

# 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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time B

November 18, 2018

Today the Gospel asks us to look for signs of God. This year we have had the phenomenon of blue moons and we are all conversant with eclipses of the moon and planets that darken the land, that let us know of the vast machinations of the universe. How Great is our God! In our community today we have 12 First Communicants, (5 next week). What is the sign for us as these beautiful young people come forward to receive Jesus for the first time...it is the presence of Jesus within our community feeding us and leading us to bring about the kingdom in our world!

Congratulations to the families who in faith have brought their children to this day, many thanks to the generosity of Jessica Manganaro who has facilitated small groups.

*Congratulation to all our first communicants and their families.*

*Amy Chen, Cindy Chen, Joy Chen, Laura Giraldo, Emmaline Johnson, Alana Kovac, Santiago Zurita, Isabela Perez, Adriana Ceklawi, Maxwell Foran, Chanel Younes, Kiki Tan*

*Marguerite Martin*

Two thousand years later we no longer have an expectation of the immediate end of the world – except in science fiction. But we can certainly live in expectation and awareness of God's presence in our lives. We can live each day alert to discovering God just around the corner. How will I meet God today? Will it be in the face of an upset child? The listening ear of a friend? The unwanted interruption to my plans? The quiet reflective moment in my day? God comes to us in so many various ways – if we can read the signs. The ancient world looked to cosmic signs to announce God's coming, but Jesus' parable of the lowly fig tree suggests we look to the ordinary and familiar.

*Sr Mary Coloe PBVM*

**Parish Pastoral Council** The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 19th November at 6.00pm in the Parish Meeting Rooms.

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

Through the week we celebrated, very quietly, one of those significant anniversaries ending with a nought. **Fr Joti Bilowalu was 20 years ordained!!!!** We thank God for his vocation, especially to us, and we pray for him as he enters his next 20 years.

## Plenary Council 2020

.....so last week you had a few moments to contribute to the question for the Plenary Council. What do YOU think God is asking of us in Australia at this time? You may have more thoughts and may want to contribute more. You are more than welcome to take another sheet to write on and place it in the collection plates. Meanwhile Justin and his committee will further gauge the various topics that will become Focus Questions that at a later date we can engage in.



Thank you to all those who have generously supported the Charitable Works Fund Appeal last week. We have raised **\$2,605.00**, unfortunately the Parish still needs to raise **\$1,396.00** 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.**

**Storm Damage Update.** Once again at the time of printing this bulletin a more detailed inspection of the church roof, still needs to be carried out.

This week an initial check of the interior roofing above the 3 front altars was made and some photos taken of the main roof with the use of a drone with camera attached.

The outcome of the various inspections which have taken place so far is very much still in the hands of the Catholic Church Insurance.

*Michael Clay*

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

*Marguerite Martin*  
*Aparna John (Mon & Tues)*

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

### 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.

**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.

### 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

Dates relevant to Social Justice Issues this week:

- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November is *World Day of the Poor*
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November is *Universal Children's Day* and on this day in 1959 the UN adopted the Declaration of Rights of the Child
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November: on this day in 1964 the National Service Act was passed by the Australian parliament

2019 Columban Calendars now on sale for \$9.00

### 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.

**Men's Group Parish Christmas Barbecue** will be held Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December after all masses.

**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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time B

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**FIRST READING:** When that time comes your own people will be spared (Daniel 12:1-3)

**PSALM:** Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope (Ps 15:5,8-11)

**SECOND READING:** By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified (Hebrews 10:11-14,18)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** He shall gather his elect from the four winds (Mark 13:24-32)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of The Universe  
Daniel 7:13-14  
Psalm 92:1-2,5  
Revelation 1:5-8  
John 18:33-37