explore with us the place of God in our lives, in and through the Catholic faith.

If you are interested, please come along to our Inquiry evening on Tuesday 30 September at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre (12 Bland St Ashfield), or Phone Marguerite on 9798 2501 (Tues to Thurs) or marguerite@vinash.org.au.

Reception into the Church for Jonathan Udit

We welcome and congratulate Jonathan Udit who will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the 10am mass today.

Charitable Works Fund Appeal will take place at all Masses this Sunday 3rd August. Envelopes will be placed in the seats for anyone wishing to donate and these can be place on either the first or second collection. Thank you for your continued support of this important work.

Miraculous Medal Novena Mass Saturday

August 9th 9:00am Mass Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited within the Mass each second Saturday of the month.

DATES FOR DIARY

15th August	Feast of the Assumption Masses: 9:15am & 6:30pm
17th August	Club Ashfield Annual Mass at the 10:00 Mass
19th — 20th August	First Reconciliation
21st September	St. Vincent's Feast Celebration
16th — 23rd November	First Communion at all Masses

Cushions covers for Blessed Sacrament Chapel – can you sew?

The Parish Pastoral Council recently had several European style cushions donated for use in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

The Parish is looking for a handful of volunteers to sew covers. All materials will be provided, although access to a sewing machine is required. If would like to provide a few hours of your time, please call the Parish office on 9798 2501.

Fr. Alan's absences this month:

4th—9th August	Holidays
11th—14th August	Clergy Conference
24th—29th August	Retreat

Parish Website

A reflection on the life of Archbishop Petero Mataka, former Archbishop of Suva, Fiji is now on the parish website.

Receipts for donations to the Planned Giving, CWF & Project Compassion for Financial Year 2013-2014 are available at the back of the church.

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

Learn More About Your Catholic Faith in Term 3 at CAEC Sydney. There are two weekend intensives, Engaging Secularism for the New Evangelisation with Benjamin Wiker on **16 & 17 August**, and Getting to Know Pope Francis: His Life, Writings & Spirituality is on **13 & 14 September**. For more information contact CAEC Sydney on **9646 9010**, study@caec.com.au or www.caec.com.au.

Heartfelt thanks for your compassion. Thank you once again for opening your heart for Project Compassion 2014. We are humbled by your generosity and continuing support in helping so many people build a life of hope and dignity. For more information in Caritas Australia's work please visit www.caritas.org.au.

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon
Tuesday 7:00am
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 4:00pm Sunday 9:00am

The Making Marriage Work Course. This course will be held on **Sunday, 24 August** facilitated by Carolyn Curro with the theme—**Create a marriage built on admiration and respect.** Learn what breaks, and makes, a long-term relationship. Deal with conflict in ways that keeps your relationship alive. Find ways to make one another's dreams come true. Create shared meaning and a sense of purpose. Carolyn is a qualified counsellor and approved course trainer teaching communications to pre-married couples for the Catholic Adult Education Centre. Married with 3 married children. **Where:** St Martha's hall, **Time:** 9:30am to 5:00pm. Cost: \$30 per couple (cash only) Morning tea and afternoon tea provided, please bring your own lunch. Course materials provided. **RSVP Thursday, 14 August** Contact: **Carolyn Curro 0425 329 609** email carolyncurro@hotmail.com.

St Benedict's Monastery Arcadia You are invited to four Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Days for 2014 at St. Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd., Arcadia tel: 9653 1159 **Sundays: 17 August and 16 November.** Arrival: 10am for 10:30am. Presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. Conclusion: around 3pm. Books and CDs are available for sale, BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided.

Self-catering overnight accommodation may be available in the monastery guest house and **can be arranged through Br Terry on 0438 282 318.**

Enquiries to Ann Bergman:

anniebergman@hotmail.com or **9498 2625** or Ann Lomas atlomas@bigpond.com or **9456 4775.**

Mass for Pregnant Mothers: *Are you expecting a baby or know someone who is? You are warmly invited to attend the annual Mass for Pregnant Mothers to be celebrated by Bishop Peter A. Comensoli at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 24th of August at 10:30am. Morning tea will follow in St. Mary's Cathedral Chapter Hall. **RSVP and enquiries** can be directed to LMevents@sydneycatholic.org or call 9390 5290.*

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: 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: Hasten and eat (Isaiah 55:1-3)

PSALM: The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs (Ps 144:8-9, 15-18)

SECOND READING: No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ (Romans 8:35, 37-39)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: They all ate and were satisfied (Matthew 14:13-21)

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 Year A

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13
Ps 84:9-14

Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-33