



ST. MARY'S PARISH

www.cam.org.au/greensborough

Member of Diamond Valley Catholic Deanery

www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne: www.cam.org.au

204 Grimshaw Street, Greensborough 3088

Ph: 9435 1543 Fax: 9432 1727 Email: greensborough@cam.org.au

Parish Priest: FR. STEVEN RIGO, Assistant Priest: FR. DONG TRAN,

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright: Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux

Parish Secretaries: Frances Olofsson, Sharon Prosser:

School Principal: Helen Anderson,

VISION STATEMENT

"To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"

Mass times

Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 5.00 pm

Tuesday to Friday 9.15 am

Saturday 8.30 am and 6.30 pm (Vigil)

Liturgy of the Word

Monday 9.15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.00 am, 5.45 pm

Baptisms

2nd & 3rd Sunday 11.30 am. Please see Fr Steven or Fr. Dong to make the necessary arrangements after any Mass on Sunday or Saturday evening.

Communion to the Sick: Any parishioner who cannot attend Mass due to illness and would like to receive Communion is asked to contact the parish office.

St Mary's Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

This Week: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 3/4 February, 2018

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Next Week: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 10/11 February, 2018

Lev 13:1-2,44-46; 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1; Mk 1:40-45



Gospel Reflection

Prayer

In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead.

Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd



© Australian Catholics

What's Happening in our Parish?

WE WISH FR. DONG WELL as he travels over to Vietnam to spend time with family and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS to Maureen Gleeson and John Ellis for their reception of Jagajaga Community Australia Day Awards; Maureen for six decades of fundraising and community outreach through St. Mary's Parish Ladies Auxiliary, and John for his work with St. Vincent de Paul Society, Greensborough, raising money to help people at risk of losing their homes. We are grateful for their generous contribution to the life of our parish and local community and proud of their being recognised for their voluntary work.

ASHES for Ash Wednesday. The blessed palms which remained after Palm Sunday last year will be burned before Lent to provide the ashes for distribution on Ash Wednesday. Parishioners are invited to return the palms they received last year and place them in the basket in the Gathering Space.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held in St Mary's church at **7.30 pm** each Friday evening during Lent.

PARKING FOR ALL MASS TIMES While there are several disabled parking positions, there are some members of our community who have special needs on a temporary or permanent basis and do not qualify for a disabled permit. With this in mind we are asking that at Mass times, **the 12 parking spaces closest to the Church be left free** for them to use. We thank you for your anticipated co-operation in this matter.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP NEWS:- meeting **Monday the 5th Feb** in the Parish House at 7.30pm. We will be preparing for Project Compassion. All Welcome. Enquiries - Ellen 9435 5145

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY has a wonderful group of caring ladies who come together each Monday to knit/crochet for various needs of those around us. Our Prayer Shawl group resumes 10 -11.30am on **Mon 5 Feb** in the Gathering Space at St Mary's Church. As we knit/crochet, one's heart is filled with compassion, and opened to God's grace and love which flows freely, not only to the receiver but also to us. You are very welcome to join us.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES (including preparation for the Sacraments), for children attending Government Schools will commence on **11th February** with enrolment and classes. Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9.00am - 9.50am in St Mary's School. Please call Geraldine 0438 148 896 or Ellen on 9435 5145

MATURE AGE GROUP Meeting **Wed 14 Feb**-James Kierce Centre 11.30am-2.00pm. Collecting Membership Fee \$10 and program distribution for the year and collecting for our first trip on **March 14th** to Ballarat Begonia Festival. Cost Members \$49 Non Members \$54. New Members Welcome. More info at meeting. Inquiries call Geraldine on 0438148896, Angela 94446298 Kay 9435 5736

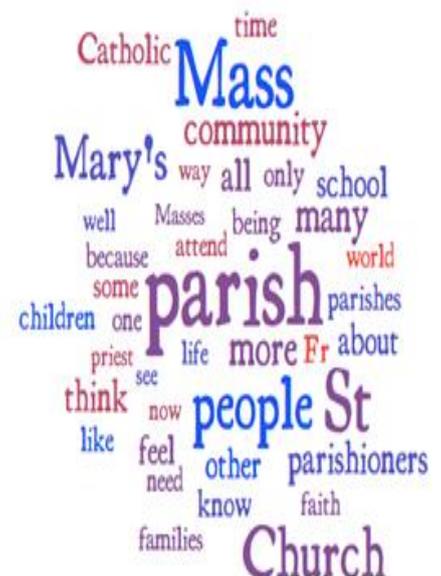
LADIES AUXILIARY Happy New Year to all. First meeting for 2018 is **Wed 21 Feb 10.15am** in Parish house. New members most welcome. If interested in joining come to our meeting or call Maureen 94355906 or Lucy 94356990.

THANKS TO ALL WHO RESPONDED TO THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL SURVEY whether hearing about it through the parish news sheet or though the "Skoolbag" app and responding online or through submitting a hand written sheet.

There have been 80 responses with around two thirds of these female. A good number (30%) were aged less 60 and 1 in 5 had children attending St Mary's school. Over 80% of respondents attend Mass weekly and 60% strongly thought that St Mary's was important to them. Already our parish has been positively affected by the thinking of parishioners who have engaged with the survey questions about the issues facing our parish and the word cloud gives a small picture of the survey response.

With almost 30 000 words of your feedback to read, the Parish Pastoral Council has many hours of work ahead in listening to the responses from the parish community and discerning issues needing to be addressed. This important phase will take time and care but there is the prospect of much that will helpful for our parish.

The winner of the \$50 Greensborough gift voucher for contributing to the survey is Kay Eastaway. Thanks to all who took the time to respond.
St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council.





The Agapè Prayer Group – The Agapè Prayer Group will not start meeting again until the 5th March, 2018. Enquiries: Sam Giudice 0412 401 572.

ST MARY'S LIBRARY The Divine Dance Richard Rohr, Mike Morrell 231.044 ROH. The Trinity is supposed to be the central, foundational doctrine of our entire Christian belief system, yet we're often told that we shouldn't attempt to understand it because it is a "mystery." *Borrow from our library.* **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

What's Happening in our Parish - Continued...

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 in the Parish House, St Mary's Greensborough. Anyone wanting to pray for our children and youth are warmly invited to come along to pray and support one another, non-grandparents also welcome. For information call Maria or John 9467 5173.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE Available in the Piety store for \$4.00 and well worth a read.

WELCOME Parishioners are invited and always welcome to come in and make a cuppa and have a biscuit in the gathering space kitchen. We ask that you please clean up after use. Thank you and welcome.

WILLIAM STREET PEDESTRIAN GATE - will be locked other than between 8.00– 9.15am and 3.30- 4.30pm. If you wish to enter the property during the times it is locked, please use code **2100**. Please re-lock after you have entered.

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament first and third Friday of every month, from 10.00am to 9.00pm or starting at 11.00am when there is no Mass - every 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday 8.00-9.00am.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR TIME OUT from a busy lifestyle? Join silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament at the Irish Martyr's Chapel Loyola College Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm. All welcome-queries Brian Rooney 0413885 168

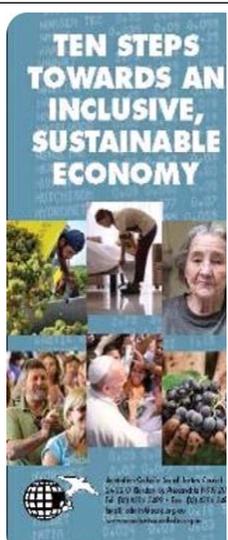
TRAFFICKING - Pope Francis set **February 8** as a day of prayer, reflection and action to end human trafficking and slavery. St Josephine Bakhita, patron saint for victims of slavery, was born in West Sudan in 1869. As a young girl, she was kidnapped for slavery in Sudan and Italy. A 2016 United Nations report uncovered more than 500 different human trafficking routes across many parts of the world. It is estimated that millions of women, girls, men and boys are trafficked annually into domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, pornography, forced marriage and forced labour. Almost 80 per cent of trafficking victims are women and girls. It is also happening here in Australia.

Community News:

THINKING OF A UNIQUE OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE? Hear about our amazing trip to Eastern Europe including Croatia with likeminded parishioners and friends. Hosted by Diamond World Travel, Jane Hally and Rebecca Tonkin. **Thur Feb 8** 7.30-St Francis Xavier Parish House. RSVP: diamondworldtravel@mtatravel.com.au or call 0481321055.

LOYOLA CLASSIC CAR SHOW Fri 16 Feb 6pm - Loyola College, 325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia. Come and enjoy a BBQ and look over classic cars Details. Lexsa@Loyola.vic.edu.au and Anthony 0423 022 070. See notice.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT VILLA MARIA CATHOLIC HOMES 1424 Plenty road, Bundoora, to assist residents to attend Mass in our Chapel. Mass is celebrated Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Some residents need their wheelchairs pushed, others need a friendly person to walk them. Help is needed between 10.30am and 12 noon. If you are a reasonably fit person and would like to help, please phone Christine on 9422 4061 for further information.



Australian Catholic Bishops 2017-18 Social Justice Statement has the theme *Everyone's Business Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy*. The following is the third of ten steps suggested from the statement that we can take towards an Inclusive, Sustainable Economy.
Step 3. IDENTIFY THOSE WHO EXPERIENCE EXCLUSION

Consider the key areas of economic exclusion in your neighbourhood. It may be issues like homelessness, environmental degradation, youth unemployment or cuts to Sunday penalty rates.

Consider where the economy fails your local community. Be mindful that sometimes poverty and exclusion is hidden. Are there particularly vulnerable groups in our churches, workplaces or schools? Parish and community census profiles can help identify groups in need:

The Australian Bureau of Statistics: www.abs.gov.au

The Bishops' Pastoral Research Office: <http://pro.catholic.org.au/catholic-social-profiles>