

# 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



## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019

### My Father, Daddy, Dad, Our Father

These words are quite familiar with us...we conjure up that image. For me, a beautiful image of big blue eyes with eye lashes so long they brushed against his glasses. He called me Mag and when I was at school, public speaking, he would stand at the back of a hall and wave. Embarrassing and funny. My Father..Dad!

Our Father was that extremely patient, gentle, hard working man who loved us completely. My brothers have other stories of their relationship with their Dad but our common experience was of Our Father, the man who loved us equally. His last words to us were words of love, 'Look after your mother' and 'Stay together.' The image of Our Father, enters us into the family, and like all families, there is no one profile for family. Jesus gave us his Father, he modelled the uniqueness of that relationship. The Father gave us his Son, he didn't intervene to 'helicopter' parent, to excuse him, to make his life that little easier. The Prodigal Son is the story of two sons who abused their Fathers love. He loved them completely. One son was publicly overt in his abuse of that love, but the other son's abuse was the lack of understanding of the love that was showered upon him; he thought that by going through the motions of pleasing was singularly being part of the family. These sons didn't respond to that personal relationship, the one of My Dad, My Son.

So how is it in our family, with Our Father? Which son do we identify with? Do we share the ideals of Our Father for the family? Do we enjoy his love as my Dad? Can we enter into his embrace, welcoming us back? Or can we give ourselves freely, like one of the lines of George Herbert's poem, 'Love' *Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew me back, guilty of dust and sin.*

*Marguerite Martin*

### Home/Sick Visitation

Perhaps you know someone...a relative, friend or a neighbor who would like to be visited by Fr. Joti for either Communion or Anointing. Please contact Parish office at 9798 2501 or 2503.

### Miraculous Medal Novena Mass

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 9:00am**

Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited within the Mass.



*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.*

**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.

### ORGANIST/PIANO PLAYER REQUIRED FOR 8AM MASS

*(The search continues)*

8am mass is in need of volunteer organist or pianist willing to join the current musicians.

The position/s would be on a rostered basis approx 1 or 2 Sundays a month or when time suits.

Young or young at heart, music student, retired teacher or someone who is musically talented and can lead the early morning attendees at 8am in the prayer of music.

If you are interested or you may know of someone and require more information please speak to the musician at 8am mass, or if you know someone that fits the bill contact Parish office, so contact can be made.

**De La Salle College Ashfield will be holding their first round of interviews for Year 7/ 2020 early next term. If you are looking at enrolling your son at De La Salle College Ashfield in 2020, it is recommended that you submit your enrolment application as soon as possible to ensure an interview time can be organised for you and your son.**

### PROJECT COMPASSION



Michaela is a 21 year old trainee at Purple House, a dialysis center in the Central Desert for people suffering from kidney disease. With the support of Caritas partners, Michaela is helping to build a social enterprise, a connection to cultural and a new outlook for the chronically ill.

Please donate to Projection Compassion 2019 and help young people with disabilities gain access to clean water in Solomon Islands, providing hope for a brighter future.

**Lives change when we all give 100%.** You can donate through the boxes and envelopes or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or 1800 024 413.

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

Marguerite Martin  
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

## Social Justice Corner

Parish Trivia (con't) This week is a completion of the translation of the latin wording which runs around the top of the church.

At the back HAEC EST DOMUS DEI ET PORTA COELI - This is the house of God and the gate of heaven and down the right hand side (facing altar) AVE MARIA GRATIA PLENA DOMINUS TECUM - Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

### Could you help a child in care?

We urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care.

To learn more, come to our information night.

Tuesday 2 April 2019, 5:30pm-8pm

Marist 180 36 First Avenue Blacktown NSW 2148

Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday morning 7<sup>th</sup> April at 2:00am. Please don't forget to adjust your clocks one hour backward. If not you will be very early for Mass.



### 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.

On Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>, nearly 2000 people including 15 Ashfield parishioners, converged at Sydney Town Hall to urge **real change** to housing and energy policy ahead of the NSW and Federal elections.

The goal of the Town Hall Assembly was to secure **new commitments** to the housing and energy policy asks of the Sydney Alliance, NSW Vinnies and Everybody's Home. These organisations negotiated with decision-makers prior to the assembly, and briefed all politicians on the questions and process. On the night, we asked the decision-makers on stage for their public commitments.

The new commitments that were achieved are a **credit to the power of everyone who came**.

The Social Justice Group will monitor whether pre-election promises made for new social housing actually result in a net increase after any existing social housing stock is sold off.

The Social Justice group **usually** meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month in the parish centre at 9.45am. However, the **next** meeting will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Dates relevant to Social Justice this week:

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April: On this day in 1897 Jandamurra, Aboriginal resistance leader of the Bunuba people (WA)
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April is the *International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action* and On this day in 1968 Martin Luther King Jnr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April is the *International Day of Sport for Development and Peace*.

### 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.



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.

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**FIRST READING:** The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover (Joshua 5:9-12)

**PSALM:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Ps 33:2-7)

**SECOND READING:** God reconciled us to himself through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL:** Your brother here was dead and has come to life (Luke 15:18)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.



### Next Sunday's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 125

Philippians 3:8-14

John 8:1-11