

# 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



## Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time C

March 3, 2019

The Plank V The Splinter.

This has been the unspeakable week for us. We pray for all victims of abuse. Unpopularly, we pray for those abusers. Sin is sin. The ripple effect, the pain and suffering caused is never more palpable than this week. We have all been assaulted. I have heard lots of testimonies this week along the line of "I used to be a Mass going Catholic but now do not go near the place because of the church hypocrisy....." Many years ago, in discussion about dwindling numbers in the mass attendance, a wonderful, wise man contributed this thought to the discussion. He spoke of a fire, that burned so fiercely everyone wanted to gather around to be warmed by that fire. Some became invigorated by the fire and gathered others to come and feel the heat, some started to feel a little scorched and moved away and others just got burnt out. Slowly the novelty of the fire ceased to amaze, feed and fire the imagination and many left, but there were always those who remained to keep the fire burning, fanned and maintained.

Humanity is flawed, never have we seen that flaw more, than in the evil, hatred and inability to recognise others' humanity, in war situations. Were all the enemy forces who persecuted the Jews evil? Are all Australians evil that perpetuate the suffering of acknowledged refugees by putting them on an island and leaving them there? Are all Catholics evil because some of our number, ones who held trusted positions of leadership have sinned against the weakest and most vulnerable? All these shocking enigmas can not be answered with black and white answers. Let us return to the fire.....it is burning with love for ALL humanity. Everyone matters, absolutely. That becomes easier to say until it becomes easy to join the throng and join the hate: to point out the plank in the others' eye without caring for the splinter in my own. Return to the fire and share its light and warmth, its hope and its redemptive love.

Marguerite Martin

## BAPTISM

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

Lana Rose Andrawes

Mattea Raine Bautista Di Leva

Francesca Yvonne Fuentes



## Masses for Ash Wednesday

Mass times for Ash Wednesday,  
6<sup>th</sup> March at 12pm and 6.30pm.



There will be **Mass at 9:00am** at Cardinal Freeman Village on Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.

There will be **NO 3:00 pm Anointing Mass** on this day.

## The Block Open Day Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March

St. Vincent's Primary 3pm to 5pm, Bethlehem College and De La Salle from 3pm to 7pm.

St. Vincent's Church will be open to visitors from 1pm to 6pm.

A Big **THANK YOU** to all parishioners who supported last Sunday's event—the people who donated food, the Men's Group, Maria and Jane Lee for setting up the hall and those people who helped serve the food, the Sukkar family, Sinead Kent for the liturgical touches, the banner makers and all who ventured into the playground and hall. Thank you to Jo Haylen, current state member for Summer Hill, for taking time out of her busy schedule to attend.

## Miraculous Medal Novena Mass

Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 9:00am

Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited within the Mass.



## LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

Lenten Small Groups are part of our Lenten preparation and also a wonderful way to meet like minded people of our Parish. Please ring the office if you wish to lead a group. We will be using the book entitled "Trust" from the Archdiocese of Wollongong. If you wish to buy a book it's at \$10, available from the office.

*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)

**CONFIRMATION** will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> June. The first Confirmation gathering is on 5<sup>th</sup> May at 10am Mass for enrolment followed by an information session. For more information please contact Sinead @0420 653 637.

**The Organ** As we informed you last week, it will take \$220,000 to refurbish the organ. The question was asked: How much could the Parish ever raise that sort of money, with the other more important priorities it has? The organ, unfortunately, is well down on the list. However, a solution has been put forward. Return and Earn! At 10 cents per can, bottle or juice container, it would only take 2 million, 2 hundred thousand bottles and cans!!!

### Parish Trivia Question

There are three paintings on the left side wall as you walk towards the altar. Have you considered the subjects of those paintings? The second and third are easily identified—The Transfiguration and the Agony in the Garden. What is the subject of the one nearest the choir gallery?

### 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 & 6:30pm  
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

On Thursday evening 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 6:30-8:30pm, nine days before the next NSW election, Sydney Alliance, Vinnies NSW and the Everybody's Home Campaign are jointly hosting an Assembly to lobby for affordable housing. Our Social Justice group is a member of the Sydney Alliance through the Sydney Catholic Archdiocese.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED.**

If you would like to attend please register at no cost on <https://rentingfair.org.au/>

And join us; we are meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March at Ashfield station at a time to be advised.

Dates relevant to Social Justice Issues this week:

- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March is *World Wildlife Day & Project Compassion Sunday & Clean Up Australia Day*
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March: International Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is remembered
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, ASH WEDNESDAY, is the beginning of Project Compassion
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March is *International Women's Day*

Last Tuesday, the funeral was held for Majo Mitchell, a great parishioner and friend. Majo was a major part of the Monday night prayer group. Her husband, Bruce, has been a tireless worker for this church and still is always ready to lend a hand when asked. In years past, both Majo and Bruce were great supporters of the Parents and Friends of St Vincent's School.

The funeral was concelebrated by Fr Jerzy (PP here in the 90s who now works in the Oyster Bay Parish) and Fr Joti. Fr Maurice Sullivan, and Fr Tony Mannix, former Provincials of the Vincentians, were also in attendance. The church was packed, which showed the love and respect people had for her...Adieu and Rest in peace, Majo.

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.

### Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

**FIRST READING:** Do not praise someone before they have spoken (Sirach 27:4-7)

**PSALM:** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Ps 91:2-3, 13-16)

**SECOND READING:** Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:54-58)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** A person speaks from what is in his heart (Luke 6:39-45)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.



### Next Sunday's Readings

First Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm 90: 1-2, 10-15

Romans 10:18-13

Luke 4:1-13