

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 Lent Year A

March 12, 2017

TRUST

We are people who have grown up in a time when special effects are part of our entertainment. Because I have been around a few years, I can remember early Dr Who episodes on the TV where the special effects were all created using aluminium foil and string! Even those visualisations of the fantasies I was watching were marvellous. Now special effects have now become so sophisticated that we flock into the city in winter and Christmas to watch the wonderful Vivid projections of colour and movement on buildings that transform and transfigure them to become something else. Peter, James and John were privy to the transfiguration of Jesus where he appeared to them as someone else, someone magnificent, all lit up with glory. He had two reference points with him representing all the Law and all the prophetic traditions. The apostles were finding it hard to get their heads around the concept of Messiah.... It was their minds that needed transfiguring to accept the words from the cloud proclaiming Jesus and to listen to him! What in this Lent do we need to work towards transfiguring? Maybe it is to see each other in that different light, the light that God see us in and extending to each other that love and mercy that we receive daily. Peter wanted to freeze the moment, we can't! We have to come down the mountain somehow transfigured our selves!

Marguerite Martin



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation registration is happening NOW. Please register your child who is in Yr 6 and above with the registration form available in the foyer. ASAP. First meeting is on 28 March.

Caritas Australia A speaker from Caritas Australia will come out to speak to the parish at all masses today (Second Sunday of Lent) about Projection Compassion.

PARISH 2020

Parish 2020 was spoken about at all our masses last weekend. All parishioners are encouraged to give their input into the process. This can be done either online or a form is in the foyer for those without internet. Also they can be completed individually or in parish groups. Please answer only those questions you feel you can. For those who choose to fill in the survey online please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2V7XL9X>. For those who are filling out forms collected from the foyer these must be handed in to the Parish Office by Friday 24th March at the latest. For those who would like to participate in a Question and Answer session in regards to this two sessions have been made available for Thursday 16th March, one in the morning from 10am-11am and the other in the evening from 6pm-7pm. The main thing is that we do respond.

Parish Men's Group will meet next **Tuesday night (March 14th) at 7:30pm** in the Parish Meeting Rooms. An informal gathering of discussion and prayer. All new and past participants would be most welcome.

Parish Pastoral Council

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will take place on **Monday 20th March at 6:30pm** in the Parish Meeting Rooms. We are currently looking for someone willing to serve on our Parish Pastoral Council. We usually meet on the third Monday of each month for 60-90 minutes. Please see Fr. Alan if you are interested.

PARISH STAFF: Fr. Alan Gibson CM
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

If you would like to join a **Lenten group** about **HOPE.....Monday 6th March** in the Blessed Sacrament 7:30am Prayer and Worship 8:10—9:00am Lenten discussion group. Please contact Theresa @ 0410 248 069. **Tuesday 7th March** in the Parish House at 7:00pm. Please contact Rosanna @0413 113 188.



Like many other women in Timor-Leste, Martina was driven from her home by domestic violence. Facing poverty and an uncertain future, she sought refuge at Uma PAS shelter, a partner in Caritas Australia's

Protection Program in Timor-Leste. The program connected her with livelihood training opportunities, offering economic empowerment, the chance to afford education for her children, and a safe life in a supportive community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help empower women in Timor-Leste to recover from domestic violence, develop sustainable livelihoods, and lead a life of dignity.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or call 1800 024 413

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

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.



Social Justice News for March

25 March International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

On The Block Open Day

Thank you to Lynne, Diana, Gerard, Rodney, and Jane who looked after the Church between 2pm-7pm for the On The Block Open Day which took place last Tuesday 7th March 2017. I am very grateful for your willingness to act as hosts on behalf of the Parish. I am pleased to report that we had plenty of visitors come to the Church in the afternoon to pray and have a look around. I also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Jessica Manganaro who spent the whole afternoon in the foyer of the Church advertising St. Vincent's Youth Group.

Well done to all!

Fr. Alan

PARISH CENSUS

Over the Christmas/New Year period all parishioners on our Parish Census were written to. Thank you to all parishioners who responded. It has enabled us to update our parish records. It was particularly helpful to find out about parishioners who had moved away. We now have a form which can now be downloaded from our parish website www.vinash.org.au. Therefore if you are new to the parish please fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office or by email vinstaff@vinash.org.au

We, the Parish community of St. Vincent's, with a genuine sense of belonging, strive to follow the example of Christ and spread the Vincentian spirit throughout the Ashfield district.

Second Sunday of Lent Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING: The call of Abraham, the father of God's people (Genesis 12:1-4)

PSALM: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place out trust in you (Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22)

SECOND READING: God has saved us, and called us to be holy (2 Timothy 1:8-10)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: His face shone like the sun (Matthew 17:1-9)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.



Next Sunday's Readings

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42