

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



The Ascension of the Lord

May 17, 2015

How often do we hear it. "I spoke to the man upstairs..." or comments like that referring to where God is. This gospel and this feast of the Ascension reinforces that idea that God is up there and looking benevolently down on us. Heaven is above the clouds where God the Father sits with Jesus on his right hand. The image is almost one of the High Court bench, while we poor mortals toil below.

I feel it was to dispel images like this that Jesus came. With Jesus we have his description of God our Father eagerly running towards us with love and forgiveness in the story of the prodigal son; with Jesus we have his example to get down and wash each other's dirty places in life giving service. In Jesus we see the true image of our God, elevated on the Cross giving his life so that we can live.

Our God would never look down upon us because he is with us.

The Ascension of Jesus is about the commissioning of his graduates. They have lived the life, they have heard the stories, they have shared the meal and they have entered the vision of the Kingdom of God. They are commissioned to be Christ like. We too are similarly commissioned to go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Marguerite Martin

Mass of the Angels 3 June @6pm

Through this Easter to Pentecost season the Church celebrates the gift of New Life.

New Life is the most precious gift bringing with it new hope, new wonder and a deepened spirituality that connects with our God of Wonder and Awe.

Following Mothers Day we want to recognise and remember with the families who have experienced New Life but only for a shortened time and have lost their babies and children in miscarriage, still birth, infancy and SIDS.

It may have been recently or it may have been 40 years ago, but this "New Life" lives on in memory.

To especially remember these children we are celebrating their precious short lives with a Mass of the Angels on Wednesday 3 June in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 6pm. Please come and invite others who also have experienced this sadness. Some have kept mementoes of this life and you are asked to bring them with you.

Mass on Wednesday 20th May 2015

Mass this Wednesday will take place at **9:00am** instead of the usual time at 12pm

Workshop for Ministers of the Eucharist

A training session will be held in the Church on Thursday 21st May from 7pm to 8:30pm. Both current and those wishing to become Ministers of the Eucharist (giving out communion) at either the weekday or Sunday masses are invited.

Appeal for the People of Nepal

Thank you to all who donated to last weeks Nepal Earthquake Appeal. The Parish managed to raise \$1,452.35.

Bells Donated by a Member of the Polish

Community Please refer to the parish website to read the full history of the bells in Ashfield. There are two articles posted this week, one in English and the other in Polish.

St. Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Parents, if you have a child that will be starting Kindergarten in 2016, please come to the school office and pick up an Enrolment form as soon as possible.

De La Salle Enrolment

Interviews for positions for 2016 at De La Salle College Ashfield started at the beginning of the year. We have already received a large number of enrolments and places for Year 7 are filling up fast. As per the Catholic Education Office Enrolment Policy, students from feeder Catholic Systemic Schools are given first preference for places in Year 7 at De La Salle College **but they need to submit an enrolment application to secure their place for 2016.** Enrolment forms were distributed as part of a package to each Year 6 student from our feeder schools when they visited the College earlier this year. These forms can also be downloaded from the College website.

For further information regarding enrolment please contact the College Office on **9797 3200.**

WYD 2016 LAUNCH & YOUNG ADULT WELCOME TO ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY FISHER OP - Rescheduled to 19 May 2015. All young adults are invited to Sydney's launch of World Youth Day 2016. This will also be the first time that our new Archbishop will be present at an official Archdiocesan event for young adults so it is a great opportunity to meet and welcome him. It will be a huge night of celebration with Polish food, Polish dancing, information stalls, a catechesis from the Archbishop and even a spot of fine Polish vodka! Come and hear about the exciting pilgrimages that Sydney will be taking in 2016 to the City of Mercy. The evening will be held at St Mary's Cathedral College Hall on Tuesday 19 May from 7.30pm. The Archbishop will also be presiding at City Silence (the weekly young adult holy hour) in the Cathedral from 6.30pm. For more information see the event at www.facebook.com/catholicyouthservices or email: wyd@catholicyouthservices.org.

The 'we' of liturgy

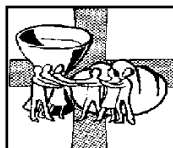
Have you ever noticed that almost all of the prayers at Mass are 'we' prayers? We thank, we bless, we ask. Even when the presider leads the prayer, it is always we who do the praying. We pray as on Body in Christ. In a society that values the individual over the group we are invited today to learn from our indigenous sisters and brothers who value strong relationships with family, the land and all of creation.

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon
 Tuesday 7:00 am
 Wednesday 9:00 am
 Thursday 9:00 am
 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
 Friday 9:00am — Communion Service



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL



We have reached our quota!
 Thank you to all those who have generously supported this appeal.

Downpour—Pentecost Youth Rally Saturday 23 May 2015

Join with hundreds as we celebrate Pentecost 2015 and pray for Sydney! This awesome night will feature worship by Steve Angrisano (USA), Gary and Natasha Pinto (Melbourne), and Stephen Kirk (Canberra) with a dynamic preaching by Fr. Chris Ryan MGL. A night not to be missed! Tickets and information

Parish Music Ministry Catholic Youth Services invites all young adults (18-35 years) involved in (or wanting to be involved in) parish music ministry to celebrate and build on their talents and gifts. Join us, as Stephen Kirk (Catholic Song writer & producer), Stephen Smith (Australia Sacred Music Association) and many others, lead participants through the why, when, what and how of music used within a church setting. Date: **23 May 2015**; Place: 108 The Crescent, Homebush West; Time: 9:30am—5pm; Cost \$10 (for meals). For further information or to register ring **02 9764 4357** or visit www.catholicyouthservices.org.

4th Annual Religious Liberty Lecture Notre Dame University School of Law 4th Annual Religious Liberty Lecture will be held on Wednesday **27th May 2015** at 6pm for a 6:30pm start. This year's lecture will be delivered by Elder Quentin L. Cook of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints (LDS Church) based in Salt Lake City, Utah. A lawyer by profession, Elder Cook graduated from Stanford Law School in 1966, For further information please contact Notre Dame, School on **02 8204 4300** or mariajose.scheller@nd.edu.au.

The Ascension of the Lord

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?

This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven (Acts 1:1-11)

PSALM: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Ps 46:2-3, 6-9)

SECOND READING: He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven (Ephesians 1:17-23)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God (Mark 16:15-20)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, I am with you always, even of the age, alleluia.



Next Sunday's Readings

Pentecost Sunday
 Acts 2:1-11
 Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34
 Galatians 5:16-25
 John 15:26-27; 15:12-15