

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

August 24, 2014

Faith is a gift that can not be acquired. I have met people who have studied under great theologians yet display no faith. I have met ordinary people in awful circumstances whose faith is dazzling. The gospel today is like that.

Of all the Apostles in the gospels Peter is the one that we know the best. We know him for his impulsive actions and his denial of Christ. He is so full of all the human frailties, so imperfect, so like me. He is a man who is ruled by his heart before his head. He trusts and loves Jesus yet does not fully understand him. In the gospel a couple of weeks ago it is Peter who jumps overboard into a stormy sea to walk towards Jesus, so full of faith one minute then sinking the next. Yet in the gospel today we hear of his defining moment in all our faith lives. **Who do you say I am?** The rest of the apostles can only refer to what they know then Peter hits the jackpot. **You are the Christ.**

Peter in his simple faith exposed not the bumbling flesh and blood but the Spirit inspired answer that was all Jesus had to hear. He wasn't like anyone he was **the Son of the Living God**. It was upon this huge faith given by God, inspired by the Spirit and approved by Jesus that is the foundation of the Church. As much as Simon son of Jonah is imperfect; as Peter, the human voice of the inspired revelation he is foundational. **On this (faith) I will build my Church.** *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.

DATES FOR DIARY

21st September St. Vincent's Feast Celebration
16th — 23rd November First Communion at all Masses

Mass and Communion Services during

Fr. Alan's Absence will be as follows Sunday 24th August 6pm will be celebrated by Fr. Roland Maurer. Welcome back Fr. Roland.

Monday 25th August	Communion Service
Tuesday 26th August	Communion Service
Wednesday 27th August	Mass
Thursday 28th August	Communion Service

Next Sunday 31st August is both Migrant and Refugee Sunday and Mission Sunday:

Propagation of Faith Appeal This particular Sunday is a celebration of the dignity of people who are refugees and migrants and the contribution they have made to life in Australia. Brydie Clark from Catholic Mission will be speaking at all masses.

Mass on Thursday 4th September at 9am

will be a Father's Day Liturgy prepared by Bethlehem College.

Parish Pastoral Council

The St. Vincent's Parish Pastoral Council is discussing initiating a Pastoral Planning Process which we hope would engage our diverse Ashfield community. The planning process will be developed to connect with all of our parishioners and the many groups and organizations that make up the rich tapestry of parish life of St. Vincent's. We will also reach out to connect with the groups and families in the wider community of Ashfield. The Pastoral Council is committed to guiding the planning process, and we will do our best to communicate and connect with you often about the progress of the planning process and the likely development of a St. Vincent's Pastoral Plan.

To begin our PPC conversation, we reflected on a couple of questions at our meeting this week. We would love to hear your thoughts in response to some questions:

If St. Vincent's Parish is to commence a process to develop a Parish Pastoral Plan, what would you like to see happen? How would you like to be involved? What community or parish groups do you suggest we could engage in conversation with about the ministries and mission of St. Vincent's Parish?

We hope each person will add their voice to this initiative—the richness of our community is in our diversity. We encourage your thoughts on email or by phone. You can connect with Fr. Alan or any member of the Pastoral Council, also we have established an email account stvincentspastoralplan@gmail.com to help communication throughout the process. Thanks and peace to all.

PARISH STAFF: *Fr. Alan Gibson CM*
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin

The Burse... the presentation of donations received through the Parents and Friends of the Vincentian Fathers and Brothers in Australia and Fiji, known as "The Burse" will take place at St. Anthony's Marsfield on Sunday 14th September commencing at 2:30pm. The Burse was formed some years ago to help educate men who wished to become Vincentian Priests and Brothers and who could not afford their own education.

New subscribers are now being sought and all that is required is an annual donation. No one is asked to give beyond their means and any amount will be gratefully received. Phone Lillie Furlong, Hon Sec at 9797 6840 .

Youth Leaders' Formation Course 2014

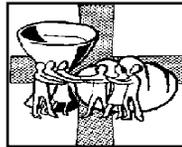
Are you aged 18-30? Are you looking for the next step? Are you willing to take a leap of faith? From 24 November to 22 December 2014 the 8th Youth Leaders' Formation Course (YLFC) will be held by the Archdiocese of Sydney out at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre. The YLFC is a unique opportunity for 20 young adults to live in community while being immersed in a transformative spiritual, pastoral and intellectual life. The YLFC includes over thirty presentations from dynamic speakers, daily Mass and prayer, silent retreat, parish mission, social outreach and life changing friendships! Find more at www.catholicyouthservices.org/ylfc or email

Parish Masses this week:

Monday Communion Service
Tuesday Communion Service
Wednesday 12 noon
Thursday Communion Service
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

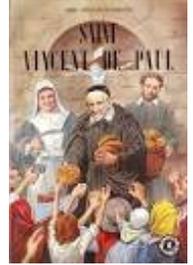


First Communion 2014

First Communion will be celebrated in St Vincent's Parish on 16 and 23 November. Registration forms are available at the back of the church. If you would like your child to be part of the program that commences with a Parent Information session on either 7 Oct @7pm or 9 Oct @ 9.15am please return a form ASAP to the Parish Office.

St Vincent de Paul is the Patron Saint of Charity

The Church is for all God's children, rich and poor, peasants and scholars, the sophisticated and the simple. But obviously the greatest concern of the Church must be for those who need the most help – those made helpless by sickness, poverty, ignorance or cruelty. Vincent de Paul is a particularly appropriate patron for all Christians today, when hunger has become starvation and the high living of the rich stands in more and more glaring contrast to the physical and moral degradation in which many of God's children are forced to live.



How can we make a difference in our world today to better the future for all God's children? How will St Vincent guide us?

The Church and the Royal Commission

Francis Sullivan is the Chief Executive Officer of the Truth Justice Healing Council. He will explore what is being done and what can be done as we face the disappointment, confusion and anger that exists around the matters raised by the Commission. Francis Sullivan will inform us of latest developments and take questions. St. Joseph's Catholic Church Newtown, cnr of Bedford and Stations Streets, Newtown on **Monday 8th September 2014 Time: 7-8:30pm.** All welcome. For more info: www.newtownfaith.blogspot.com.au

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Turn you ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING: I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder (Isaiah 22:19-23)

PSALM: Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8)

SECOND READING: From him, through him, and in him are all things (Romans 11:33-36)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: You are Peter; to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 16:13-20)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The earth is replete with fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.



Next Sunday's Readings

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27