

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



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 20, 2016

Palm Sunday always leaves me feeling awkward. I would have been in that crowd, carried away with the momentum singing "Hosanna to the Son of David!" Again, it was a crowd yelling later that week, "Crucify Him!" Would I have been in that crowd too?

Poor Peter, he is actually recorded as saying he would willingly go to prison for Jesus, then when the test came, denying him "and he went outside and wept bitterly."

Can I stand up to my convictions? I, like Peter, like the crowd, disappoint.

Humanity is fickle. We are fickle. I am fickle. It was for us, who are ashamed of our lack of conviction, that Jesus came.

We hear how his conviction, took Jesus up the hill of Calvary to extend his arms in the greatest loving embrace of all time.

Yet it is as resurrection people we celebrate our humanity, we are sacred in our imperfection. We are the loved people of God. Today as we wave our palms we can do so remembering the gift of Jesus, the gift of Life that will not disappoint.

Marguerite Martin

RCIA Candidates

Four students from Bethlehem and De La Salle College will be received into the church next Sunday 27th March at the 10am mass.

Collectors for Easter Vigil

Current Sunday collectors needed for Easter vigil Mass at 7:00pm.

Sunday collectors planning to attend the Easter vigil please let the Parish office know. So Easter collections can be coordinated.

FIJI CYCLONE APPEAL

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Fiji Cyclone Appeal. Your generosity is very much appreciated. To date we have raised \$ 5,305.05.

DATES FOR DIARY

29th or 30th March 6:30pm Initial Confirmation meeting
22nd May Parish Council to speak at all Masses
19th June 10am Ashfield Council &
Bethlehem Ex Students

Holy Saturday Reconciliation will take place between 8am and 9.30am on Saturday 26th March 2016.

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!!!

Personal invitations are now available for collection at the foyer of the church. If your name or address are wrong on the envelope, please correct it and put the envelope in with your booking form. If you are new to the Parish please write your details on the form in the foyer of the church. Even if you are not going to the dinner please take your invitation. 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.

ST VINCENT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

The playground of St Vincent's Primary School is going to be resurfaced during the next school holidays. This area extends from the Charlotte Street side of the school up to the middle gate in the parish/school grounds. Unfortunately it will not be available for parish parking or for pedestrian access between the dates of **11th April and the 26th April or until further notice**. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. Parking will still be available in the parish/school grounds from the Bland Street entrance up to the middle fence. **Fr. Alan**



The Jubilee Year of Mercy.

I have found a little definition of Mercy and Grace.

"Mercy means not getting what you deserve.

Grace means getting what you do not deserve."

Over the last five weeks we have explored the various subtle ways we encounter God's Mercyand the fact that we are all in the same boat.... in need of God's mercy. The Church is referred to as the Barque of Christ and this is the famous quote of Francis, our Pope on his election.

This is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze. And this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as Pontiff.

'I am a sinner and I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a Spirit of penance.

In today's passion we hear of Peter's miserable and cowardly denial of Christ, and then turning to exchange that gaze.... What did he see? From the gaze of the condemned Christ, he saw Mercy.

Parish Masses this week:

- Monday 12 noon
- Tuesday 7:00am
- Wednesday 12 noon
- Thursday No Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 8:00am to 9:30am

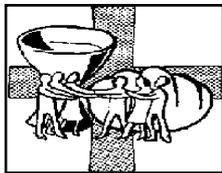
Saturday No Mass

Sunday: 8am, 10:00am 6:00pm

Polish Mass 12 noon

Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel

Tuesday 4:00pm Sunday 9:00am



Thursday 24th March (Holy Thursday)

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

Friday 25th 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 26th 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 27th March (Easter Sunday)

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

Polish - Easter Sunday Mass 12 noon

CARDINAL FREEMAN VILLAGE CHAPEL

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 6:30pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10:30am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

There will be NO Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday

Easter Sunday 27th March Mass 9:00am

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

FIRST READING: I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed (Isaiah 50:4-7)

PSALM: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24)

SECOND READING: He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high (Philippians 2:6-11)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (22:14-23:56)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



Next Sunday's Readings

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34,37-43

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9