

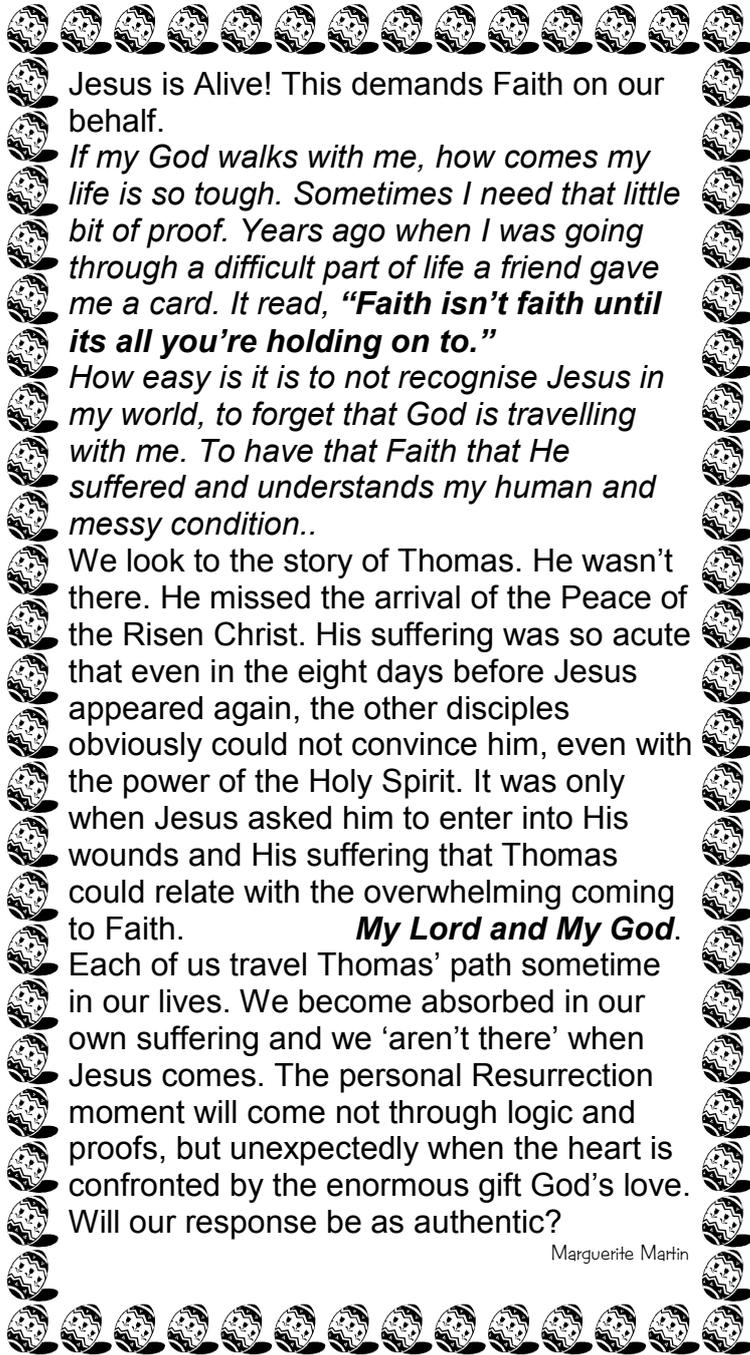
# St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield

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 Easter C**

**April 3, 2016**



Jesus is Alive! This demands Faith on our behalf.

*If my God walks with me, how comes my life is so tough. Sometimes I need that little bit of proof. Years ago when I was going through a difficult part of life a friend gave me a card. It read, "Faith isn't faith until its all you're holding on to."*

*How easy is it is to not recognise Jesus in my world, to forget that God is travelling with me. To have that Faith that He suffered and understands my human and messy condition..*

We look to the story of Thomas. He wasn't there. He missed the arrival of the Peace of the Risen Christ. His suffering was so acute that even in the eight days before Jesus appeared again, the other disciples obviously could not convince him, even with the power of the Holy Spirit. It was only when Jesus asked him to enter into His wounds and His suffering that Thomas could relate with the overwhelming coming to Faith.

***My Lord and My God.***

Each of us travel Thomas' path sometime in our lives. We become absorbed in our own suffering and we 'aren't there' when Jesus comes. The personal Resurrection moment will come not through logic and proofs, but unexpectedly when the heart is confronted by the enormous gift God's love. Will our response be as authentic?

Marguerite Martin

**Confirmation** will be celebrated on May 15 at 2pm in this Parish by the Very Rev Gerry Gleeson VG. Today we welcome and congratulate the confirmation candidates and their families who are committing themselves to the program. We meet again next Tuesday 5.4.16 and Wednesday 6.4.16 at 6.30pm in the Parish House.



**Miraculous Medal Novena Mass**  
**Saturday 9th April 9:00am Mass**  
Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited within the Mass.

## **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**

**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!

## **DATES FOR DIARY**

30th April Parish Dinner  
15th May Confirmation  
22nd May Parish Finance Committee to speak at all Masses  
19th June 10am Mass — Ashfield Council & Bethlehem Ex Students  
21st August 10am Mass Club Ashfield Annual Mass

**Many, Many Thanks** to all who ministered to us through Lent and brought us to celebrate Easter with so much joy. We received 14 people into our community and as they begin their journey of faith we must keep our promise to support them in faith with prayer and action. Thank you to the team members of the RCIA who generously and enthusiastically share their applied faith, life experience and knowledge to the program. Although our 'Mercy boat' has disappeared from the sanctuary, we thank the liturgy people who addressed the various aspects of Mercy in the gospels and applied current concerns to the gospel. We thank God that the number of receptions would indicate we aren't a 'sinking ship!'

At the Saturday Easter Vigil, musicians from the many choirs and music groups joined the 10am choir to raise the roof. Liturgically it is the high point of the church year and the participation was splendid. Again thank you for your selfless generosity, especially when some had to come back and do it again on Easter Sunday morning. Thanks to Joan O'Connell, Cecily and John Ristuccia for serving us such a festive supper after the vigil. Thank you to Joan Carmody's students for bringing the 'Alleluia' back on Easter Sunday morning with so much style! To all the readers, acolytes, altar servers and musicians and choir members who never fail us...Thank you.

## Before and After School Care

Late last year I received an approach from Sydney Catholic Schools (formerly Catholic Education Office) to consider the possibility of establishing Before and After School Care in the Parish here at St Vincent's Ashfield. It is a concept that enjoys the support of the Archdiocese of Sydney. I then consulted the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Committee who gave their approval to investigate. I have since interviewed and have carried out comprehensive reference checks on two providers (Extend and Camp Australia). A final decision will be made at the Parish Pastoral Council meeting in May. If we were to go ahead it would commence at the beginning of 2017. There are two factors to consider. Firstly, it would mean that the parish would not have access to the hall or any parking on the parish grounds from 7am in the morning until 6pm at night during the week as the front gate would have to be closed. Secondly, it does represent a good source of income to the parish from our parish hall which at present is underutilized. I write as I seek your opinions before any final decision is made. Please feel free to see me personally or email me on [alan@vinash.org.au](mailto:alan@vinash.org.au).

**Fr. Alan**

### **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



## **Fr. Michael Walsh**

Fr. Michael has left hospital after his recent surgery. He faces some ongoing challenges but is extremely grateful that the series of three operations, chemotherapy and radiotherapy, over the past eight months, has now been completed.

Time now to rest to allow the body to further heal itself.

Much gratitude to all.

## **Second Sunday of Easter C**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily (Acts 5:12-16)

**PSALM:** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 117:2-4, 22-27)

**SECOND READING:** I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever (Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them (John 20:19-31)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Third Sunday  
of Easter C

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

Ps 29:2, 4-6, 11-13

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19