

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



First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

Advent has arrived. This is a new liturgical year. Yr A again! We make new year resolutions on December 31st so maybe we should gather a few thoughts about how we can become closer to God as we prepare to celebrate him coming among us. So, in the Gospel St Matthew has Jesus encouraging his disciples to "Stay awake and Be Alert". We all have had the unexpected happen to us in varying degrees in our lives, I am a living testament to that! and part of our coping mechanism for that is to go over how we should have been prepared. If only I had seen this or done this or locked that....then maybe this unexpected event wouldn't have happened. We so love to be in control! Sudden change leaves us so vulnerable and robs us of that. These unexpected events are in fact the essence of our humanity, that should really bring us to our knees and our dependence on God. It is no accident that the word disciple is contained in the word discipline. Jesus' words to the floundering disciples to stay vigilant to God's call is as applicable today as then. To be a disciple means to lead that disciplined life, not a life of rigidity but to an awareness of the needs of others rather than self, and an awareness of the blessed nature of our lives with God. Trust that were ever he leads is a better place. *Marguerite Martin*

Dates for your diary:

Sunday, 8th December Parish Christmas BBQ after ALL masses in the playground.

Trivia Night postponed until the new year

There will be **no** Novena for **Miraculous Medal** on December 2019 and January 2020. Novena will recommence on February 2020.



Columban Calendars: are now available @ \$9.00

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.

Today "*St Vincent's around the Hot Water Urn*" the Parish Council invites ALL parishioners to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee after the 8am and 10am masses in the hall or playground.

BAPTISM

Saturday, 7th December 2019

Freya Stoney Banchong



HOLY HOUR

**with the BLESSED SACRAMENT
11am to 12 noon**

Every Wednesday before the 12 noon Mass.

Ashfield St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Ashfield St. Vincent de Paul will be holding their appeal today Sunday 1st December. Envelopes will be placed on the seats for anyone wishing to donate to this appeal.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Over the next three Sundays, December 1, 8 and 15, your local St Vincent de Paul branch will be collecting non-perishable food items for Christmas hampers. These will be distributed to struggling individuals and families in our area, who have been assisted by the Society during the year. Please place your donated items in the baskets under the Christmas tree. Thank you for your generosity in making sure these families are able to share in the joy of Christmas.

Some suggested items:

Tinned fruit, vegetables, soup, tuna, salmon
Breakfast cereals and bars
Biscuits savoury and sweet
Pasta and sauces
Tea, coffee, milo, cordial
Christmas cakes, puddings and other treats

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)

Prayer for Rain:

God our Father, You created our earth to nourish us and give us life

And Jesus told us to ask and it will be given to us

We ask now in Faith, Hope and Love that you look with favour on our drought stricken land.

Our starving animals and failing produce.

Sustain, strengthen and give new heart to our farmers and all those affected by this drought

In your loving providence send abundant rain soon

And renew the faith of your people and the face of our land.

We make this prayer with many, through Jesus Christ who gives new life to all living things.

Amen

Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Pray for us

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop - Pray for us

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

Saturday 9:00am

Morning Prayer: 8:40am (Saturday)

Sunday: 8am 10:00am 6:00pm

Polish Mass 12 noon

Reconciliation: Saturday 8:10am to 8:40am



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.



St Vincent's Ashfield Social Justice Group

Our new logo (above) says SEE LISTEN ACT

Jesus SAW - the sick, the hungry, the grief stricken, the lost, the lonely

Jesus LISTENED - to all people [tax collectors, soldiers, mothers, disciples, friends

Jesus ACTED - the woman at the well, the sick, the blind, the lepers, the hungry, worked miracles, instructed [words and actions] Jesus challenges us !!!

Each Sunday during Advent there will be a short summary of the SJG's activities over the last 3 years.

This week, David Collins-White, a member of our group writes: *For the past year I have been representing the St Vincent's Social Justice group on the Inner West Council's "Housing & Affordability Advisory Committee", which is one of the council democracy committees. The committee has made submissions on major council policy documents to do with Local Strategic Planning & Housing Strategy. More recently I have had very productive meetings with Councillors and the General Manager. The committee is a group of people who are passionate about improving housing affordability for all and I have found the experience rewarding. I will continue to work with the committee in 2020 and look for input from the St Vincent's Social Justice group.*

Dates this week relevant to Social Justice are:

- Sunday 1st December is *World Aids Day*
- Monday 2nd December is the *International Day of Persons with Disabilities*
- Thursday 5th December is *International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development.*

The Social Justice group meets on the **3rd Saturday** of the month in the **parish centre** at **9.45am**. **NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME.**



First Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

FIRST READING: The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God (Isaiah 2:1-5)

PSALM: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord
(Psalm 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9)

SECOND READING: The time has come, our salvation is near
(Romans 12:11-14)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Stay awake, you must be ready (Matthew 24:37-44)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



Next Sunday's Readings Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12