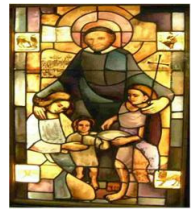


St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield



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 E-mail vinstaff@vinash.org.au
Phone: 9798 2501; 9798 2503 (for urgent matters only 0418 114 610) Fax: 9798 2504
Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday

Fourth Sunday of Easter C

April 25, 2010

It was my second son who said it. I have four sons and some of them were known for their wilful ways when they started school! "So which Martin are you?" said the Year One teacher "I am the Good One!" Gerard said.

Today we meet not just a shepherd but the Good Shepherd, the one that stands apart from the rest. Shepherds did not enjoy a marvellous reputation but remember King David had started his life as a shepherd boy so there was a history of God being identified with the disreputable and the outcast. It is the character of sheep that worry me. I'm sure there never has been a recorded incident of a sheep that rescued the master or affiliated themselves with good over evil. No sheep are sheep and are dumb and dumber. That is why they need reliable and responsible care. Jesus tells us that we follow him, not because we are too dumb to know otherwise, or because we are anxious or fearful of our alternatives, but because we know his voice, we know him, he knows our name. We follow Jesus' lead for no other reason than throughout our life we have come to trust him and to rely on the intimacy of our relationship with him. In return he protects us and makes sure no one can steal us from his flock.

Trust is a hard thing for us in this present world...and why trust a disreputable shepherd? Because He and the Father are One.

Maybe like Gerard we can proclaim 'I am a Good One' because we can positively trust in the love and protection of the Father through the care of the Shepherd...the Good Shepherd.



Marguerite Martin

Confirmation Groups will meet this week in the Parish Meeting Rooms Wednesday at 6.30pm and Thursday at 7pm.

National eConference Mary-First Disciple Tuesday 18th May 2010

It's so simple to gather with the Church across Australia to explore Mary as first disciple, woman and mother. Fr Frank Moloney SDB will share his insights into the Mary of the Scriptures. For free registration and further information go to www.bbi.catholic.edu.au and follow the Mary-First Disciple links.

Mary MacKillop – An Australian Like Us

The deep love between Mary and her mother, Flora, shines through their letters. Mary always began with 'My dearest Mamma' and on August 14, 1866, reminded her mother of the importance of her example: 'You so often sought, not by precept only but by example also, to impress on the minds of your children ... that "God will comfort you and that God will provide".' Provided by Sr Marie White rsj of the Sisters of St Joseph - www.sosj.org.au. For further information, see www.marymackillop.org.au and www.cathnews.com.au

ANZAC Day

The First World War, I have heard described as the Uncles war, because these young men who died where the brothers of those who remained to bear the next generation.

The supreme sacrifices of this war are celebrated and commemorated within our secular society as 'the sacrament of Australia'. It is the memorial day for so many who went to war and were killed. It is important that we do not forget them and the character that they presented to the world of the Australian, that was so different from the other Allied soldiers. It is this image of the "Good bloke" that we like to celebrate on this day, with the likes of Simpson and his donkey, who heroically rescued many on Gallipoli, ironically without violence. That these wars are remembered is important especially for those who went, fought and came home, but not remembered for the glory but for the horror that war is.

The famous poet Wilfred Owen's poems, written in the fields of France, speak of the *Futility*

Move him into the sun--
Gently its touch awoke him once,
At home, whispering of fields unsown.
Always it woke him, even in France,
Until this morning and this snow.
The kind old sun will know.

In a letter, May 1917, to his mother he wrote about his reflections on his experiences

I am more and more a Christian. . . Suffer dishonour and disgrace, but never resort to arms. Be bullied, be outraged, be killed: but do not kill."

For followers of Jesus ANZAC Day should be a call for us to remember and invite us to do things differently – to work to build a culture of peace.

PARISH STAFF:

*Fr. Michael Walsh CM
Carmen Yap*

Marguerite Martin

Invitation

During the week of May 10—14, Sydney will be the host city of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania. These 90 Bishops meet every 4 years, resulting in Australia as the host country every 16 years.

On Wednesday 12th May

St. Brigid's Parish Marrickville will host one of the eight encounters for groups of these Bishops with the local people for Mass and Supper.

List of Bishops for Marrickville Mass

Cardinal Archbishop George Pell, Sydney
Archbishop Anthony Apuron OFM Cap, Agana, Guam

(Leader of the Liturgy)

Archbishop Barry Hickey, Perth WA
Archbishop Doug Young SVD, Mt. Hagen PMG
Bishop Amando Samo, Caroline Islands, Micronesia
Bishop Colin Campbell, Dunedin NZ
Bishop Luciano Capelli, Gizo, Solomon Islands
Bishop Cesare Bonivento PIME, Vanimo PNG
Bishop Chris Saunders, Broome WA
Bishop Joseph Oudeman OFM Cap, Brisbane Qld
Bishop Michael McKenna, Bathurst NSW



Lest We Forget



Parish Masses this week:

Monday	12 Noon
Tuesday,	7:00am
Wednesday	12 Noon
Thursday	9:00am
Saturday	9:00am

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

Polish Mass 12 noon

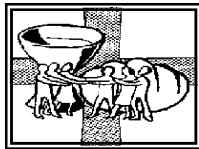
Reconciliation: Saturday 8:10am —8:40am

Rosary: Saturday after 9:00am Mass

Morning Prayer: Saturday 8:40am

Cardinal Freeman Village Chapel

Sunday, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Friday, Sat 9:00am



Fourth Sunday of Easter C

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, Alleluia.

FIRST READING: I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles (Acts 13.14, 43-52)

PSALM: We are God's people, the sheep of his flock (Ps 100.1-2, 3, 5)

SECOND READING: The lamb will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life (Revelation 7.9, 14b-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 is risen! He who laid down his life for his sheep, who died for his flock, he is risen, alleluia!



Next Sunday's Readings
Fifth Sunday of Easter C

Acts 14.21b-27
Ps 145.8-9, 10-11, 12-13
Revelation 21.1-5a
John 13.1, 31-33a, 34-35

PRAYER MORNINGS AT MARY MACKILLOP PLACE, 7 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, (ENTRY VIA MUSEUM RECEPTION)

You are invited to a Prayer Morning with Mary MacKillop on Wednesday, 28th April, 2010 from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. Cost \$15 (Concession \$10).

This month's topic: Trust in both good times and bad – Joe Sobb sj

If you would like to stay on for the 1pm Mass in the Chapel, you are most welcome.

Bookings and further enquiries: Sister Monica Barlow 8912 4818 or mmp.ministries@sosj.org.au .

For Young Adults - BRANCHES 2010 **Begins Tuesday 4th May 6:30pm**

Time to take a fresh look at your faith? Join others at the popular 'Branches' for young adults (20s and 30s) where the evening begins with a meal, followed by a talk, then small group discussion. Ten weekly sessions in the Crypt at St. Patrick's, 20 Grosvernor St, Sydney (near Circular Quay), \$10 per session. For more information to to www.stpatschurchhill.org/youngadults or contact Fr. Pat Kevin or 9247 3525

World Apostolate of Fatima Aust Inc.

"May Celebrations in honour of Our Lady and to pray for Peace in the World & the Welfare of Australia will take place in St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday May 8th commencing at 11:30am with an entrance procession of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima with the Immaculate Heart, (specially blessed by Pope Paul VI in 1967 to promote the important Fatima message of Hope and Peace). The programme will include Rosary, Litany of Loreto and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Mass will be celebrated at 12.10pm from St. Mary Cathedral. Fr. Peter Joseph, Spiritual Director for the Sydney Archdiocesan Committee, will be principal celebrant and preach the homily.