

# 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



**Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time - Year C**

**July 31, 2016**

Over the last few weeks I have heard much about the Happiness Project. They actually measure the happiness of a nation with a Gross National Happiness Index (GNHI). Australia does very well apparently! The organization for economic co-operation and development (OECD) measures our happiness on criteria such as jobs, income, environment and health.

"Money, while it cannot buy happiness is an important means to achieving higher living standards," the Index said. Yet "money can't buy me love" the Beatles sang. We live in a world where worth has a dollar sign. We do judge and measure success and status by position, possessions and wealth. It is part of our human condition to be impressed by the trappings of success. Yet it is all so empty without the most important part of our humanity, our relational skills. Another indicator of happiness is how much are we prepared to go beyond self and self interest to give and share with others.

All the readings today are warning about the false security of material wealth. Ecclesiastes calls it 'Vanity of Vanities'. Paul calls us to keep 'our thoughts on heavenly things,' and Jesus uses the strongest language. He calls the man who builds up wealth 'a fool.' In those days a fool was a really lonely person, a person not connected. 'The fool' in the gospel had disconnected himself from God. When it comes down to it, how many possessions do we need when we are standing before God? How will he measure how successful we have been? St John of the Cross wrote *In the Evening of Life we shall be judged upon our Love*. Surely this is the true measure for happiness!

Marguerite Martin



## Holy Communion

All receiving communion have the right to choose whether they receive communion either in the hand or on the tongue. Those choosing to receive communion on the hand should consume the host in the presence of the Minister of the Eucharist they receive it from.

Fr. Alan

## Charitable Works Fund Appeal

Our next Charitable Works Fund Appeal takes place in the Parish on Sunday 7th August 2016. Our target for this quarter is \$4600.00 but thanks to some early donations this has been reduced to \$3170.00.



Any shortfall in our target has to be made up by parish funds. Please donate generously.

Envelope No 139: We have recently found out that Plan giving envelope no. 139 is missing and has not been taken by the prospective family. If anyone has taken it by mistake please return the same to the parish foyer or the parish office.

## Fr. Alan Absence

**Fr. Alan will be away attending the Sydney Alliance 6 Day Training Course from Sunday afternoon 31st July until Friday 5th August.**

## St. Vincents Day

A meeting will be held in preparation for St. Vincents day on Thursday 4th August at 6.30pm in the parish meeting room. Come and join us make this an occasion to work as one vibrant parish.

## Bird Proofing the front facade of the Church

I am pleased to announce that the work of bird proofing the front facade of our parish church was completed during this past week. As we received a generous grant through the State's Community Building Fund to assist in doing this work plans will be made in the next few weeks to have our local state member come out to inspect its completion.

Fr. Alan

Receipts for donations to the Planned Giving, CWF and Project Compassion for the Financial Year 2015 – 2016 are now available at the back of the church.

Many thanks to all those who continue to support the Parish through the weekly planned giving envelope.

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

Marguerite Martin  
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

## DATES FOR DIARY

- 4th August (6.30pm)** Meeting in preparation for St. Vincent's Day.
- 7th August** Charitable Works Fund Appeal.
- 21st August (10am)** Club Ashfield Annual Mass.
- 18th September** St. Vincent's Feast Day.
- 20th September** E Conference Year of Mercy.
- 16th October** Ashfield Bunning's Barbeque.



## **NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK.**

Next Sunday is the beginning of *National Vocations Awareness Week*. On this day in particular, we are reminded to pray for vocations of all the baptised as the laity have an important role in the life of the Church. Resources on exploring/discerning a vocation are available at:

[www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au).

### STV Youth group:

An opportunity to have some fun and make new friends

Are you in year 5,6,7 or 8?

Join us every 2nd Friday

Where : St. Vincent's Parish Hall

Time : 6.30pm

PS: Next Meeting 12th August 2016

The ones who attended the first meeting had enormous fun and look forward to the next one.



### **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**  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4:00pm. Friday 9:00am  
Communion Service. Sunday 9.00 am



## "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP"

Have you considered participating in the National Pilgrimage?

In this Sesquicentenary Year, the Sisters of St Joseph invite you to participate in this pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop.

Dates: 9 to 19 Nov 2016.

Cost Ex Sydney: \$2,860.00

(all inclusive: airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and meals). Single Supplement: \$590.00.

For further information please contact : Sister Annie Bond rsj on 02 89124818, or [MMP.NationalPilgrimage@sosj.org.au](mailto:MMP.NationalPilgrimage@sosj.org.au).



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING VINNIES

The Ashfield conference of the St Vincent de Paul would again like to thank parishioners for their ongoing generosity. During the first half of 2016, through local support, our conference was able to visit 62 individuals and families doing it tough. Your generosity allowed us to put food on people's dinner tables, help them out with rent and power bills, as well as ordering items of furniture that many of us take for granted.

Donations to help Vinnies help others can be left in the poor boxes at the front of the Church.



### Bunnings Barbeque

We have been granted a Bunnings Barbeque on Oct 16th at Ashfield Bunnings.

We will require helpers to assist in this fund raising activity for our community.

If you can help please contact Jane Lee 0413 977 748.

**We have been receiving a generous contribution over the last weeks in an envelope and have no records on our system of the same. If you would like us to allocate a plan giving envelope to you, please contact the parish office on 97982501.**

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.

## **Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time - Year C**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** O God come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

**READING:** What do people gain by all their work? (Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23)

**PSALM:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge. (Psalm 89:3-6,12-14,17)

**SECOND READING:** Seek the things that are above where Christ is. (Colossians 3: 1-5,9-11)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in Spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** To whom will all this wealth of yours go? (Luke 12:13-21)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.



### Next Sunday's Readings

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Wisdom 18: 6-9  
Psalm 32:1,12,18-20,22  
Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19  
Luke 12:32-48