

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 Most Holy Trinity

May 27, 2018

Last week, the feast of Pentecost, we celebrated the coming of the Spirit of God. We focussed on the Spirit, the invisible force wafting and blowing through and within the people of God, empowering enriching and inspiring.

Trinity Sunday is not about theological mathematics, working out how three goes into one. It's about gaining the strength at this Eucharist to pull together to see that all of God's children have the opportunity to hear the good news of how much God loves us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and so can take their privileged place at God's table. Most people will learn about the saving love of God primarily through the way they observe us seeing, judging and acting.

It's not by accident that in our Catholic tradition the usual moment we invoke the Trinity is when we make the sign of the cross. It reminds us that 'we cannot have our cake and eat it too'. Every time we profess the Trinity we recommit ourselves to die to self so that God's saving love may be realised for everyone, everywhere.

So let's not only profess our belief in the three persons that make up our one God, but live the life that goes with it, 'In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.' Richard Leonard SJ

Our gospel this week we have the words of our Christian mission, to go out, making disciples to all in the name of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In years past we had the notion only religious had the call to be missionaries, but the words of baptism are quite clear. All of us who are baptised in the name of the Trinity are equally compelled to live out that call.

Marguerite Martin

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

The onset of winter is a time to reflect on those less fortunate in our community. The local Ashfield conference of the St Vincent de Paul society is holding its annual Winter Appeal next week, **3 June**. This year our conference has supported 32 families and individuals in need. Your ongoing generosity to those doing it tough is appreciated.

The local conference meets on the first Tuesday of each month. If you would like to become a member, please call Stephen on 0423 027 657.

DATES FOR DIARY

May 28th Parish Pastoral Council
N.B. Postponed from 21st to following
Monday 28th May



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

Thank you to all those who have generously supported the CWF Appeal. The current outstanding balance is **\$200.00**. If you still want to make a donation, please place your donation in the special envelopes available on the seats or at the back of the church and place it either on the collection plate or drop it in the Parish office.

Walk with Christ Sunday 3rd June Feast of Corpus Christi

Participants will gather at the corner of Pitt St and Martin Place in the CBD at 2:30pm. finishing at the St. Mary's Cathedral Forecourt with Adoration and Benediction. The Book of Life Prayer Book is now in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel where parishioners are invited to write their prayer petitions. A parishioner is needed to present this book on behalf of the parish on the day of the procession itself. Please see Fr. Joti if you are able to help.

CONGRATULATIONS to St Vincent's Parish member Mary McNally, who last Wednesday night won the prestigious Senior Volunteer Award (Inner West Area) for 2018, sponsored and awarded by the Inner West Council for her Commitment and ongoing volunteering work with the Ashfield - Leichhardt SES, Mary also gives her time to work at some local school libraries and also helps out in other areas were needed, including St. Vincents Parish...Thank you.

Last week was Volunteers Week, where would many organizations be without the help of so many people who give their time freely. Well done !!!

Catholic Care

Needing a little of help with household chores? Catholic Care representatives recently visited the parish and discussed ways friends and loved ones can access help at home with general household tasks, making life little easier. This social service Agency for the Sydney Archdiocese has a telephone service line where help and/or advice is available.

Phone: CCareline 13 18 19

Website: CatholicCare.org

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

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

ASHFIELD CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP



The Ashfield Charismatic Prayer Group has its weekly Prayer Meeting every Monday night from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

A warm welcome invitation is extended to all Parishioners from St Vincent's to join us. For further information, please call 0402 718 949.

Social Justice Corner

Dates relevant to Social Justice issues this week:

- Sunday 27th May Trinity:
 - * Beginning of National Reconciliation Week
 - * On this day in 1967 a referendum was held to change articles in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Indigenous People
- Tuesday 29th May is the International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- Wednesday Thursday 31st May is World No Tobacco Day

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.



The Fiji Mission...a little bit of History.

Quoting the words of the *Twinings, A Story of St Vincents Parish 1894-1994*:

'In May 1959 Fathers A. Bridgewater and T. O'Reilly left Sydney by sea to commence the Fijian mission. The parish of Ashfield gave great financial support'.

In many ways this was a huge understatement. The support of St Vincent's Parish Ashfield to the Vincentian Mission in Fiji was a major factor in the success of the Mission. In the years following 1959, many functions such as card afternoons, monthly luncheons and Housie afternoons in the Parish Hall were organised by a strong and very active committee. A mainstay of the group was a wonderful lady by the name of Lillie Furlong who died only a few weeks ago. Lillie was a faithful friend to the Vincentian Fathers and a most loyal parishioner of St Vincent's Ashfield for over 60 years.

In fact, the support of the **Fiji Mission** was, in many ways, the centrepiece of social life of the parish from the 1950s to the 1990s and through these events, was the major fund raising arm of parish activities. Older members of the parish no doubt remember these functions with much joy. To add a personal note: my mother loved being a part of the 'Fiji Mission'. The fund raising activities and their value for the work of the priests in Fiji was often a topic for conversation at the dinner table.

The Fiji Mission support group continued for many years. I recall joining these dinners when I returned to the parish in 2004.

A very considerable amount of money was raised by the Fiji Mission activities much of which was sent to the Parish of **Natovi**, the first Vincentian Parish in Fiji (about 50ks out of the Capital, Suva).

Soon after the Vincentian Fathers went to Natovi, a young couple Manuele Botabua and Masilina Senitirau decided to be married. They made their home in the Natovi parish. There was great rejoicing when they were blessed with four children. The fourth child was called Joji.

This child we now know as

**Fr Joti Bilowalu cm,
Parish Priest of St Vincents Ashfield.**

Fr Michael Walsh cm

PP 2004-2011 (Now retired due to ill health)

The Most Holy Trinity

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Blest be God the father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

FIRST READING: The Lord himself is God in heaven above and on earth below: there is no other (Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40)

PSALM: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own (Ps 32:4-6,9,18-20, 22)

SECOND READING: You have received the Spirit that makes you God's own children, and in that Spirit we call God: Father, our Father! (Romans 8:14-17)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! **Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:16-20)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.



Next Sunday's Readings

The Most Holy Body and
Blood of Christ

Exodus 24:3-8

Psalms 115:12-13, 15-18

Hebrews 9:11-15

Mark 14:12-16, 22-26