

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



Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

April 2, 2017

WORD

In the reading that we use today from Year A we have that wonderful reading from Ezekiel that evokes the song Dry Bones. I'll get you humming it, "Those Bones, those bones, those dry bones. ♪ The Bones in Ezekiel's vision are the bones of those slain in battle, silent witnesses to the futility of war. Imagine the scene where a dull rattle is heard: bones coming together, sinews connecting, muscle and tendon adding form, and skin rebuilding identity. A silent army stands on the plain, silent because there is no spirit, no breathe to animate it. "Come from the four winds, O mighty Spirit, breathe into these people my spirit so they may resettle the land."

This wonderful vision story is placed with the story of the raising of Lazarus. The sisters send word to Jesus, "The beloved is dead." Jesus hears the message and comes to comfort his friends. Martha, impatient to see him, leaves her friends and relations who are taking part in the mourning rites, and runs to meet Jesus. As she has run out to meet him so he invites her to go further on her spiritual journey. The new vision.

"I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in me, even though they should die will come to life, and whoever is alive and believes in me will never die."

The life that Jesus brings is the enhanced version of the Ezekiel animation of the Dry Bones brought to the fullness of life by the Spirit. The life described as resurrection is not human life but divine life - life from above, this gift transcends everything even death itself. Jesus himself will end his life in death. There is no exception. All that is human will die. If the Spirit of God who raised Jesus is in you, you have Life and this Life will continue forever.

Patricia Stevenson rsj

Stations of the Cross at Rookwood Cemetery

Water Way Chapel on Monday 3rd April 2017 at 10:00am. Sinead will leave from St. Vincent's Church approximately at 9:00am if interested give her a call 0420 653 637.

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 6th April.



Miraculous Medal Novena Mass Saturday 8th April 9:00am Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited within the Mass.

HOLY WEEK 2017



Thursday 13th April (Holy Thursday)

Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00pm

Friday 14th April (Good Friday)

Stations of the Cross

10:00am

(Church & Ashfield Park)

Polish - Stations of the Cross

12 noon

The Passion of the Lord

3:00pm

Saturday 15th April (Holy Saturday)

Reconciliation

8:00am—9:30am

RCIA Prayer & Preparation
for Easter Vigil

9:30am

Polish - Easter Food Blessing

12 noon

EASTER VIGIL MASS

6:00pm

Sunday 16th April (Easter Sunday)

Easter Sunday Masses **8:00am, 10:00am & 6:00pm**

Polish - Easter Sunday Mass

12 noon

New Member required for the Parish Pastoral Council

We are again requesting a parishioner who would be willing to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council to please contact Fr. Alan. The Parish Council normally meets on the third Monday of each month at 6.30pm. Meetings are usually 60-90 minutes in duration. The vacancy advertised for last month was filled.

PARKING IN CHURCH GROUNDS

As a result of recent difficulties a general request is being made to all who park in the Church grounds. Sometimes there other activities particularly during the week at night when the Parish Hall is also used. Please enter and exit slowly. Also please ensure that the car is parked in such a way that allows others to enter and exit the grounds safely. **Many thanks. Fr Alan**

Sr Margaret Ng, rsj and the members of the Enfield PATH group (Parish Against the Trafficking of Humans) thank the Ashfield Parish community for its warm welcome and very generous support of Sr Margaret's work through kind donations and the purchase of the Easter chocolate. If you are interested in joining this group, the next meeting will be held at 7pm on 2 May in the Parish Meeting Room (off Baker Street, Enfield).

The People's Community Network is increasing the resilience and dignity of the thousands of landless Fijians living in informal settlements.

Communities advocating together successfully for better services, education and housing. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help vulnerable communities work towards lasting change in their neighbourhoods.**



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.



Repairs and Maintenance Anyone who sees something either in the Church or Church grounds that needs repair would you please contact the Parish Office on 97982501 (Monday to Friday 9am-3pm) or email vinstaff@vinash.org.au. You can mention it to me after mass and I will try to remember but chances are I will forget, hence the request to direct it towards the Parish Office. Many thanks for your consideration. **Fr. Alan**

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS FOR APRIL

2nd April World Autism Awareness Day

4th April International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action

6th April International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

7th April International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda World Health Day

8th April National Youth Week Begins

11th April Jewish Passover begins 1963: Pope John XXIII's encyclical *Pacem in Terris* (Peace on Earth)

12th April International Day of Human Space Flight

2017 Annual Parish Dinner will be held on Saturday night, 6th May in the De La Salle/ Bethlehem Hall. All Parishioners are invited to attend. Start looking for something purple, mauve or green to wear!!!

Personal invitations are now available for collection in the foyer of the Church. *If your name or address is wrong* on the invitation, please write the correct information on the adjustment sheet in the foyer. *If you are new to the Parish or did not receive a personal invitation last year*, please write your details on the adjustment sheet. **Please take your invitation even if you cannot attend the dinner.** Thank you!

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING: I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

PSALM: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption (Ps 129)

SECOND READING: If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies (Ephesians 5:8-14)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the Resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL: I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:1-45)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.



Next Sunday's Readings

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Matthew 26:14-27:66