

# 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



## Thirty first Sunday in Ordinary Time B

November 4, 2018

Part of our first communion program is emphasising the presence of Jesus in our worship; in his people gathered, the body of Christ; last week, in his Priest, offering prayer on our behalf; and today we look at Jesus present in his Word.

Last week in the program sessions with the children and their families we heard some of the "precious memories" of the children and their parents and the stories of their children's birth were remembered in great detail and accuracy. After all these remembered stories marked the start of a life-giving and hopefully lifelong relationship. The other memories shared were about precious people no longer with us, separated by distance or by death. So what makes an event memorable? Hindsight and love. It is within these stories, one gets the true sense of the Word became Flesh and dwelt amongst us.

Today we, like the scribe, ask what is the most important aspect in our following of Jesus? and we listen to Jesus respond today as he did over 2000 years ago. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. This is the prime relationship, the life giving and hopefully life long relationship that our parent God revels in. Do we do this by dutifully keeping the rules or do we do as Jesus did....being fully conscious of God's love for us, to go and share that love and dignity of life with others. Our neighbour in this global age ceases to be just the person next to us. It is the true challenge of Christianity, if the Word has been made real to us, to be the Word made flesh for others.

*Marguerite Martin*

### PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Parish Finance Committee needs you! More members are invited to join this committee that meets every couple of months. Please consider this necessary and vital ministry. Ring Father Joti 97982501

2019 Columban Calendars now on sale for \$9.00

*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.*

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

This week we meet Jesus in the Word. When we gather as a family part of remembering is sharing the stories of the ones we love. This week the stories are about rules....and the rule of LOVE. We have to love the Lord with all our heart, all our soul and all our strength and love others like we love ourselves. Before we hear the Gospel we all make a little cross on our forehead, on our lips and on our heart and we say **Jesus may your words be In my mind, On my lips, And in my heart.**

**CWF Pastoral Appeal:** Our parish will ask you to support the **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal** this weekend. Today, we welcome special Speakers to talk about this.

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. Our quota is **\$4,000.00**. Thank you.

### Storm Damage Update

During last week the carpets on the Sanctuary were dry enough to be given the all clear. The upstairs gallery is still a work in progress. The carpet has had to be pulled up to allow it and the underlay to dry properly. Also the floorboards are still very damp. Art experts and restorers were in on Tuesday to look at the paintings above the Sanctuary and their report is still pending. Initially, though the painting of the Nativity will have to be removed and taken away for restoration, the 3 paintings and the centre painting will be worked on whilst still in place. All this work if given the go ahead (that is still very much undecided) will entail scaffolding or a scissor lift, so, as they say, your patience will be a virtue!

This week a representative from a building company will be in the Church to check the roof and other areas. The amount of work and restoration covered by insurance is still unknown.

*Michael Clay*

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

*Marguerite Martin  
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)*

## Why Pray for the Dead?

Prayer is meant to change and console us. In praying for the dead we do two things: We highlight our faith in the power of God and we put the dead person and our relationship to them into God's hands. Our belief in the communion of saints means we are still in vital communion with all those who have died.



## 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.

## 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.



## 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.



## Social Justice Corner

At our meeting on Saturday 27th October, Lucille McKenna, a Director of Nursing, General Manager, Registered Nurse for 40 years and Inner West Councillor, spoke to St. Vincent's Social Justice Group about the issues for the residents in aged care facilities (such as the insufficient time for feeding assistance and giving personal care, money and lack of training); in general a "failure of the system".

Lucille provided a few statistics in the field of aged care:

1. 76% of older people are on the wrong Home Care Package
2. As of 30 June 2018, there were 84,971 active Home Care Packages. Of those, 64,668 were used by people waiting for the "higher lever" package. As a result, 76 per cent of packages are used by people who need more and/or different care. Of those 64,668 people on an inadequate package, 56,481 (almost nine out of ten people) were waiting for a level 3 or 4 package. These are the highest levels of Care, comparable to what a nursing home is meant to Provide. (NSW Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association)
3. "...retired renters spend on average almost 30 per cent of their income on housing, which is the rate by which people are considered in 'housing stress'. One of the things that this group is cutting back on the pay for high housing costs is healthcare. Obviously, an Elderly person choosing to not seek healthcare, because they can't afford to, risks bigger health issues and far greater costs down the line" (Australia Institute)
4. "NSW" has the biggest proportion of low-income Renters in housing stress." (reported in SMH 29.10.18)

Lucille has urged us to make submissions to the recently announced Royal Commission on Aged Care outlining our own experiences.

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.

## Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time B

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**FIRST READING:** Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
(Deuteronomy 6:2-6)

**PSALM:** I love you, Lord, my strength (Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51)

**SECOND READING:** This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood  
(Hebrews 7:23-28)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it (Mark 12:28-34)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your  
presence, O Lord.



## Next Sunday's Readings

Thirty-Second Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
1 Kings 17:10-16  
Psalm 145:7-10  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44/12:41-44