

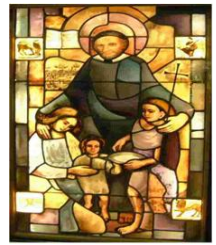
# St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield

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 Easter

May 12, 2019

So much of all the readings of this Sunday reflect God in our world this week. Firstly, it is Mother's Day today. Happy Mother's day, a day when we women celebrate relationship with our offspring. Gosh we mothers really know our sheep! We can excuse, admire, cajole, argue, despair and still love, excuse and forgive our children with overwhelming love. We have heard the statement about the person who only a mother would love...And this week we heard the wonder of that new parent love from Harry and Meghan. A time to reflect on that small insight into the unique love bond of Jesus and the Father and its overflowing effect on the shepherd and his sheep! For our bullying and social media mad society that feels everyone has the right to say what they want, we hear of Paul and Barnabas taking their seats in the synagogue in Pisidia. It was from the Jewish community that they came, this was the family that Jesus came for, yet it was the new law of Jesus that disturbed the status quo, the one love for the 'other' the non Jew, the pagan, that was so abhorrent to the ears of those that had just Worshipped with Paul and Barnabas. They had deliver the message, shrug their shoulders and shake the dust from their feet and leave on their travels, after bringing the inclusion message of God to those excluded, the pagan and the other. It is the same with so many who have opposing views today. The bullies, the righteous, have a way fo shouting the other down with hate, trying to run people out of town for daring to think otherwise, keeping people in their place. Opposing ideas provide that necessary tension that creates and develops thought and new ideas. Listening and debating is different to hating and excluding. And sadly for us, this week we lost two wonderful faithful disciples of Jesus, who the angels have met and brought into the company of the Saints, Jean Vanier, a most humble man whose yearning for Christ was satisfied by sharing life with those of disability, noting that is everybody's condition. His final message "God is good and whatever happens it will be the best. I am happy and give thanks for everything." Jean Vanier established the L'Arche movement, loving God and all God's people. Fr. John Pearce, who until the last two years was the Parish Priest of Marrickville, died last Sunday suddenly. John exemplified what being alive in Christ really was! Laughing and enjoying life with his parishioners and friends was his hallmark. Always first to put up his hand to develop and encourage the people of God. In lay pastoral ministry we were so lucky to have him as our co-chair for a number of years and I benefitted from his encouragement. God love you and keep you John. Sincere condolences to his family and the people of Marrickville.

*Marguerite Martin*



*We wish all Mothers,  
Grandmothers, Aunties and all  
who have been carers to  
children in their lives a very  
Happy Mothers Day. May God  
pour down his special blessings  
upon you all.*

*Fr. Jotí, Marguerite,  
Carmen & Aparna*

## CWF Pastoral Appeal

Thank you to all those who have generously supported the CWF Appeal. The current outstanding balance is **\$2,683**. If you are able to help the Parish meet its quota please place your donations in the special envelopes available on the seats or at the back of the church and can be place on either of the collections or drop into the Parish office.

**Parish Men's Group** will meet next Tuesday night 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Club Ashfield. Men of all ages most welcome. An informal night of conversation in relaxed atmosphere.

## CHURCH MAINTENANCE 100 CLUB

**What is the 100 Club? ... Well you may ask!** It is a fund raiser that runs for 10 weeks. For a single payment of \$40, 100 members may choose one number 01-100 randomly. **Father Joti** will draw out two lucky numbers each week for 9 weeks. If you hold the first number drawn out, you will win \$80. The second number will win \$40. In the tenth and final week, first prize will be \$500 and second prize will be \$250. The **100 Club** is open to parishioners, family and friends. Winners' names will be published each week in the church bulletin. Funds raised will be used to maintain our aging church building. **Numbers will go on sale Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, after all Masses.** The **100 Club** will commence when all 100 members have been signed up and are financial.

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

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

### **Blessing Prayer for Mother's Day**

God of Love, God of Holy People,  
of Sarah, Ruth, Rebecca;  
God of Elizabeth, the mother of John,  
of Mary, the mother of Jesus,  
listen to our prayer.

Bless all women with the strength of your spirit,  
with the melody of your love,  
with a place at your eternal dinner table,  
with joy, love, laughter.

May this blessing and all graces  
descend upon each woman  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of  
the Holy Spirit. Amen

### **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.

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.

### **Parish Masses this week:**

Monday 12noon

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**

The Social Justice group meets on the **3rd Saturday** of the month in the **parish centre** at **9.45am**. The next meeting is NEXT SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Dates relevant to Social Justice this week:

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May is *the International Day of Families* and On this day in 1891, Pope Leo XIII's encyclical, *Rerum Novarum* ("on Capital and Labour") was released and On this day in 1931, Pope Pius XI's encyclical, *Quadragesimo Anno* ("On Reconstruction and the Social Order") was released and On this day in 1961 Pope John XXIII's encyclical, *Mater et Magistra* ("On Christianity and Social Progress")
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May is *World Debt Day*
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May is *World Telecommunications and Information Society Day*.

### **A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney**

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

*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.*

## **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** We are now turning to the gentiles (Act 13:14, 43-52)

**PSALM:** We are his people, the sheep of his flock (Ps 99.1-3,5)

**SECOND READING:** The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water (Revelation 7:9, 14-17)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** I give my sheep eternal life (John 10:27-30)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



### **Next Sunday's Readings**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27

Psalm 144:8-13

Revelation 21:1-5

John 13:31-35