

# 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-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time B**

**September 13, 2015**

**"Who do you think I am?"** Why did Jesus ask? What did he want to hear? Did he feel their confusion in terms of the excitement of what *this Man* could do, making the blind see, the deaf hear and cripples walk; and how he would or could save them in their terms of reference. "You are the Christ," Peter proclaims...but did Peter understand the full ramifications of that fulfilment. Already they could feel the heat from the authorities. How would I respond if I were them and how do I respond today ...and if I asked the same question what would I want to hear?

Recently I read an article from Fr Ron Rolheiser, (www.ronrolheiser.com) who wrote about Transparency and about how nothing destroys a community than lack of transparency. Transparency is a question of trust and how one is worthy of trust when one's private life is in harmony with one's public persona.

We have, especially in recent years, been taken in by images projected by people in public life especially people who have used their fame, image and power to abuse. We have seen facades crumble, people exposed as fake, with no substance. Were they genuine believers in what they put forward? How is my own transparency? In my own case there is always the feeling of not making myself too vulnerable, too public to the failings and woes of my life and that the disappointments in my life will somehow change who you think I am.

This last week a small boy's body washes up on a beach in Turkey and the world begins to feel a new kind of sadness and bewilderment as the biggest movement of displaced people since World War 2 begins to replace local political gossip on our news headlines. We knew that life was intolerable in Syria, but had blinkered that harsh reality as over there and to people not like us.

Our transparency has come into question. Are we the people we say we are? Can we welcome the stranger to our place? St James writes *Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.* Jesus' transparency is unbelievable...that he loves the world enough to enter it and share in humanity and its struggles...So when asked *Who do you think I am?* You are God who walks with me!

*Marguerite Martin*

**There will be NO MASS or COMMUNION SERVICE on Monday 14th September 2015 midday.**

**NEXT SUNDAY YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE WITH US ST VINCENT'S DAY**

It is a time for meeting and greeting old and new friends as we share a meal together after the 10am Family Mass. We are going to use part of this day advertising the many existing groups that we are so proud to have as part of our St Vincent's and ask "Can you help?" and also share in some fun. Look forward to seeing you there!

## **Pastoral Students Parish Visitation**

Benjamin Paka, a student from the Solomon Islands who was introduced to the Parish a couple of weeks ago, has expressed interest in doing some visitation around the parish during his stay which will conclude on November 10th. If you would like to receive a visit from him would you please put your name down on the list which is in the foyer of the Church or alternatively contact Fr. Alan on 97982501 or email alan@vinash.org.au.

## **Expressions of Interest for Parish Pastoral Council**

December will mark the end of the terms of a number of current members of the Parish Pastoral Council. The Council is seeking expressions of interest from parishioners who wish to contribute to the leadership and pastoral guidance of the parish. If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested in joining the Council, please advise Father Alan or contact the Parish office.

*"My church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is."*

## **Inquiry into Catholic Faith**

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Maybe you know someone who has expressed an interest. Invite and accompany them to our next inquiry session next Thursday 17 September at 7pm in the Parish Office 12 Bland St. You will be most welcome!

## Parishioner Search for Employment

A parishioner is currently working in childcare where she is looking after children from age 0 - 5 yrs. She is currently searching for a weekend baby sitting job or any other available( preferred admin/data entry work). Parishioner has good literacy in computer skill( MS Office) and has Certificates in Working with Children and First Aid. Please contact Fr. Alan if you are able to assist.

## DAILY MASS BOOKS & BREAK OPEN THE WORD FOR 2016

We will be ordering the new Daily Mass Book 2016 & Break Open the Word 2016. Cost: \$21 each. To place an order kindly ring Parish Office at 9798 2501 and orders must be received by **Tuesday 15th September 2015.**

Volunteers and Friends from **CANA Communities** will be with us on Sunday 27th September seeking our help. Cana Communities provide family-type support for people from the streets. Cana Communities is one of the largest providers of crisis beds in the inner city. They will be holding an Appeal at our Parish Masses on the 27th September. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Even if you do not donate, they would love to tell you about their community. This particular Sunday is also **Social Justice Sunday.**

### **Parish Masses this week:**

Monday No Mass or Communion Service at midday

Tuesday 7:00am

Wednesday 12 noon

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

## Request for help from Cardinal Freeman Village

The Catholic residents of Cardinal Freeman Village are asking if anyone in the Parish would be willing to come and drive their mini-bus to transport some of the less-mobile people to 9am Mass each Sunday. Only an ordinary driver's license is required. If you are able to help please contact Fr. Alan at the Parish Office on 97982501 or email [alan@vinash.org.au](mailto:alan@vinash.org.au)

## Vincentian Burse Day on Sunday September 13th

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 this Sunday 13th September commencing at 2.30pm. The afternoon will commence with Prayer and Benediction in the Church followed by afternoon tea. The Burse was formed some years ago to assist with costs of educating students studying for both the priesthood and brotherhood. We currently have 16 students in training from Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Australia. New subscribers are being sought and all that is required is an annual donation. No one is asked to give beyond their means and any amount is gratefully accepted. Please see Fr. Alan or contact the Parish Office should you wish to make a donation and/or would like to attend this day but require transportation.

**FIRST COMMUNION Nov 8 or Nov 15**

If your child is in Yr 3 or over and has celebrated First Reconciliation they are eligible to be part of the First Holy Communion preparation. The Parent only meeting will be on the 15 or 16 September that outlines the program, meeting date options and First Communion dates. Please take a registration Form and return ASAP to [Marguerite@vinash.org.au](mailto:Marguerite@vinash.org.au) or the parish offices.

## **Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time B**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

**FIRST READING:** I gave my body to those who struck me (Isaiah 50:5-9)

**PSALM:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living (Ps 114: 1-6, 8-9)

**SECOND READING:** Faith without good works is dead (James 2:14-18)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** You are the Christ...the Son of Man was destined to suffer much (Mark 8:27-35)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Ps 53:3-6, 8

James 3:16-43

Mark 9:30-37