

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

March 18, 2018

Through the Communion program, we plant grains of wheat. It has never failed to amaze that within a week we are presented with a lushness of green new life showing the full promise of a rich new harvest of seeds. It is those same seeds that we crush and grind to make the bread that feeds us. It was a clever symbol that Jesus chose for Eucharist for the life giving properties. He too was crushed and broken....so through him, we could become the lush harvest. Jeremiah tells us that deep within us God has planted that yearning to love him completely. However unlike Jesus we only have to die to ourselves.....those things that block our relationship with God and what he has called us to be. Notably our ego and all of its trappings that we feed.

Recently I re watched the movie Ghandi and was absorbed in the transformation of the Indian, British style, barrister that he initially was. He had become a fine English ruling class type gentleman (studied at the University of London Law school) who died to himself and his aspirations and ego to become the great self sacrificing leader who brought India to independence through a campaign of non violent protest. Truly, an almost modern day illustration of completely dying to self.

With our knowledge of entering into the Passion in the next few weeks comes the Lenten challenge. How have I died to myself through this period? Has it drawn me closer to Jesus, who really wanted to be saved from his fate? Has it caused me to see new possibilities to bring Christ alive to others? *Marguerite Martin*

Confessions, Anointing of the Sick and Mass will take place at Cardinal Freeman Village from 3:00pm on Tuesday 20th March.

ST. VINCENT'S ASHFIELD SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday 24th March, in the Parish Meeting Room, from 10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Calling all Lost Sheep and Errant Offspring !

There will be a **Communal Penitential Rite** with the opportunity to celebrate Sacramental Reconciliation on **Wednesday 28 March at 7pm.**

Catechist Needed!

So...we are desperate. **Please can you help?** I appeal to all our Uni students , especially those education students, who now know their Uni schedule or those wonderful retired school teachers! It really isn't that hard speaking to kids about your faith , through an approved syllabus. What it entails is 40mins every second week at midday. Please contact Marguerite

Last Call for CONFIRMATION 2018

This coming Thursday 22nd March we will have the meeting for the parents and confirmation candidates. If you have yet to register, the forms are at the back of the church to be returned to Parish Office prior to that meeting or by email to marguerite@vinash.org.au. Bishop Terry Brady will confirm our candidates on 20 May @2.30pm.

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.

PARISH STAFF: *Fr. Joti Bilowalu CM*
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

LITTLE SPARKS "A place where your child's light will shine". Do you have a new baby, a toddler or pre-schooler? Come and have fun



with your child, meet other parents, play, sing, laugh, share and try new things! Everyone is welcome!

Where: St. Vincent's School Hall

When: Thursdays from 9am to 11am.

Bring some fruit to share. Any queries contact Sinead Kent 0420 653 637.



Ditosa in Mozambique is cared for by her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, aged 12, thanks to Caritas Australia's support. Ditosa has now graduated from school with plans for university. Please donate to **Project Compassion 2018** and help young women like Ditosa to grow up with an education, confidence and hope, providing them with a just future.

A Just Future starts with your support! You can through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or 1800 024 413.



ST. VINCENT'S PARISH Ashfield 2018

Wednesday 28th March

Communal Penitential Rite

7:00pm

Thursday 29th March (Holy Thursday)

Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00pm

Friday 30th March (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 31st March (Holy Saturday)

Reconciliation

8:00am—9:30am

RCIA Prayer & Preparation

for Easter Vigil

9:30am

Polish - Easter Food Blessing

12 noon

EASTER VIGIL MASS

7:00pm

Sunday 1st April (Easter Sunday)

Easter Sunday Masses

**8:00am, 10:00am
and 6:00pm**

Polish - Easter Sunday Mass

12 noon

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 First Friday of the month 9:00am
Communion Service.



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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

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: The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

PSALM: Create a clean heart in me, O God (Ps 50:3-4, 12-15)

SECOND READING: He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest (John 12: 20-33)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.



Next Sunday's Readings

Palm Sunday of
The Passion of The Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11
Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39