

# 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



## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

October 28, 2018

This week's news stories are of a completely contradictory nature....we applaud Prince Harry and his powerful and passionate speech, especially when he referred to the compassion he felt, when on repatriation after military deployment, the young prince travelled with the maimed and the dead ones who had served their countries in Afghanistan. He knew he had the influence to start an event 'The Invictus Games' to inspire and give light to damaged lives.

Then we have the debate of what to do with the children on Nauru. wouldn't it be great if for some reason we could get to see these children as individual children, with names and personalities. Maybe that might stir some compassion for the desire for no further harm and just a better life. Such heavy thinking about making sure we don't give too much...such hesitancy about which other place to send them, but just not here. We pray for a compassionate spirit to invade our leadership that they can also feel for the other in humanity, a bit like the young Prince who could identify with those others on his plane home.

Name the miracle of today's gospel? That the Blind man could see? Bartimaeus is not only blind, he is a reject and a beggar. He hangs along the side of a busy road begging for his existence. He may have food or coins given to him but the truth is he is a reject, he has no future. He is barely tolerated on the fringes of society.

But Bartimaeus has a tenacious seeking nature. What does he know of Jesus? What has he heard? He calls out and addresses Jesus passionately as the "Son of David" the awaited one, the Messiah. From out of the darkness of his blindness he recognised Jesus as the one that could bring light to life. *Jesus have pity on me.* Jesus attitude to this blind beggar is one of complete gut wrenching compassion, and he enters into Bartimaeus' condition. The miracle is not just the restoration of sight, but the transformation of life and the shared vision of the kingdom that enabled him to completely follow Jesus in true discipleship. **You see everyone matters, absolutely.**

Marguerite Martin

**First Communion.** Where we meet Jesus when we come to Mass.

This Sunday we are focussing on meeting Jesus in our Priest. Father received the sacrament of Holy Orders some years ago to start his priesthood, ministering the sacraments to us, the people of God. He came from a family with a brother and sisters and was like us, part of the Body of Christ. He has been called to the priesthood by listening to God's call to serve, by reading the gospel and sharing the good news of Jesus in his homily, by saying Mass and administering the sacraments. Thank you Father for being our Priest.

**CWF Pastoral Appeal:** Our parish will ask you to support the **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal** next weekend.

Your donations go directly towards the charitable and pastoral works of the Sydney Archdiocese for the benefit of this community so we ask you to kindly consider your support. Thank you.

## Storm Damage

Last Friday and Saturday the Church was heavily inundated with rainwater during the violent storms. The carpets on the Sanctuary, the northern side of the church and the gallery were saturated. The front walls, and parts of the northern wall had water pouring down them. The 3 paintings on the Sanctuary are water damaged and the 3 paintings on the northern wall are still to be checked out.

Presently the carpets are still in the process of being dried out, hopefully it will be achieved by the middle of this week. Weekday Masses will still be said in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel during this time.

The reason for the inundation is still under investigation. Catholic Church Insurance is working closely with the Parish, to establish the probable cause. There has been no determination as yet on who is going to pay for the restoration—Insurance or Parish. If anyone knows the Patron Saint of getting insurance companies to accept liability for damage, please inform the Parish office. For further updates watch this space.

Michael Clay

*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.*

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

Marguerite Martin  
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

## Plenary Council 2020

Today Lana Turvey- Collins will further our knowledge of Plenary Council process. Meanwhile for us we have to consider this question, **What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?** In a few weeks you'll be tapped on the shoulder and invited to share your thoughts about this question, to start the Plenary council process. Yes you can air your opinion and experience of Church and Faith.

### 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.

### 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: 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.



As a Parish we are indebted to Michael Clay who has stepped up to help, advise and liaise with the various trades people and insurance assessors through this worrying time with our church building. Thank you Michael sounds shallow to a man who gave up last Saturday evening just mopping and mopping after the storm to rid us of the extreme puddles, so Mass could happen the next day. He did such a good job that some didn't know why the disaster recovery fans were there through the week as they never saw the extent of the damage. Many, many thanks Michael .

### RCIA Inquiry happening NOW

You may know someone who is interested in our faith. Maybe they were baptised as a baby and weren't brought up in faith or maybe they were never connected with Christianity. This is the time to invite your friends and family to come along you can even offer to accompany them! Ring Marguerite 0414 566 961.

### DAILY MASS BOOKS & BREAK OPEN THE WORD FOR 2019

We will be ordering the new Daily Mass Book 2019 & Break Open the Word 2019. Cost: \$24 each. To place an order kindly ring Parish Office at 9798 2501 and orders must be received by **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018.**

### The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us.

We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office @ 02 9390 5812.



## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**FIRST READING:** I shall lead them back in mercy - both the blind and the lame  
(Jeremiah 31:7-9)

**PSALM:** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Ps 125)

**SECOND READING:** You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek (Hebrews 5:1-6)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Master, grant that I may see (Mark 10:46-52)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Thirty-First Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Deuteronomy 6:2-6  
Psalm 17:2-4,47,51  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 12:28-34