

# 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



Christmas

December 25, 2015

## CHRISTMAS

### Midnight Mass, 8:00am and 10am (Christmas Day)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

**FIRST READING:** A son is given to us (Isaiah 9:1-7)

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord (Ps 95:1-3. 11-13)

**SECOND READING:** God's grace has been revealed to all people (Titus 2:11-14)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Good news and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

**GOSPEL:** Today a Saviour has been born for you (Luke 2:1-14)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

### Masses during the 6pm (children's) and 8pm (Christmas Eve)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

**FIRST READING:** The Lord takes delight in you (Isaiah 62:1-5)

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**SECOND READING:** Paul spoke of Christ, the son of David (Acts 13:16-17, 22-25)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

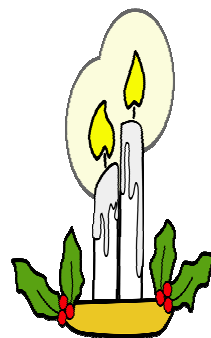
**GOSPEL:** A genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David (Matthew 1:18-25)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

*On behalf of Carmen, Marguerite and myself,  
I would like to take this  
opportunity to wish all Parishioners a very  
Happy Christmas and  
A Prosperous New Year.*

*May you experience hope, peace, joy and love  
throughout this time.*

*Fr. Alan*



**Happy Christmas** to all who have come to celebrate here at St Vincent's. Often newcomers are surprised with this Roman style church in the middle of the inner west, with its ornate turn of the last century art works and Latin inscriptions. The front one reads **Do not be Afraid, I am Here**

But what captures our eye, through this season, is our crib, so carefully assembled by our parishioners. It is that familiar and comforting collection of the main characters, affectionately known as the Holy Family. But in today's terms, would we have judged them holy? The reality of both their situations left a lot to be desired, yet this was God's way to illustrate that God wants to be with us in the imperfection of our lives.

Let our eyes wander to that baby, born in the middle of what probably was a fairly stinky animal shelter. This baby was to be called Emmanuel...**God is with Us.**

Two reminders that we aren't alone in the complexity surrounding our lives.

Marguerite Martin

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

Marguerite Martin

## Vinnies Brekki Van Donations

I am so delighted to tell you that we have been given three Brekki Van slots, this is a little bit of a miracle as they are really hard to secure, so thank you for your prayers!

Our dates are:  
December 26<sup>th</sup>  
January 9<sup>th</sup>  
January 30<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to donate please drop items to the back of the church at Mass times or the Parish Office between 9am and 3pm. If you would rather, I can collect from your home if that is easier for you. Please contact me on 0420653637 or the through the Parish office.

Thank you Sinead Kent

This is a dream list - all donations greatly received small or large.

**BASIC:** 10kg Bacon, 120 Sausages, 120 Eggs,  
20 loaves of bread, 12 litres of Milk,  
120 juice poppers

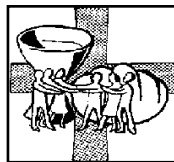
**EXTRAS:** Bananas, Cereal Bars/Muesli Bars, Biscuits,  
Fruit Snack Pots, Muffins/Mini Cakes

**LUXURY EXTRAS:** Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Soap,  
Hand sanitizer, Ladies products, Shaving  
foam, Sun cream, Socks.

We acknowledge the traditional owners  
and custodians of the land on which we stand.  
We pay our respects to them and for their care  
of the land.

### Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon  
Tuesday 7:00am  
Wednesday 12 noon  
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

Friday 9:00am — Communion Service

## Community Building Partnership

I am pleased to announce that the State Government has approved a grant under their Community Building Partnership (CBP) program for our parish to assist in birdproofing the façade of St. Vincent's Church Ashfield. It is great news as this funding will enable us to preserve our church which is heritage listed. I am hoping that the work will commence early in the new year. Please see our photos on our parish website where Stephen Fenn, the Chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council, on behalf of the parish receives a presentation in regards to this funding from Jo Haylen, our local state member for Summer Hill.

*Fr. Alan*



Parish Office will be closed from  
Friday 25th December to  
Friday 15th January.  
Office will reopen on Monday  
18th January 2016.  
There will be no bulletins  
during those weeks.

## Catechists/Scripture Teachers

Part of the Parish responsibility is to support Catholic parents to bring their children up in faith and community. We do that in varied ways. One of the ways is to visit the children in the local Public schools during Scripture time. Many beautiful friendships have been forged this way. Would you like to join our very happy band of Catechists/Scripture teachers who visit Ashfield Public School and Ashfield Boys High in 2016? We particularly need High School catechists as well as relief catechists.

It really is a rewarding ministry. Ashfield Boys is once a fortnight on Thursday midday for forty minutes and Ashfield Public every Wednesday at 2:10pm for half an hour. Please pray and consider whether you are called to do this Special Ministry.

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

**FIRST READING:** For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord  
(1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28)

**PSALM:** How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10)

**SECOND READING:** He calls you his own children, and that is what you are  
(1 John 3:1-2, 21-24)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them (Luke 2:41-52)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



**Next Sunday's Readings**  
The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13  
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6  
Mathew 2:1-12