

# 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



## The Ascension of the Lord

May 13, 2018

How often do we hear it. "I spoke to the man upstairs..." or the Australian terminology, "Bring it on Hughie" embodying the typical response to rain in the **outback** of Australia, areas prone to drought; and the common Australian practice of referring to people by **nicknames**, referring to an all powerful God in the heavens, particularly a God of rain. This gospel and this feast of the Ascension reinforces that idea that God is up there and looking benevolently down on us. Heaven is above the clouds where God the Father sits with Jesus on his right hand. The image is almost one of the High Court bench, while we poor mortals toil below. It was to dispel images like this that Jesus came. With Jesus we have his description of God our Father eagerly running towards us with love and forgiveness in the story of the prodigal son; with Jesus we have his example to get down and wash each other's dirty places in life giving service. In Jesus we see the true image of our God, elevated on the Cross giving his life so that we can live. Our God would never look down upon us because he is with us.

The Ascension of Jesus is about the commissioning of his graduates. They have lived the life, they have heard the stories, they have shared the meal and they have entered the vision of the Kingdom of God. They are commissioned to be Christ like. We too are similarly commissioned to go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Marguerite Martin



Wishing God's blessings on all our Mothers, living and dead, & to all the Mothers of our Parish.



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

Thank you to all those who have generously supported the Charitable Works Fund Appeal last week. We have raised **\$690.00**, unfortunately the Parish still needs to raise **\$3,990** to meet our quota set by the Sydney Archdiocese. Please consider making a contribution to the appeal to help us meet our quota. Could you kindly place your donation in the special envelopes available on the seats or at the back of the church. Donations of \$2 or more are 100% tax deductible. Parishioners making a donation using the credit card are reminded to complete all details on the envelope, **including the expiry date.**

## 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 Thursday at midday. Please contact Marguerite.

## Catholic Care Visitation Wednesday 16 May Parish Meeting Room

On Wednesday, 16 May at 9:30am in the Parish Office, Catholic Care are visiting to demonstrate and talk about Package Deals for the Elderly. Parishioners who visit the sick in any capacity are invited to come along to listen and see what can be offered.

*Are you 18 - 35 years old? Do you like pizza and socialising?*

*St Vincent's Youth #Let's Talk will be meeting after the 6pm Mass this month on Sunday 20th May! Join us in the Parish Hall at 7pm.*

*Bring yourself and your appetite!*

*Visit <https://stvietstalk.weebly.com> for more info!*

### DATES FOR DIARY

May 12th	Miraculous Medal Novena at 9am Mass
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Oz Rosary #53 at 9:15am
May 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation Program
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Group
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation with Bishop Brady at 2:30pm
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Youth #Let's Talk after 6pm Mass
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Parish Pastoral Council

### **God's Design For Marriage — Celebrating 50 years of Humane Vitae**

Chris Gordon from the Life, Marriage and Family Centre will speak on this topic at various locations across Sydney. What did God intend for human sexuality? How have couples responded to the call in Paul VI's seminal encyclical Humane Vitae to be open to life? How can we change our cultural attitudes around sex, the transmission of life, marriage, providence and babies? All welcome. Plenty of time for questions. More info: 9307 8402, lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org

### **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.

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER**

- Because the call to care for God's Creation is central to the Church's teaching, the Justice and Peace Office have set up a pilot bulk-buy to assist Catholic communities and families who would like to put their faith into action by installing solar power. To find out more or to register to attend an Information Session on 9th or 16th May, go to <http://justiceandpeace.org.au/caring-for-creathion-through-solar-2/> or call Kimberley Doyle on 9307 8461. **This bill-buy offer closes on 31 May 2018.**

Date relevant to Social Justice Issues:

- Sunday 13th May The Ascension and World Communications Day on which the theme is "The Truth will set you free" (John 8:32)
- Tuesday 15th May International Day of Families
- Friday 18th May World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

### Practical Ways to Live Gospel Values

#### **Love thy neighbour**

How can you practically live the gospel values of loving one another as the Father love you?

Here's an idea: Visit someone in a nursing home on a regular basis, at least once a fortnight.

If you are interested contact Tatiana Faundez at the Ella Centre. She is the coordinator of the Federal Government's Community Visitor's Scheme in this area.

She will have an initial meeting with you and then match you to a person in a nursing home who has been identified as being at risk of isolation.

She is also your point of contact if you have any questions or issues with either the nursing home or the person that you are visiting or if you change your mind about visiting.

Volunteers who want to visit residents in nursing homes will need to undertake police checks, provide a reference and undertake some preliminary online training. Tatiana will help organize the police checks, there is no cost involved in this.

Contact Tatiana at [tatianaf@ella.org.au](mailto:tatianaf@ella.org.au) or call 9798 5140 or 0400 388 372

### **The Ascension of The Lord**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia,

**FIRST READING:** Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven (Acts 1:1-11)

**PSALM:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Ps 46:2-3, 6-9)

**SECOND READING:** To the measure of the full stature of Christ (Ephesians 4:1-13)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God (Mark 16:15-20)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.



### Next Sunday's Readings

**Pentecost Sunday**

Act 2:1-11

Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

Galatians 5:16-25

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15