

# 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



**Third Sunday of Easter C**

**April 10, 2016**

## Do you Love me?

There is a game we play with Children. It's called "How much do you love me?"

We start off by saying alternatively, 'I love you as big as the Harbour bridge' and gradually increase the distances and sizes of love until love takes in all the galaxies and constellations in the universe.... and back.

Jesus wasn't playing that game. He had already suffered, died, descended and burst back with New Life. Now here he was, once more, convincing his closest and dearest on earth what it was all about. ...and Peter hadn't forgotten his denial, his great sin. His near nakedness on the fishing boat, had to be covered before he again stood before the transformed Lord.

Jesus quizzes Peter three times, echoing the three time denial.

Scholarship has gone to the old Greek text of this gospel. The Greeks have different words to describe different forms of love. Jesus asks Peter "Do you 'unconditionally love me' like I have unconditionally loved you". He used the *agape* word for love. Peter responds using another type of love word. "You know 'I love you like my brother', Lord". Peter uses the *philio* word for love. After a couple of attempts Jesus finally says, "Peter, do you *philio* me" He knew that his *agape* form of total unconditional love was beyond Peter at this time, even though he knew that Peter would eventually die for him with that *agape* love.

*'Trust me, throw out your net and your reward will be huge,' he said.*

*'Eat with me and you will never be hungry,' he said.*

*'Attempt to love me as I love you' he said. 'And don't just tend my flock, FEED my flock with what they are hungry for.'*

Marguerite Martin

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.  
May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

## 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**

**Parish Men's Group** will meet next Tuesday night (April 12<sup>th</sup>) at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Rooms. An informal gathering of discussion and prayer. All new and past participants would be most welcome.

### Fr. Alan Absence

Fr. Alan will be away on holidays from 13-22 April. Fr. Kevin Canty cm will celebrate the masses during his absence.

**CONFIRMATION** will be celebrated on May 15 at 2pm in this Parish by the Very Rev Gerry Gleeson VG. We have met with a small but delightful group of enquiring minds over the last two weeks and will resume our meetings after the holidays on 27 April.

### 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

## WYD Registrations Close 16 April. Calling Young Adults aged 18-35.

There are less than 4 weeks until registrations close for World Youth Day Poland. The Sydney pilgrimages are filling up and there are only limited places so encourage your young adults to think about this opportunity. Help and support any young people (aged 18-35) to be a part of this life changing event. To lock in a place young people need to register and put down their \$500 deposit as soon as possible. To register go to, [www.wyd2016.com.au](http://www.wyd2016.com.au). For all other information about the Sydney pilgrimages visit, [www.catholicyouthservices.org](http://www.catholicyouthservices.org) or email [wyd@catholicyouthservices.org](mailto:wyd@catholicyouthservices.org).

**Walk With Christ Postponed.** Due to complications associated with the Light Rail works in the CBD, the decision has been taken to postpone the annual Eucharistic Procession, Walk With Christ, to a time close to the Feast of Christ the King (Sunday 20 November 2016). This will allow us to close the Year of Mercy with the Eucharistic Procession. His Grace also hopes that he might be able to accompany the procession in November. We are extremely grateful for the efforts of the personnel at Sydney's Transport Management Centre for the collaborative way in which they have engaged with us and we are hopeful of resolving a suitable route for November.

### 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

## 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

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Pope Francis published a new papal document called, *Amoris Laetitia*, 'The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family' at the Vatican in Rome. The papal document is also known as an 'Apostolic Exhortation'. It is available to read on the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website:

<https://www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015/home>.

## Third Sunday of Easter C

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:27-32, 40-41)

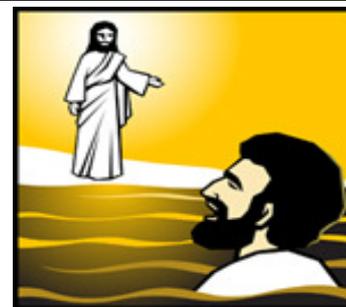
**PSALM:** I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me (Ps 29: 2, 4-6, 11-13)

**SECOND READING:** The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory and blessing (5:11-14)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them. And did the same with the fish (John 21:1-19)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Jesus said to his disciples: Come and eat. And he took bread and gave it to them, alleluia.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Fourth Sunday  
of Easter C

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Ps 99:1-3, 5

Revelation 7:9, 14-17

John 10:14