

# 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



## Second Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2016

There is THAT scene in the film when "Sally meets Harry".

Sally is in a restaurant and enacts a passionate, intimate and intensely private moment that silences the whole restaurant (and the theatre) The tension of witnessing Sally in that moment of utter transformation is broken when one of the restaurant patrons calls to a waiter and says, "I'll have what ever she's having!"

Today we travel with Peter, John and James up the mountain to watch Jesus pray.

In that moment of close communication with the Father, "the appearance of his face changed and his clothes became dazzling white."

*I'll have what ever he's having .*

This transforming radiance is for all the faithful people of God. Moses and Elijah's faithfulness to God was legendary so *they had what ever he was having.*

Peter thought that to capture the moment in a structure, it was the old way of looking after the sacred, would be the way *to have what he was having.*

He did not understand that the glory that was shown to him was a foretaste of the resurrection...and why should he have understood the enormity of the Jesus' gift yet to be achieved so *that we can have what they were having*

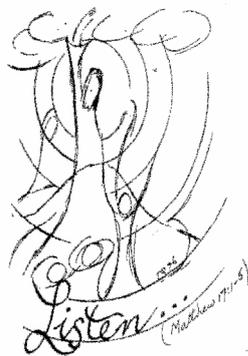
God understands Peter's confusion and communicates from the mystery of a cloud.

**"This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to Him"**

So what can we take from this Gospel?

- **Enter** into prayer, as Jesus did on the mountain.
- **Listen.** In this logical world it is often out of the cloudiest event that God speaks to us.

*Marguerite Martin*



## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be celebrated on May 15 at 2pm in this Parish by the Very Rev Gerry Gleeson VG. Young people (usually in Grade 6 and beyond ) are invited to participate in the Parish Confirmation Sacramental program. Forms are available in the Foyer of the Church that can be returned to the Parish Office.

**Lenten Groups** A few Lenten groups have begun to meet in the Parish. The afternoon Prayer Group on Monday after 12 noon mass and the Charismatic Prayer Group are including the Lenten Programme as part of their meetings on a Monday nights at 7.30pm. One group is meeting on Tuesday mornings in the Parish office at 10am. A fourth group is meeting in a private home on Fridays at 7pm. All parishioners are invited to join these groups. Please see Fr. Alan for details.

**Parish Pastoral Council** We are currently seeking parishioners to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council. All parishioners who are interested please see Fr. Alan.

**2016 Annual Parish Dinner** will be held on Saturday Night April 30th in the De La Salle/Bethlehem Hall. All Parishioners will be invited to attend.

The committee would like to be advised by any parishioner who may have changed address since last year, or you know of someone who has left the parish, could you please ring the Parish office and advise of the details. Thank you in advance!

With limited support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos, Duangmala feared that her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, would never reach his full potential because he has Down Syndrome. However, he now has the chance to learn and thrive at a school for children with intellectual disabilities, supported by Caritas Australia.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## On Sale at the Back of the Church

- FRANKLY magazine — \$3.00
- Catholic Weekly — \$2.00

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

*Marguerite Martin*

## Vinnies Conference Report

Firstly, the Ashfield conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank the generosity of the parish for the annual Vinnies' Christmas appeal. This year we raised \$5,240 to help those less fortunate in our society. The parish also provided goods to help stock Christmas hampers that were delivered to 25 local individuals and families in the week before Christmas.

In the 6 months to December 2015, the Ashfield conference was able to help 52 individuals and families with ever increasing costs of living. Through the ongoing generosity of the Parish, we have been able to assist put food on the table, provide furniture, clothing and help keep people off the streets.

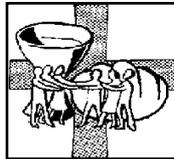
Donations can be made through the Poor Box at the entrance of the church.

## 40 Hours for Vocations, 26-28 February

Pray with us for an hour at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd as the Archdiocese of Sydney dedicates 40 Hours of Adoration to pray for vocations in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Includes Mass, Confession, Prayer and Guided Meditations before the Blessed Sacrament. Sign up for one hour of prayer at <http://www.vocationcentre.org.au/>.

### 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



## The Jubilee Year of Mercy

This week as we contemplate our humanity and our quest to discover Christ's mercy, we encounter God's love. We can look to no greater revelation of God's love and mercy than our own patron St Vincent de Paul, who ironically experienced a deepening of his conversion to

God's mercy when he was confronted by the inhumane condition of the galley slaves who were forced to power the ships on the seas. We can look to our own boat of Mercy.

Vincent discovered complete empathy and love for fellow human beings.

Vincent found God in the poor and it was to these he revealed God's tender Mercy with his Love.

*"It is only because of your love, only your love that the poor will forgive you the bread you give them."*

## Afternoon for Couples Hoping to Conceive

Married couples (Catholic or otherwise) who are hoping for children, struggling to conceive, or who wish to better understand what the Church offers and promotes in regards fertility awareness and assistance are invited to an afternoon of information and discussion. It is also an important opportunity for fellowship with other couples facing similar difficulties.

WHERE: Dooleys Waterview Club, Silverwater.

WHEN: **Saturday 12 March 2016**, 2:00pm-4:30pm.

Please direct RSVPs and inquiries to [lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org) or phone (02) 9307 8403

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.

## Second Sunday of Lent

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Of my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

**FIRST READING:** God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant (Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18)

**PSALM:** The Lord is my light and my salvation (Ps 26:1,7-9, 13-14)

**SECOND READING:** Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body (Philippians 3:17-4: 1)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL:** As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning (Luke 9:28-36)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Third Sunday  
of Lent

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15  
Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12  
Luke 13:1-9