

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 Marguerite 0414 566 961) Fax: 9798 2504
Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

February 5, 2012

What have I done to deserve this?"

So often in times of grief and disappointment this is our cry....not so different to Job's anguish. Job feels that life, real life has left him and he is just biding time. It makes me wonder at the spark that real life is. It is hope and purpose rather than mere existence. Job goes on in his moans and complaints to question God's purpose with him. The book of Job is that indulgent misery that looks to blame misfortune as divine punishment... a common understanding of the Old Testament.

'I don't believe in an interventionist God' the words of a Nick Cave song of some years ago. And yet in the Gospel of Mark today we see God's huge intervention into humanity in Jesus. Jesus restored people by casting out their demons, curing disease and especially following Peter's request, healing and restoring purpose to the fevered Mother-in-law. It is the first of a typical day with Jesus. He listens to the Word of God, then he worships with his community; he relaxes in the home of a friend; he pursues his work of healing and preaching and, before dawn he withdraws to pray, to communicate with his Father. So often we hear of the healthy work/life balance but Jesus places something else in there...relationship with the Father. It is from this that Jesus can continue to bring the kingdom of hope.

For ourselves it is all too easy to wallow in self pity like Job or do we grasp life like Peter's Mother-in-law grasped Jesus' hand and then turned to serve others.

Marguerite Martin

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* **BAPTISMS NEXT WEEKEND** *
* Saturday, 11th February *
* 11:00am *
* Lee Douglas Howlett *
* Jaden Peeriz *
*



RECENTLY DECEASED

Elizabeth June "Betty" Cassidy

This Sunday



It has been noted in the Inner West Courier that the quality of the coffee is what supports a community so this weekend we will be putting that to the test Have a Cuppa (tea or coffee) after Mass and **welcome Fr Alan Gibson cm** as our new Parish Priest.

Lent is four weeks away!

We have all seen the Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns in the supermarket!
Ash Wednesday is February 22! If you would like to be involved in a Lenten Group please write your name and phone number on the sheet at the back of the church!

Catechist Sunday

Have you thought about being a Catechist? In either the Primary or High School. It is a very rewarding ministry to share faith with Catholic children. You are fully supported by both the Parish and the CCD offers short training courses. Next week, we will be celebrating our Catechists. If you want further information call Marguerite.

Liturgy Meeting in preparation for Lent

A meeting for musicians, decorators, dramatists, readers and all who would like to contribute to the over all planning for Lent 2012 will be held in the Parish house on Wednesday 8th February at 7:00pm

St. Vincent de Paul Ashfield Conference

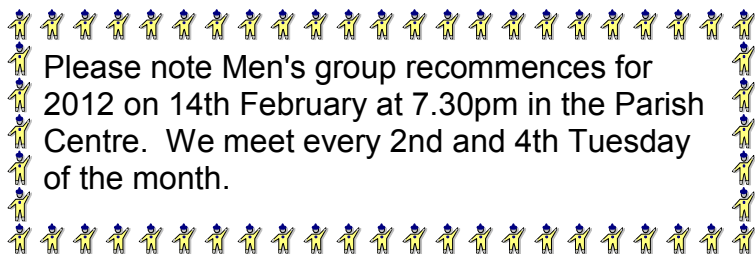
The Ashfield Conference would like to thank parishioners for their ongoing support for our work in the Ashfield parish. Over the three months, through your generosity, we were able to:

- visit 66 homes in the Parish, and
 - Assist 120 local people in need, put food on their table, and help pay rising electricity and gas bills.
- Without your donations and contributions to the poor box, Vinnies would simply be unable to meet the basic needs of many in Ashfield.

PARISH STAFF:

Fr. Alan Gibson CM
Carmen Yap

Marguerite Martin



St. Bakhita Centre

We are in great need of extra help as the Centre has become very popular with the Sudanese Refugees, especially the women who love to learn and have never been to school. As many of you know, we are really running an Adult Education School and a Pre-School staffed only by volunteers. I feel that I need assistance/computer/co-ordination. If you know of anyone who could come in and help each week, it would be a blessing for me.

We also need more Sewing (urgent!). Pre-School and Computer Teachers, Child Carers and a Librarian. Some Sudanese also need help with TAFE courses, especially in Community Services (if anyone has that background).

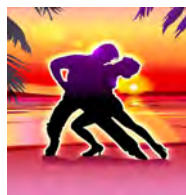
The commitment is one morning per week (or fortnight), excluding School holidays. Please contact Sr. Maria Sullivan at 0408 615 671 or mariasull@bigpond.com.

LEARN TO DANCE....

We teach a range of Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Hip Hop & Modern Dance to suit all ages from 3 years up & all levels of dance.

BEGINNERS MOST WELCOME!

Term Commencing: Tuesday 14th + Wednesday 15th February 2012
Time: Children's classes Tues + Wednesday from 3.45pm
Adult Class Tuesday: 7:00pm
Where: Club Ashfield Auditorium:
2nd Floor Charlotte St. Ashfield
& St. Vincent's Parish Hall: Bland St., Ashfield



JOAN CARMODY
School of Dancing
Principal: Joan Carmody
Member: F.A.T.D Sydney
I.S.T.D. London

For more information call 9583 9772 or 0419 619 177

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY WITH COMPEER

Special Work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society matching volunteers in one-on-one friendship with people living with mental illness, making a real difference to their quality of life and assisting to destigmatise mental illness. Volunteers are asked to spend just an hour a week or 2 hours a fortnight for at least 12 months engaging in simple friendly activities such as having coffee or going for a walk. Compeer is currently seeking volunteers aged 30 and over across Sydney. For more information please email compeer@vinnies.org.au or call (02) 9568 0262.

Parish Masses this week:

Monday 12 noon
Tuesday 7 am
Wednesday 12 Noon
Thursday 9 am
Saturday 9:00a.m.
Sunday: 8am, 10:00am 6:00PM
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, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am

GO DEEPER WITH YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Catholic Adult Education Centre **2012 Term 1** courses start **6 February**. Monday nights at Lidcombe: *The Early Church* with Robert Haddad and *Greek (New Testament) I* with Thomas Flynn. Thursday nights at Lidcombe: *The Sacraments* with Fr. Paul Rowse OP & James McDonald and *The Gospel of John* with Robert Tilley. For more information and to register; **9646 9010**, study@caec.com.au or ww.caec.com.au.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE PROCESSION: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING: I am filled with sorrow all day long (Job 7:1-4. 6-7)

PSALM: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted (Ps 146:1-6)

SECOND READING: Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another (Mark 1:29-39)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.



Next Sunday's Readings
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary
Time B

Leviticus 13: 1-2. 44-46
Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11
1 Corinthians 10:31- 11:1
Mark 1:40-45