

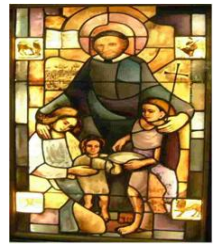
# St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield

A parish under the pastoral care of The Congregation of the Mission known as Vincentian priests and brothers.

12 Bland Street, Ashfield 2131 [www.vinash.org.au](http://www.vinash.org.au) E-mail [vinstaff@vinash.org.au](mailto:vinstaff@vinash.org.au)

Phone: 9798 2501; 9798 2503 (for urgent matters 0438 966 383) Fax: 9798 2504

Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

February 16, 2020

Our Gospel is always one of self giving love. This is the love that Jesus promotes for us... to receive and to give. This is our Mission, the one that will bring peace and satisfaction. Recently I have been reflecting on the various times in history that my parents and grandparents grew up in and thanked God that I live now. The grandparents, early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, their parents war damaged, undiagnosed with PTSD neurosis, poverty, not glamorous, disease and that 'flu epidemic, that statistics would say killed more than the loss at war. My parents, offspring from that generation, were again war time, separation from husbands, brothers and fathers, a little economically richer than their parents, thanks to rationing, more occupied with war effort but life was still a battle and depending on which continent you came from, there was the constant fear of sudden death from bombs and invasion, yes Australia had more bombs than Pearl Harbour. London, where my parents were, lived through days and nights in communal and individual bomb shelters, sheltered from the blitz, concerned that homes would have been obliterated in their absence, and of course....Vera Lynn. Through these awful times however there was a spirit of camaraderie, I believe, of sharing because hoarding, what for? A Self giving love, that shared rations for special occasions and so the stories go. It's through prosperity that we become opposed to that. And I guess that where so many of us are. We have received and strive to achieve more. It would appear the people of America if they can be judged on their voting results, would agree with the gospel of prosperity, and that is god on their side. However, God our Father constantly out pours him self into us and we take it without acknowledging the sacrifice of self. We are some of the "entitled" believers, maybe Christian by convenience and our complaint is the 'entitled' default button. Happiness and complete contentment, is our expectation default position. I want to ridiculously happy, ridiculously wealthy, ridiculously good looking. From not achieving that, we moan and complain about how tough life is. 'Such is Life', Ned Kelly said! 'Our virtue goes beyond the scribes...' The last few months through Australia disasters of fire and flood ( they say the predicted mosquitoes will be the pestilence!) we have witness such generosity, such selfless giving, people going beyond and more to assist the struggling, without condemnation or judgement. We all became as one. So' It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was **the age of wisdom**, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, ..."(Charles Dickens Tale of Two Cities") We thank God for these times and realisation of what we must do.

*Marguerite Martin*

## Open Day at De La Salle Ashfield

Wednesday 4 March 2020 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm  
Take a tour of the College with our wonderful students  
Converse with our dedicated Staff...Experience our College in action...Be entertained by live student performances & hear Principal's address.

**LENTEN GROUP** (Ash Wednesday February 26) If parishioners are interested to meet within a small Lenten group or as a host of a group within the Parish can you please ring the office and leave your name and phone number. Books from the Wollongong diocese entitled Grace have been ordered to support the groups.

## Ashfield Charismatic Prayer Group

Would like to extend a warm invitation to our Meetings on Monday nights at 7:30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, St. Vincent's Parish, Ashfield. We have Praise and Worship, Teachings and Prayers in an atmosphere of love and support for one another. You are most welcome to come and see.

## YouthSpire:

**What?** St Vincent's Parish Ashfield currently runs a faith based youth group called **YouthSpire** every fortnight during the school term.

**Who?** Primary Students: In Year 5 and Year 6

Secondary Students: In Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10

**Meet in the St Vincent Parish Hall**

**Term 1 Dates:**

Friday 28th February - 6.30pm - 8pm

Friday 13th March - 6.30pm - 8pm

Friday 27th March - 6.30pm - 8pm

**RSVP** Please check our website for any new information and to RSVP for each week.

<https://stvyouthgroup.weebly.com>

**Maintenance Report:** There is an old saying "Beware sure of what you are praying for" or in this case **give the good Lord a bit more detail**. Yes we all prayed for rain to end the drought etc, but not all in a 2 day hit. But the soaking rain was most welcome and more will be welcome, especially in the countryside.

The hall roof repairs were done in the nick of time, and survived rainfall, the cost being \$7,550.00.

So did the church roof leak, 99% of it held, sadly there was a leak in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and the Parish House, other than those two areas and a rusted out and damaged box gutter at the side of the church next to the bell tower, (box gutters are those metal boxes one can see at the top of the drainpipes way up high, that the pigeons love to nest in and cause big problems.) This area actually resembled a very large waterfall.

The roof leaks can be fixed easily, the damaged box gutter could be a bit of a problem, due to were it is and once again getting access to the church roof.

Michael Clay

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

Marguerite Martin  
Aparna John (Mon & Tues)

Mary McNally (Safeguarding  
Officer)

**Working Bee next Saturday Morning February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am:** If anyone can spare a couple of hours on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Bougainvillea, at the front of the Parish House needs a very good trim, along with the Camellia Bushes which are growing along the side of the church.

What to bring, garden clippers, or Electric Brush Cutter, a good pair of gloves, long sleeve shirt to avoid scratches and a hat. There are also some weeds that need some attention as well. If any interest you can see the Bougainvillea or Camellia bushes as you go past the house or the side of the church next to presbytery. *If you are keen to help just turn up.* Michael Clay

#### St. Vincent's Ashfield Brekkie Van Food Service 23<sup>rd</sup>

**February Sunday BBQ 9:00am to 11am at Prince Alfred Park.** If you have donation please drop off to the Parish House Monday to Friday between 9:30am to 3:00pm. Any donations of eggs, bread, tomatoes, bacon or poppers (fruit juice) most welcome.

I am happy to come and collect your donations if this suits you better, my details are below. Please call me if you have any questions or need me to collect your donation. Sinead Kent 0420 653 637 sinead.kent@syd.catholic.edu.au.

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.

#### **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**

Date relevant to Social Justice this week and last week:

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February; on this date in 2014 an Iranian asylum-seeker, Reza Barati, in offshore detention on Manu Island, was murdered
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February is *The World Day of Social Justice*.

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

#### **CHURCH MAINTENANCE 100 CLUB.**

**A fund raiser for the parish's ongoing maintenance, numbers will now go on sale Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>**, 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 March 1<sup>st</sup> after ALL masses.** The 100 Club will commence when all 100 members have been signed up and are financial.

#### **Vacant Position at the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney (Sydney NSW)**

Safeguarding Officer, Support and Compliance  
An opportunity is available for a suitable qualified Safeguarding Officer, Support and Compliance to work for the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office. You can view this position at <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au/job/safeguarding-officer-support-and-compliance-sydney-nsw/>

*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.*

#### **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time A**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**FIRST READING:** He never commanded anyone to be godless (Sirach 15:15-20)

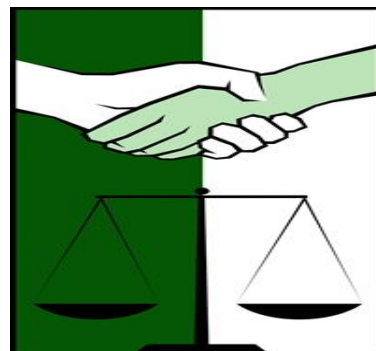
**PSALM: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
(Psalm 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18,33-34))

**SECOND READING:** God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began (1 Corinthians 2:6-10)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you (Matthew 5:17-37)

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.



#### **Next Sunday's Readings** **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time A**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
1 Corinthians 3:16-23  
Matthew 5:38-48