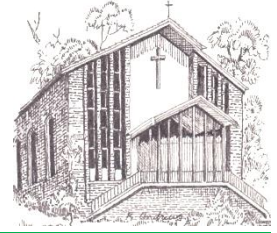




# Welcome to the Parish of St Michael Thirroul and Wombarra



**30 JUNE / 1 JULY 2018**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✦ YEAR B**  
**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday • Vinnies Winter Appeal**

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

## *Life: the Essence of Salvation*

“God did not make death,” the book of Wisdom declares. Our God is a God of life, whose will for us is expressed in such words as being, wholesome, undying, imperishable. This God calls us “to walk in the light of Christ,” which is life, and not in the “darkness of hatred and sin,” which is death.

We must, therefore, be on the side of life, opposed to death. This should include opposition to all those things that diminish life.

The Gospel is about two healing incidents in the life of Jesus, healings which show that Jesus willed life, and willed full life. The Greek word for being healed also means being saved: to be brought to full life is the essence of salvation.



The Second Reading mentions another form of the diminution of life: poverty. No one should live on the survival level: “there should be a certain equality.”

We live in a society that pays lip-service to respect for life, and does not even do that much for quality of life. Jesus Christ challenges us to create a society that values life and rescues people from all forms of death and dying.

“Everyone has the right to life, to bodily integrity, and to the means which are necessary and suitable for the proper development of life. These means are primarily food, clothing, shelter, rest, medical care, and finally the necessary social services. Therefore, human beings also have the right to security in cases of sickness, inability to work, widowhood, old age, unemployment, or in any other case in which they are deprived of the means of subsistence through no fault of their own.” – US Bishops, *Pastoral Letter on Marxist Communism*, 1980:32

Mark concludes his account of the ministry of Jesus in Galilee with descriptions of some remarkable miracles worked by Jesus during this ministry. In today’s reading Jesus shows himself the Lord of life and death – healing the woman ‘who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years’, and bringing back to life the young daughter of one of the elders of the local synagogue.

Again, the words of Jesus and Mark’s telling of the story emphasise the importance of ‘faith’ in what is to unfold – a trusting openness to the fact that, in the ministry of Jesus, God’s great promises to Israel were being fulfilled. This faith, however, finds very different expression in the two cases. The synagogue official, well versed in the traditions of Israel, and with an openness that expresses the true spirit of Israel’s faith, makes his request: ‘Make my little daughter better and save her life’. His trust in what Jesus can do for him is

✠✠ in stark contrast with the attitude of those who report that the girl is already dead and urge him not to trouble Jesus further, and with the mourners already gathering in his home. The woman's faith is less informed; naïve perhaps, very like the faith of so many simple believers. But what she knows of Jesus inspires her to seek a healing by 'touching his clothes'. The reaction of Jesus is to lead her to the personal meeting with him that should take place in an authentic faith.



As was the case with the miracle story which precedes this one – in which Jesus shows his Lordship by quelling the storm – the community for which Mark wrote his gospel would have listened to this narrative, in which Jesus showed himself Lord of life and death, against the background of their faith in his resurrection – the ultimate demonstration of this Lordship. This is confirmed, commentators point out, by the fact that, in the telling of the miraculous events, terms are used which echo New Testament faith in the resurrection: 'Lay your hands on her that she may be healed and live'; 'Your faith has healed you' (The Greek could also be translated, 'saved', a powerful word in the vocabulary of Christian faith); 'Little gift I tell you arise' (This Greek word is often used in reference to the Lord's resurrection). Against this background, the many reference to 'life' take on a deeper meaning.

This gospel narrative sheds light on the attitudes of Jesus. The two miracles, both worked for women, show the freedom with which he related to the customs that had grown up in old Israel. According to these customs, the woman's ailment would have made her 'unclean' – and perhaps that is why, when summoned by Jesus, she 'came forward frightened and trembling', concerned that she may have offended him. But her fears were brushed aside by the Saviour who came to bring authentic fulfilment to all that the life of old Israel foreshadowed; 'My daughter your faith has restored you to health; go in peace'. In bringing the little girl back to life, Jesus 'took her by the hand'. This was a remarkable thing to do. According to Jewish customs it was not acceptable for a man to touch a twelve year old girl – since she was now of marriageable age.

## 2018 SIGNIFICANT MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50 or 60 years of marriage this year and would like an invitation to the Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow on Sunday, 19 August 2018 at 2pm, please contact Helen Bennett 4222 2403 or email [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) at the Office of the Bishop by **Friday, 13 July** and an invitation will be sent to you.

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

### Give People In Need Another Choice This Winter

When you can't afford to pay your rent, do you risk falling deeper into debt, or do you face sleeping on the street? When you can't afford to pay your energy bill, do you and your family decide to freeze in a cold home or to go hungry?

"Every day in Australia, someone faces impossible choices like these. They need help from you and me to get through the winter," said Warwick Fulton, President of the St Vincent de Paul Society Canberra/Goulburn, launching the 2018 Vinnies Winter Appeal.



👉👉 People like Jenny who, after eight years of experiencing domestic violence, had the impossible choice of leaving home with nothing or living in fear for the rest of her life. “Fortunately for Jenny and her young children, Vinnies was able to step in after she’d made her brave choice, help them to find somewhere to stay and now, with Vinnies support, they are back on their feet,” said Mr Fulton.

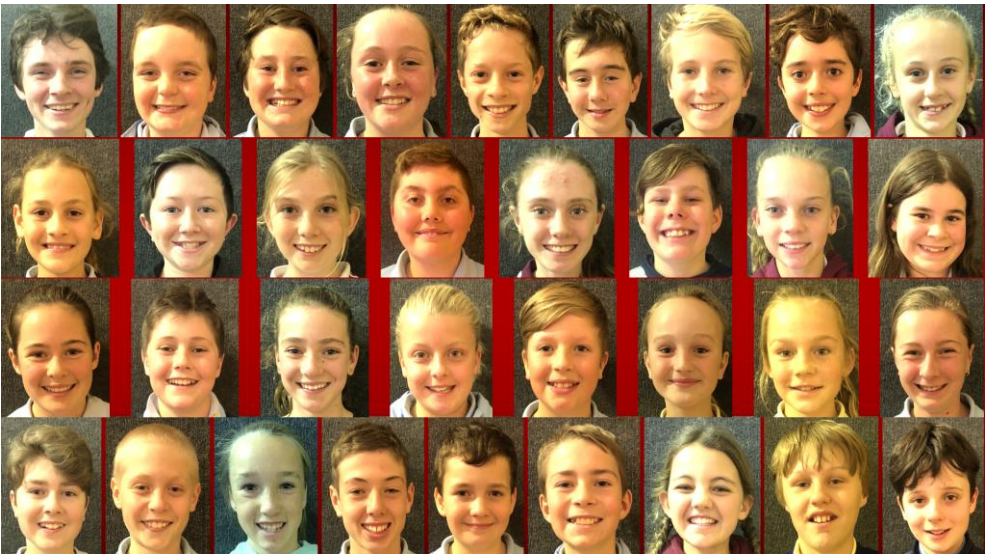
Over 116,000 (ABS Census, 2016) women, children and men are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness on any given night in Australia, a statistic Vinnies knows all too well. It’s easy to forget that people struggling to make ends meet are people just like you and me. They face choices no-one should have to make. A job loss, physical or mental health issues, toxic relationships – can all threaten someone’s security.

“From 2016 to 2017, Vinnies members provided over \$1.8 million in direct assistance including food vouchers or parcels to people in need,” Mr Fulton added.

Winter is a very difficult time of year if you are homeless or you can’t pay for your heating or other essentials. We rely on generous donations from the community to support our Winter Appeal. This winter, please help Australians like Jenny find safety and security for their family.

Please make a generous donation today, [www.vinnies.org.au/winterappeal](http://www.vinnies.org.au/winterappeal) or ☎ 13 18 12.

## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Congratulations to the younger parishioners who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this week: **STELLA CAMARGO; TORI SHIPTON; AVA SOMMERVILLE; IMOGEN KING; SHENAY NINNESS; BENJAMIN WALKER; BLAKE STONE; SOFIA DECKER; CHARLOTTE AGNEW; ELISE MILROSS-ROSE; MADISON YATES; JOHN CONNOLLY; LORCAN DE ROSA; MAX MORGAN; CHARLIE BROWN; WILLIAM WIGAN; JET GARFORTH; JYE COLEMAN; JAMES KENWORTHY; RYAN GORTON; NINA GRANT; KEEGAN WHITE; ZALI MIKLAS; DYLAN AIR; JACK WILSON; ASHTON ROUSE; HUGH ROUSE; CAITLIN JONES; LUCAS ALLEN; ELLA ALLSHORN; BRIAN GARVEY-OAKES; JACKSON SMITH; LIAM KAAG; SLATER FELTHAM.** *Candidates will be presented to the parish this weekend.*

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Tuesday** 3 July **St Thomas, apostle**  
**Friday** 6 July **Anointing of the Sick, 9:30am**



## CREATING A SAFE CHURCH FROM WITHIN – Fr Hans Zollner sj

On **Saturday, 1 September** at the Campbelltown Catholic Club Fr Hans Zollner SJ will address the most significant issues facing the Catholic Church today with respect to harmful behaviour, including the theological and spiritual implications arising from the abuse crisis and their impact on victims and survivors, together with members of the Church. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. There is **no cost**, but you are asked to register by **17 August: [rsvp@dow.org.au](mailto:rsvp@dow.org.au)** Recommended seminar. **📍 [www.hanszollner.dow.org.au](http://www.hanszollner.dow.org.au)**

## 2018 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

This weekend we celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, the theme this year being ***Because of her, we can.*** The ‘her’ is a reference to strong women in our lives – our mothers, daughters, aunties, grandmothers, sisters – and also to Mary, Mother of God. “For thousands of years before the arrival of Western settlers in Australia, the sole inhabitants of the land were indigenous peoples, the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Their ancient heritage forms and essential part of the cultural landscape of modern Australia. Thanks to the Australian Government’s courageous decision to acknowledge the injustices committed against the indigenous peoples in the past, concrete steps are now being taken to achieve reconciliation based on mutual respect. Rightly, you are seeking to close the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians regarding life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity! This example of reconciliation offers hope to peoples all over the world.” – *Pope Benedict XVI, World Youth Day 2008.*

### THIS Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Wisdom 1:13-15,2:23-24

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15

**Gospel** Mark 5:21-43

### NEXT Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Ezekiel 2:2-5

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

**Gospel** Mark 6:1-6

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

**Church of St Michael • Thirroul**

Saturday – **5:30pm** • Sunday – **8:00am**

**Bulli • Sunday 8:30am and 5:30pm**

**Corrimal • Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9:30am**

### LITURGIES THIS WEEK

**Wombarra [Liturgy] Monday 4:30pm**

**Thirroul Tuesday 5:30pm**

Wednesday **9:00am**

Thursday **9:00am**

**Anointing of the Sick Friday 9:30am**

## Parish of St Michael – Thirroul and Wombarra

*Moving forward as a Parish Family + one of the Northern Illawarra Parishes*

Patrick Vaughan • *Parish Priest* ❖ Andrew Granc ofm, Geoff Allen, Ken Cafe ofm • *Assisting*

📍 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive

☎ 4268 1910 📠 4268 1976

📮 PO Box 44 • Thirroul 2515

📧 [thirroul@dow.org.au](mailto:thirroul@dow.org.au)

**Parish Office Hours**

**Tuesday, Wednesday Friday**

**9:00am to 3:30pm**

**Magda Pires**

**10:00am to 3:00pm** **Maureen Franciskovic**

🌐 [www.thirroulcatholic.org.au](http://www.thirroulcatholic.org.au)

Parish School of St Michael 📞 4267 2560