

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



Second Sunday in Ordinary time A

January 19, 2020

Civilisation! I think we can all agree that our civilisation here in Australia is pretty good. The dictionary would define civilisation as "the stage of human social and cultural development and organization that is considered most advanced." How can civilisation be judged? And from what point do we need to be at to judge it? Winston Churchill was reported to have said that one can judge a civilisation on its treatment of prisoners, but with the royal commission into aged care we probably should look at that base line....or maybe our treatment of refugees. It is easy to compare our civilisation with another that is inhumane. With Christ however there should be no distinction between poor and rich, prisoner or judge, male and or female, black or white, sane or insane.

As we approach another Australia Day we have become aware that this day has caused for some a cultural sensitivity that we must ponder

Civilization poem by Oodgeroo of the tribe Noonuccal"

We who came late to civilization,
Missing a gap of centuries,
When you came we marvelled and admired,
But with foreboding.
We had so little but we had happiness,
Each day a holiday,
For we were people before we were citizens,
Before we were rate payers,
Tenants, customers, employees, parishioners.
How could we understand
White mans gradings, rigid and unquestioned,
You sacred totems of Lord and Lady,
Highness and Holiness, Eminence, Majesty.
We could not understand
Your strange cult of uniformity,
This mass obedience to clocks, timetables.
Puzzled, we wondered why
The importance to you, urgent and essential,
Of ties and gloves, Shoe polish, uniforms.
New to us were jails and orphanages,
Rents and taxes, Banks and mortgages.
We who had so few things, the prime things,
We had no policeman, lawyers, middlemen,
Brokers, financiers, millionaires.
So they bewildered us, all the new wonders,
Stocks and shares, real estate,
compound interest, sales and investments.
Oh, we have benefited, we have been lifted,
with new knowledge, a new world opened.
Suddenly caught up in white man ways.
Gladly and gratefully we accepted,
And this is necessity.
But remember, white man, if life is for happiness,
You too surely have much to change. .

Mass on Monday 27th January

As it is a **Public Holiday**, Mass will take place
on Monday 27th January
at 9:00am
instead of the usual time of midday.

Sunday, 2nd February "*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 (depending the weather).

Last year Christmas crept up on me. I really felt we had just put away the year before and its tree! But along it came and now as it is has gone..... We would like to thank all those people who put the sparkle in our Christmas, brought in the star to point the way for us, and make Christmas both happy and holy for us. Thank you to Fr Joti Fr Kevin Fr Michael and all the other priests who assisted them ministering the sacraments to us over this period, we thank our musicians who carefully chose and delivered the sound of angels for us, Joan Carmody and her team of dancers who bring us 'joy to the world' in liturgical dance along with the many drummer boys, shepherds, angels and of course, Mary Joseph and Baby Jesus! Always flawless Joan! Thank you to all those who put themselves forward for the special readers and Eucharistic ministers roster. And who saw Santa? He spent some time hanging out with us this last Christmas. I think the elves told him we were good! The men and women who cooked a lovely sausage and egg for us, far superior to the hardware shop type. But the Big Thank You goes to Michael Clay and Mary McNally who pulled all this together. The crib brought us all great joy along with watching the colour changing tree! "Don't tell the cathedral they will take these artistic directors for themselves."

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

Marguerite Martin
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

Mary McNally (Safeguarding Officer)

**Back by Public Demand...sort of
CHURCH MAINTENANCE 100 CLUB.**

100 Club?.....Just to refresh, It is a fund raiser for the parish's ongoing maintenance, it runs for a 10 week period. For a single payment of \$40, 100 members 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 February 16th after ALL masses.** The 100 Club will commence when all 100 members have been signed up and are financial.

New to our Parish? Please take time to introduce yourself/selves to Fr Joti and other parishioners & know that you are most welcome to the (125 year and some months old) Parish of St. Vincent's Ashfield. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Parish census, please contact the parish Office on 9798 2501 or email vinstaff@vinash.org.au.

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

The St. Vincent's Ashfield Social Justice Group wishes all parishioners a Happy New Year! May God bless St. Vincent's parish.

Our group will continue in 2020 to work advocating for Social Justice in all spheres of life in Australia, in which disadvantaged people are suffering.

Date relevant to Social Justice this week:

- Saturday 25th January: in 1959 Pope John XXIII announces his intention to convoke the Second Vatican Council

Social Justice group meets on the **3rd Saturday** of the month in the **parish centre** at **9.45am**. Our next meeting is Saturday 15 February 2020 at 9-45 am.

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME.

Do you know any seniors in your community who could use a little help at home?

Our home care services help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. Call CCareline to find out more 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org

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 safeguardinginquiries@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.

We acknowledge the traditional owners an 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.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

FIRST READING: I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth (Isaiah 49:3, 5-6)

PSALM: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10)

SECOND READING: The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you (1 Corinthians 1:1-3)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enable those who accepted him to become the children of God Alleluia!

GOSPEL: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29-34)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.



Next Sunday's Readings

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm 26:1, 4, 13-14

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4:2-23 or 4:12-17