

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



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A August 31, 2014

To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this gospel, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

This week's gospel is a reminder of the real challenge of being a Christian. Jesus reminds us that to be one of his followers we must be prepared to pick up our cross – whatever our particular cross might be – and still follow his example. To be a Christian means that we don't fall in a heap when difficulty comes our way; we take up the burden – our cross – and continue to look forward with hope. To live like Jesus is no easy option.

Gregory Sunter

Sydney Alliance Table Talks As a follow up to the Sydney Alliance Gathering that took place at the Sydney Town Hall on Wednesday 26th March, Fr. Alan is hosting a 4th table talk in the Parish Meeting Rooms on Sunday 14th September 2014 immediately after the 10am mass. The limit for the meeting will be one hour maximum. Morning tea will be provided. This is an opportunity to continue the conversation on housing, transport and employment opportunities to both young and indigenous people as a lead up to the State Elections next year. Please contact Fr. Alan should you wish to attend.



BAPTISMS

Saturday, 6th September

11:00am

MARINA ANTONETTA TELLEZ
KEIRA CATHERINE WILLIAMS

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.

This 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 today.

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 same 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 Profile — Parish Pastoral Plan

As a way of getting to know our parish better a profile of St. Vincent's Parish as at 2011 has now been posted on the parish website. Please go to link http://www.procatholic.org.au/2011-Social-Profiles/01-Sydney/ASHFIELD%20Parish_28_Profile.pdf

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 .



Let them eat Cake.

Alerting all Masterchefs to the St Vincent's Celebration (21st September) Cake-Off Competition!

Over the years we have had many extravagant cakes entered.

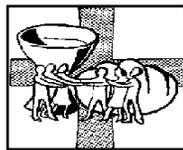
This year there will be two categories awarded:

Raffle Donations

If you would like to donate a prize for the St Vincent's Day Raffle it would be greatly appreciated and can be left at the Parish Office.

Parish Masses this week:

- Monday 12 noon
- Tuesday 7am
- Wednesday 12 noon
- Thursday 9am



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

What did St. Vincent say of our need to be with the Poor?

"Let us seek out the poorest and most abandoned among us, and recognise before God that they are our Lords and masters, and that we **are unworthy** of rendering our little services for them."

(Documents, vol 11, p146)

How do I react when I meet a poor person? What feelings arise in me? Am I aware of God's presence in this encounter? How are God's poor treated by the media? Am I influenced by these treatments?



Come & Join the Celebrations
in honour of our Parish Patron
St Vincent de Paul

Sunday 21st September
MASS in St Vincent's Church at 10am

followed by a

Celebration Of Cultures
in the Parish Hall
featuring

**Sausage Sizzle, Jumping Castle,
Fairy Floss, Snow Cones,
Music, Dancing,
Raffle, Cake Competition,
St Vincent Art Colouring Competition
And FOOD from all over the World**
We'll look forward to seeing you there!

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long, O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

FIRST READING: The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me (Jeremiah 20:7-9)

PSALM: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Ps 62:2-6, 8-9)

SECOND READING: May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself (Matthew 16:21-27)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.



Next Sunday's Readings

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20