

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



Thirty-first Sunday In Ordinary Time Year C

October 30, 2016

So often we have that unforgiving attitude where we can not possibly believe that someone really can change. *A leopard does not change his spots* or can he?

We have all heard the stories of the corrupt politicians or crooked businessmen who did time in jail and then found God. I feel cynical when I hear these stories because I wonder what is their angle, what's in it for them?

So we move to the story of the little man up the tree. It is a familiar story. Zaccheus is the model of conversion. What was in it for him?

Without being there the story is clear. Zaccheus was hated because he was nasty, greedy, malicious, and obviously enjoyed ripping people off. He would not have done anything without there being 'What's in this for me' angle.

Jesus picked him to be the 'demonstration model.' Through Zaccheus, the hardened antithesis of all that Jesus preached, Jesus revealed the power of God's love, mercy and compassion. This was as miraculous a healing as a leper's skin becoming clean, or a cripple walking, outwardly proved by Zaccheus' willingness to repay all his bad dealings four times over and sharing his wealth with the poor. How did the people of Jericho react I wonder?

We are all called constantly to this conversion, turning to Jesus. This may mean climbing out on a limb, over the heads of those who may judge us, to meet Jesus and to share the meal that can bring the vision of God to reality.

Marguerite Martin

First Communion News. This last week is my favourite week in the First Communion preparation. It is the week when we share our memories and we come to our common memory, Jesus...and his demanding words "Do this in memory of me." (Only 2 more weeks to first Communion 13/11 and 20/11)

Jesus in Our Priest.

This week we will focus on Meeting Jesus in our Priest. As the Body of Christ we know our head is Jesus. Our priest comes from the body of Christ to lead us in prayer and to pray on our behalf. He leads us and breaks open the Word for us in his teaching and homilies. He isn't just appointed our leader; he is **anointed** our leader and our priest. He has been ordained when he received the Sacrament of Holy Orders by the Bishop. It is a time when we particularly thank God for our Fr Alan who makes himself so available to us especially in our times of need.

**Tuesday, 1st November
Mass for All Saints Day
will be at 7:00am and 12 noon**

RCIA will be meeting next Wednesday 2nd November at 7:00pm in the Parish house.



BAPTISMS

Saturday, 5th November 2016

OLIVER PAUL ISSA

Charitable Works Fund on Sunday 6th November

The next Charitable Work Fund Appeal will take place on Sunday 6th November. Thanks to the generous donation from Club Ashfield. Our quota for this last appeal for the year is reduced to **\$2,149.99**.



St. Vincent's Ashfield Pastoral Plan 2016-2021

I am now happy to report that our Parish Pastoral Plan for the next five years has been completed and is now on the Parish Website. This represents the culmination of two and a half years work.

Church Sound System

During this past week some work has done on improving our Church Sound System and the Hearing Loop. Your feedback would be greatly appreciated particularly if there are still problems.

Readers Workshop

New readers are required at all of our Parish Masses, particularly at the Sunday 10am mass. A workshop for new readers will take place this Thursday 3rd November in the Church from 7:00pm to 8:00pm.

Fr. Alan

PARISH STAFF: Fr. Alan Gibson CM
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

The Community of
St Vincent's Ashfield
Praying Together

Father God

As our friends at Bethlehem, De la Salle and other high schools sit for their HSC exams, We, as community, thank you for their gifts and talents.

We ask that You help them remember all they have learned.

Calm their nerves and anxieties and be gracious with what they have overlooked.

We ask the Holy Spirit to guide their way and to journey on with them. Amen

Experience Croydon Park Festival

There are limited number of information booklets for this festival on 12 November in the foyer of the church.

FOR SALE!

Columban Calendar for \$9.00,
Catholic Weekly for \$2.00
available at the back of the church.

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon
Tuesday 7:00am & 12 noon
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

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



Walk With Christ Completing The Year Of Mercy

The annual CBD Walk With Christ Eucharistic procession will take place this year at 2.00pm on **Sunday, 20 November**; the Feast of Christ the King. As the procession coincides with the closing of the Jubilee doors at St Peter's Basilica, Rome, it will be the completing event for the Year of Mercy in Sydney. Participants will gather for the start in a closed section of Pitt St, between Hunter St and Martin Place. The Blessed Sacrament will be brought to meet us there from St Patrick's, Church Hill. For more details visit www.sydneycatholic.org/walkwithchrist.

We currently have two prayer books in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The first book remains in the chapel for any parishioner who wishes to write a prayer petition. The second book which is clearly marked is parishioners to take any other parishioner in the parish who are sick at this time so that they can add their prayer petitions as well.

Piety Stall

We have new stock of lovely items suitable for sacramental gifts or just for yourself, available at very reasonable prices in the Parish House. Most welcome to come and see. Mon-Fri 9am -3.30pm

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.

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

FIRST READING: You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.
(Wisdom 11:22—12:2)

PSALM: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14)

SECOND READING: The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him (2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! God loved the world so much he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost (Luke 19:1-10)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.



Next Sunday's Readings
Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14
Psalm 16:1, 5-6, 8, 15
2 Thessalonians 2:16—3:5
Luke 20:27-38