

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

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2014

Last Wednesday we celebrated the arrival of our dear niece from the UK. She has been promising to come and stay for a while but work and other events have been turning over her plans...so we have been waiting. It was only really a fortnight ago she rang and gave us flight details and a date and only then I believed that she really was coming! It was a joy to realise that it was a definite....she was coming!. This week, in our Advent journey we can also rejoice. It is like we too have received the flight details! He is coming! So how are our preparations going?

I think of Jesus' birth in to that stable. It would have been a dark, smelly place. It is for those dark areas that Jesus came. John the Baptist is the Advent man! He was waiting for the arrival of the Saviour using the insights of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. John understood the darkness, he understood wilderness, he understood preparation. He was confident and assured that the Saviour was coming. He was like the phone call, the voice announcing that Jesus was to be the Light of the world to bring us out of darkness and wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord. Let him enter into your darkness!

Marguerite Martin



Parish Pastoral Plan Update

As part of forming the parish pastoral plan, the Parish Councils will be holding a series of informal discussions over the next couple of months on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges for the parish.

The Parish needs your input so that it can focus on priorities and key challenges over the next 5 years.

In the next few weeks a list of parish talks will be placed on the noticeboard in the church entrance. These will be hosted by members of the Parish Pastoral Council with different dates and venues being offered.

For any further information, call Stephen Fenn on 0423 027 657.

Come and See

Are you interested in what we believe? You are most welcome to join us at the Parish House (12 Bland St) after the 10 am Mass most Sundays. If you have never been baptised or come from another faith tradition or want to revitalise your faith you are most welcome. Ring Marguerite 97982501 or 0414566961.

St. Vincent De Paul Society Christmas Hamper Anyone wishing to donate items of non perishable food and gifts may do so by leaving these items in any of the baskets below the Advent tree this Sunday December 14.

Christmas Sausage Sizzle after all masses TODAY in the playground (rain, hail or shine). Please spare a bit of time and share in a bit of Christmas cheer with other parishioners.

An Evening of Carols

The 6:00pm Choir invites you to join us in song and getting in the spirit of Christmas

FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER
at 7:30pm
in the Church

Communion Service On

Wednesday 17th December 2014

A Communion Service will take the place of Mass on Wednesday 17th December at 12pm (midday).

Mass on Thursday 18th December, 2014 at 9:00am

Staff from both Bethlehem and De La Salle College will be joining us for the celebration of the Eucharist on this day.

Monday 22nd December 7:00pm
Communal Penitential Service in preparation for Christmas. Sacramental Reconciliation will be available

Visitation Request A member of the parish community has requested visitation in the home. The preference would be if two people could come forward. Please see Fr. Alan for further details.

Year of Consecrated Life:

In 2013, Pope Francis declared that a Year of Consecrated Life (YCL) be celebrated throughout the world. YCL will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014. It will close on the World Day of Consecrated Life, February 2, 2016.

2014 Advent Calendar and APP now available

The Archdiocese of Sydney social network Xt3.com has released its 2014 Advent Calendar. The online calendar, also available as a free App for iPhone, iPad and Android devices, features daily reflections and multimedia resources to help you make the most of the season of Advent. View the Calendar online at www.xt3.com/advent or search "xt3 Advent" in the Google Play or App Store.

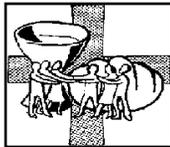
PATHWAYS OF ST PAUL Join parishioners from Holy Innocents' on a 20 day Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, departing Monday 20th April 2015. Walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, visit the places where he lived, worked and was imprisoned. Also visit island of Patmos, where St John wrote the book of Revelation, Basilica of St John built over the tomb of "The Divine" Apostle and the "House of Mary" where it is said Mary spent the later years of her life. For Itinerary Brochure and Booking Form please contact Fr. Peter Krigovsky, admin@holyc.org.au, 02 9747-4291, or download from www.holyinnocentscroydon.org.au/news-and-events/

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon
Tuesday 7 am
Wednesday Communion Service
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



CHRISTMAS 2014

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, 24th December

6:00pm Christmas Eve –
Children's Mass
8:00pm Christmas Eve
10:00pm Polish Mass
12:00am Midnight Mass

Thursday, 25th December

8:00am Christmas Day
10:00am Christmas Day
12:00pm Polish Mass

There will be NO evening Mass
in
English or Polish on Thursday night
Please note there will be 9:00am Mass on
Christmas Day at Cardinal Freeman Village
(137 Victoria Street Ashfield)

Youth Summer Schools of
Evangelization 2015

A Great Summer Retreat

What are you doing this Summer? A week long retreat for young people wanting to grow in faith and share the Christian challenge with others. Theme: Your Light Shine. Includes lectures and seminars, prayer, music, loads of fun and new friends. Two locations in NSW: Bathurst and Patterson (11-18 January 2015). Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community For over 25 years. For ages 16-35. More info see www.summerschool.org.au

Third Sunday in Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING: I exult for joy in the Lord (Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11)

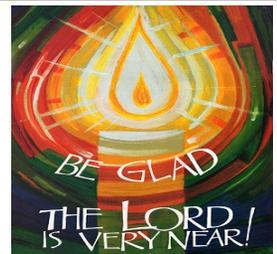
PSALM: My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54)

SECOND READING: May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



Next Sunday's Readings

Fourth Sunday of
Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38