

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-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time B

November 11, 2018

If you want something done, ask a busy person. We have all heard this saying especially in this time when we are all particularly time poor. Money, wealth, time and busyness are all relative. Today the stories are about the widows. In a time of no social security the word widow could easily be aligned with the word poverty. In the first reading we meet the widow who didn't have enough flour to make bread, however she dutifully fulfils the Jewish law of hospitality by feeding Elijah a small scone. She gave her all in hospitality and her generosity was rewarded by having a bottomless flour jar, in a time of drought and famine. Through feeding Elijah, the stranger, she meets a life-giving God, because it is through Elijah's prayer, her son is restored to life. Our gospel also contains a story of the Widow who gives her two coins to support the temple funds. She, like the previous widow, is fulfilling a duty; she gave in generosity but for whom or for what. What was the life that her meagre gift was to support? Jesus is scathing as he describes the pomp and ceremony that surround the temple. Was this truly a place of homage to God or a structure to support power and prestige? So as much as the widow's mite is to be commended for its generosity, it is also a statement about the hypocrisy of the temple structure that received such a gift, and the lack of responsibility that it has to the people supporting them. It certainly wasn't revealing a life giving and hopeful God. Who are our poor? Are we a structure that cares beyond caring for ourselves? Are we inward looking people or outward looking? We know it is in giving that we receive....

Marguerite Martin

Parish Men's Group will meet next Tuesday night 13th November at 7:30pm, 1st Floor Club Ashfield. Men of all ages most welcome. An informal night of conversation in relaxed atmosphere.

Men's Group Parish Christmas Barbecue will be held Sunday 16th December after all masses.

Religious goods for sale and display by the Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent, Minsk, Belarus on Sunday 25th November here in the Church.

This Sunday we welcome Kiki Tan and Kameliah Dungay-Haines baptism into our community of faith. They will be baptised this Sunday and join with their class mates over the next two Sundays and receive their First Communion. We're excited girls that you have made this decision, and we pray for you and your families.

Plenary Council 2020

WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME?

This Sunday YOU have your say. At homily time you are asked to share your thoughts on the sheets of paper in the seats. There is no need to write your name. This will form the basis of further discussion later. Thank you



Thank you to all those who have generously supported the Charitable Works Fund Appeal last week. We have raised **\$1,283.00**, unfortunately the Parish still needs to raise **\$2,717** 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.**

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.

Storm Damage Update. During the last week the carpets were given the OK, that they had dried out sufficiently, steam cleaning and sanitization was then carried out on the effected areas.

At the time of printing this bulletin I am still awaiting a roof and building inspection, further updates next week.

Michael Clay

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

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

Fr Joti Absence Fr. Joti will be away from Monday 19th November to 22nd November to attend the Provincial meeting. Masses will be as usual for that week.

2019 Columban Calendars now on sale for \$9.00

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 Wednesday of the Month, 3:30pm Reconciliation, 4:00 Mass & Anointing, First Friday of the month 9:00am Communion Service.



Social Justice Corner

St. Vincent's Parish Social Justice Group will meet **next Saturday, 17th November**, in the parish meeting rooms, at 12 Bland St., from 9:45am to 11:30am. 9798 2501 or email Julia Pokorny juliandpaul007@gmail.com. NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

Dates relevant to Social Justice Issues this week:

- Sunday 11th November is Remembrance (Armistice) Day: 100th anniversary of the end of the World War 1 in 1918 and on this day 1975 the Whitlam Government was dismissed
- Monday 12th November: on this day in 1991 more than 271 people were killed in the Dili Massacre, Timor-Leste
- Friday 16th November is *International Day of Tolerance* and on this day in 1989 six Jesuit priests and 2 co-workers were murdered in El Salvador

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.



Religious Christmas cards will be on sale the first two weekends of December (or when sold out). Money raised will go towards church maintenance. \$6 per packet for 8 cards.

Interested gardening ??? The gardens at the side of the church need some TLC especially the first plot. If any one is interested in having a dig around, no appointments necessary just turn up whenever, but you may have to bring some tools (the ones that were there have grown legs and walked away). The soil is bad, full of rocks and an old tree stump, *but there is potential and the addition of many different flowers would make a huge difference.*

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time B

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

FIRST READING: The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah (1 Kings 17:10-16)

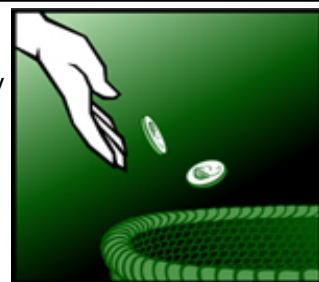
PSALM: Praise the Lord, my soul! (Ps 145:7-10)

SECOND READING: Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself (Hebrews 9:24-28)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: The poor widow has put more in than all who contributed (Mark 12:38-44/ Mark 12:41-44)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.



Next Sunday's Readings

Thirty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Daniel 12:1-3
Psalm 15:5, 8-11
Hebrews 10:11-14, 18
Mark 13:24-32