

# 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



## Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 13, 2016

The media and social media, parade public figures for us to dissect, pass opinion and judgement. Last week it was Donald Trump and George Pell. We all discussed their sins and accordingly judged them.

Within our culture, we don't stone people, but we can publicly expose, pass judgement and ostracise. Like the Pharisees and Scribes, it is an easy trap to fall into, to bully and pass judgement on another's wrong doings, in a totally self righteous way.

*"Let anyone among you who is without sin, be the first to throw a stone."*

It is easy to know the law but another thing to live it. As the men stepped away contemplating their own sinfulness, who did they think would be their accuser if they had stayed? Did they know each other so well they could have pointed the finger at each other? Could they see the hypocrisy of the situation or did they gain a sense of empathy and compassion for the woman?

Would there have been a sense of triumph for the woman when she answered Jesus question "Has no one condemned you." She said, "No one, Sir".

Surely she would have been trembling with fear, had she ever witnessed a stoning?

*"Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again"*.

Jesus came to overturn the law to the law of LOVE. How providential for the woman that they brought her to Jesus.

To consider from this Gospel.

- Look inward, before passing judgement
- Life came through meeting Jesus, despite the painful circumstances.

*Marguerite Martin*



## Br James Maher msc

This Sunday Evening we have Martin Hoe joining the 6pm choir. Martin will be singing compositions by the recently late Br James Maher msc. Br James was dedicated to Music Ministry and his last CD will be available from Martin after this mass.

**Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Monday 14th March at 6.30pm at the Parish Meeting Rooms.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place from 3pm-4pm on Thursday 17th March 2016 at Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel.

**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. Start looking for something pink, gray or white to wear!!!

Please advise the Parish office if you are a new parishioner, or if you have changed address since last year, or if you know of someone who has left the parish. Thank you!

## 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.

## Project Compassion

Before enrolling in the Mondulkiri Community Health Program, supported by Caritas Australia, young midwife Sreymom lacked the practical experience necessary to safely assist childbirth. Now, with the skills and knowledge gained through the program, Sreymom is a trusted midwife who is helping to improve the health of indigenous women and children in her region.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help healthcare workers in isolated areas of Cambodia gain vital training to improve the health and wellbeing of the region's indigenous women and children.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## The Jubilee Year of Mercy.



*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

As we become the envoys or agents or administrators of God's mercy in the world we are asked again to 'rock the boat' of complacency and view the world with the compassionate eyes of the

Father. What unfairness or injustice is still there that we just shrug our shoulders about leaving it to be someone else's problem? Jesus compassion was one that he felt from the very core of his being. He saw through customs and systems to the very person suffering and joined in their pain. So often, this kind of compassion is referred to as the "bleeding heart mentality", which indicates that this rocking the boat, also rocks consciences into becoming agents of mercy.

Pope Francis: " God has caressed us with his mercy. Let us bring God's tender caress to others, to those who are in need." This week let us encounter God's mercy in each other with Compassion.



### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March (Holy Thursday)

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March (Good Friday)

Stations of the Cross 10:00am  
(Church & Ashfield Park)

Polish - Stations of the Cross 12 noon  
The Passion of the Lord 3:00pm

### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March (Holy Saturday)

Reconciliation 8:00am—9:30am

RCIA Prayer & Preparation  
for Easter Vigil 9:30am

Polish - Easter Food Blessing 12 noon

### **EASTER VIGIL MASS 7:00pm**

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March (Easter Sunday)

Easter Sunday Masses 8:00am,  
10:00am and 6:00pm

Polish - Easter Sunday Mass 12 noon

#### 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



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.

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**FIRST READING:** I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people (Isaiah 43:16-21)

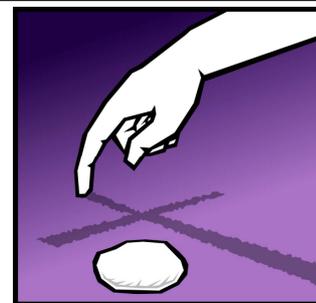
**PSALM:** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Ps 125)

**SECOND READING:** Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him (Philippians 3:8-14)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL:** Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone (John 8:1-11)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.



#### Next Sunday's Readings

Palm Sunday of the  
Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Luke 22:14-23:56