

# 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)

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Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday

## St. Vincent De Paul

September 21, 2014

**Happy St Vincent's day!** This is our feast in the parish named after him in Australia and served by the congregation of priests he founded in the early 1600's in France.

Today we remember his remarkable story... in a country so far away from France; in a time that presents different challenges to the Vincentian sensitivity.

Last week I was privileged to be in Paris where I took the opportunity to visit the relics of St Vincent de Paul at the Vincentian church on Rue du Bac. I was somewhat moved to see his peaceful face and brought to him all the needs of the people of Ashfield, and those of the faithful priests who serve us in his name. I then went just up the road and round the corner to the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal, attended Mass and saw the relics of St Louise Marillac DC, who shared St Vincent's call to the poor with the Daughters of Charity. I felt very blessed to be part of this Vincentian family.

*Marguerite Martin*

We are heirs of a great legacy... sons and daughters of two great prophets of charity. In this common heritage, we take pride. Our bonds are strengthened. We as Vincentian Family have great potential for making a difference in our time as Vincent and Louise did in theirs. Vincent read the gospel from and through his experience of the poor and the turmoil that threatened to tear apart the society and the church of his time. In this way, he discovered his vocation in life and gave birth to a dream that deeply marked his time. We have the "genes" of Vincent and Louise. We have their heart and their spirit. Fidelity to their legacy urges us to forge ahead together to be prophets of charity in today's world. Today's global reality e.g the dominance of giant corporations, climate change, the movement/fleeing of peoples from homelands. It challenges us to become, not simply individual prophets, but a "family of prophets."

In an era when injustice has assumed a global dimension, the dream of Vincent and Louise impels us to form networks of charity among the Vincentian Family. Networks of charity attentive to events and to the poor, inventive and audacious in their responses manifest the perennial newness of the Vincentian charism. They create ripples of hope for the future.

*Sr Julma C. Neo. DC*

*"It is certain that when charity dwells in a soul, it takes possession of all its powers; it gives no rest; it is a fire that's constantly active; once a person is inflamed by it, it holds them spellbound."* (SVP, Aug 4, 1655)

*Please continue to serve our dear masters, with great gentleness, respect and cordiality, always seeing God in them."* (SLM. Letter 361, June 1653)

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting** will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7:00pm in the Parish Meeting Rooms.

**Finance Committee Meeting** The Parish Finance Committee will meet this Wednesday 24th September in the Parish Meeting rooms at 7pm.

### 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](mailto:stvincentspastoralplan@gmail.com) to help communication throughout the process. Thanks and peace to all.

**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.

### DATES FOR DIARY

2nd November 3rd Charitable Works Fund Appeal  
16th — 23rd November First Communion at all Masses

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

*Marguerite Martin*

We celebrate **Social Justice Sunday on September 28**. This year's Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Crown for Australia: Striving for the best in our sporting nation'. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, call (02) 8306 3499 or visit the Australian Catholic Justice Council website [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

**REFUGE (a play about asylum seekers and refugees)**

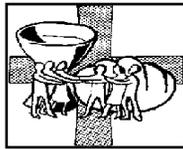
Australia's Refugee Policy has long been a great worry for many people. We present our play **REFUGE** to raise awareness, to voice concerns, to unite in solidarity with refugees & asylum seekers and to refuel campaigns for justice & refugee rights. **REFUGE** will premier at St. Luke's hall in Enmore, October 2-5, for four nights only. The play is interactive: the audience participates and bears witness, rather than observing passively. Six audience members can even put their hand up for a small part: a gatekeeper, a demonstrator, and anonymous detainee, etc. An invitation is extended to stay after the show for informal discussion. *Those who want a small part, please book by phone or email, and turn up half an hour before starting time to be briefed. No acting experience required.*

**Booking & inquiries: 9665 6489 or [kineticenergy@iprimus.com.au](mailto:kineticenergy@iprimus.com.au)**

Rosary and meditations especially for our Pope, Priests and the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be prayed each Wednesday from 11:00am to 11:45am starting next Wednesday 10th September in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. As well as there will be an Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

**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 ?**

Do not overburden yourself with rules of devotion, but persist in doing well those you have, your daily actions, your work: in a word, **let everything revolve around doing well what you are doing.** Give me a person of prayer and he will be capable of anything. He may say



with the apostle, "I can do all things in him who strengthens me" (Documents, vol 11, p83)

*This week have I loved God through actions of justice and love? Have there been any situations that have moved me to feel deep compassion, but about which I have taken no action?*

**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](mailto:marguerite@vinash.org.au).**

Happy Feastday to the Vincentian Fathers  
**Happy Feastday to the Vincentian Fathers**  
 and to the Daughters of Charity!!!

**St. Vincent De Paul**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me and sent me to preach the good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted

**FIRST READING:** All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of the Lord (Isaiah 52:7-10)

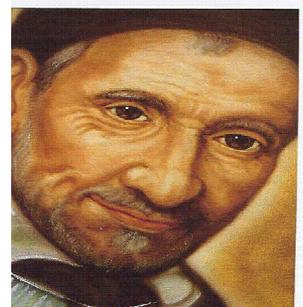
**PSALM:** I have spoken of your faithfulness and saving help (Ps 39(40); 10-11a, 11b-12, 17-18a)

**SECOND READING:** God has chosen those who are nothing at all (Philippians 2:6-11)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! As you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:1-12a)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.



**Next Sunday's Readings**

Twenty-six Sunday in Ordinary Time A  
 Ezekiel 18:25-28  
 Ps 24:4-9  
 Philippians 2:1-11  
 Matthew 21:28-32