

Sunday 25th February, 2018

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Assistant Priests: Fr. Dong Tran & Fr. Tao Pham

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Pastoral Workers: Sr. Margaret Sapsford and Christina O' Connor

Sacred Heart, St. Mary's & St. Thomas the Apostle are all members of the Diamond Valley Deanery.

The Partnered Parishes of:

<u>St. Mary's</u>	<u>Sacred Heart</u>	<u>St. Thomas the Apostle</u>
204 Grimshaw St., Greensborough, 3088 Parish: 9435 1543 Presbytery: 9432 2515 Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au Website: www.pol.org.au/greensborough Secretaries: Frances Olofsson & Sharon Prosser Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux	25 Gipson Street, Diamond Creek 3089 Parish: 9438 1159 Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek Secretary: Pat Guatta	251 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough Nth 3088 Parish: 9434 7373 Email: greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au Website: www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth Secretaries: Mary Gargan & Lisa Leahy
<u>Mass Times</u> Monday: Liturgy of the word 9.15am Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am Saturday: Mass 8.30am & Vigil Mass 6.30pm Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm	<u>Mass Times</u> Monday: Communion Service 9.15am Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am 1st Saturday of the month: Vigil Mass at St. Peters Hurstbridge 7.15pm Sunday: Mass 9.00am	<u>Mass Times</u> Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sunday: Mass 10.30am
<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm	<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am	<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Saturday: 9.30am to 10.30am
<u>Baptisms</u> 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.	<u>Parish School Principal</u> Mr. Jim O'Sullivan Ph: 9438 1590 or Email principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au	<u>Parish School Principal</u> Mr. David Delaney Ph: 9434 4565 or Email principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au
<u>Parish School Principal</u> Mrs. Helen Anderson Ph: 9433 4000 or Email principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au		

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.

2nd Sunday of Lent



A Just Future is possible for all generations, backgrounds, cultures and communities, who are part of one human family.

Justice in our families

Jesus' new vision for the world is a completely different way of relating to God: a much more personal relationship that calls us to respond from the heart to those around us.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

Are my relationships with members of my own family based on Christ-like love?

Our Partner Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

Bookings for: (1) Hall (2) James Kierce Centre (3) Parish Club Rooms

Please book directly with Parish Office: greensborough.bookings@cam.org.au or 9435 1543.

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 10am –4pm. If office unattended, please leave a message via phone – 9435 1543 or on a note at the office window or email at greensborough@cam.org.au, and we will contact you as soon as we can.

ST MARY'S LIBRARY Led By Faith. Rising from the Ashes of the Rwandan Genocide by Immaculee Ilibagiza 270.092 ILL Led By Faith continues the story Immaculee Ilibagiza began in Left To Tell, telling what happened after her amazing escape from the Rwandan Holocaust. That story is an astonishing one of survival and of how God spared her life, protected her, and helped her to forgive the evil men who killed her family and so many others. *Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780*

Parish News Continued:

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

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 0413 885 168

Community News:

MEDITATION Saturdays 10-11am. St Peters Anglican Church, 12 Alma Rd, Bundoora (opposite Aldi) Enquiries: Ranjit **0403654549**

40 DAYS FOR LIFE February 14 – March 25 Join the International Pray to End Abortion campaign this Lent with other prayers on Wellington Pde, outside Jolimont Station, anytime between 7am and 7pm daily. Register at www.40daysforlife.com/melbourne to add your hours to the calendar or phone 0407 350 948 for more information.

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

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is an international ecumenical Christian initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. In 2018 prayerful support will be directed at the 540,000 inhabitants of the Republic of Suriname, on the north-eastern coast of South America. You are invited to join in prayer at **St Margaret's Anglican Church, Pitt St Eltham on Friday 2 March at 10am** followed by morning tea.

DO YOU NEED HEALING? The **FRINGE of HIS GARMENT**, a 2 day journey of inner healing, 9am-5pm, **Sat 24 and Sun 25 March**, at St Thomas the Apostle, parish hall, Greensborough North. A donation of \$50 is appreciated, students \$30. Book before 19 March via: online at <https://www.trybooking.com/TKLD> and use Promo Code CSOE for 10% discount email: melbourne@schoolofevangelisation.org.au phone Rose 0411 650 339

COME AND JOIN DIAMOND WORLD TRAVEL for a 24 day experience of a lifetime in Eastern Europe and Croatia! Tour departing mid September this year- spaces are limited so get in touch quickly to avoid disappointment. Diamond World Travel: diamondworldtravel@mtatravel.com.au or 0401292534- Rebecca, 0403139314- Jane. See board.

Pope Francis @Pontifex Feb 15 In our daily lives we experience the tenderness of God who lovingly saves us from our sins, fears and anxieties.

What's Happening in our Parish?

A NEW PARISH BULLETIN FORMAT is now being used by us here at St. Mary's. This is the format also being used by our partnered parishes of St Thomas Greensborough North and Sacred Heart Diamond Creek. Please note that the scripture on the back page is that of the Jerusalem Bible translation, whereas here at St. Mary's we read from the New Revised Standard Version lectionary which uses inclusive language. So what you hear may be slightly different from what you may read.

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

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR HOLY WEEK Will take place in the Church on Sunday evenings **25 Feb and 4, 11, 18 & 25 March from 7-9 pm**. Your presence would be very welcomed and music is supplied. It would be wonderful to have young people join us and if there is a problem with transport that can be arranged. Please contact Megan via email at mamitchem@gmail.com so that adhering to copyright restrictions, music can be arranged.

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES - HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER VIGIL and EASTER SUNDAY 29 MARCH to 1 APRIL
Ministers of the Word, Prayer Leaders, Ministers of Communion, Altar Servers, Sacristans and Data Projectionists. If you are available to exercise your Liturgical Ministry during the Holy Week ceremonies at St Mary's, we invite you to place your name on the roster in the Gathering Space.

Holy Thursday 29 March – Washing of the Feet **Twelve parishioners** are required for the Washing of the Feet during the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. If you would like to be involved in this action of service, please place your name on the roster in the Gathering Space.

PARISH BULLETIN VIA EMAIL – If you wish to receive the Parish Bulletin via email, please forward an email to the parish office at greensborough@cam.org.au. Please place 'Bulletin Distribution List' in subject. Thanks.

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.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8TH MARCH 2018 The theme for International Women's Day, is "Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives". This year, International Women's Day comes on the heels of unprecedented global movement for women's rights, equality and justice. Sexual harassment, violence and discrimination against women has captured headlines and public discourse, propelled by a rising determination for change. International Women's Day 2018 is an opportunity to transform this momentum into action, to empower women in all settings, rural and urban, and celebrate the activists who are working relentlessly to claim women's rights and realize their full potential. For more information and resources please visit: www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/announcer-iwd-2018-theme or unwomen.org.au/campaign/international-womens-day-2018 or www.caritas.org.au/learn/global-poverty-issues/women-and-development

CHOCOLATE LAMBS FOR SALE in the Gathering Space after all masses on the weekend of **17/18 March** All proceeds from the sale assist the Polish Missionary Sisters in their care of orphans, and for priests and nuns working in various countries, and helping with setting up schools and children's education.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Do you know someone who would like a **Prayer Shawl**? This Prayer Shawl Ministry in our parish creates shawls and knee rugs for people, for various reasons; for those who are living with illness, or who are bereaved, feeling down etc. or for new little babies. As they knit or crochet, these women who create, prayerfully hold the person, unknown to them, who will be receiving their shawl or knee rug. If you are interested in joining this ministry, or know someone who would like to receive a shawl or knee rug, please contact the parish office on 9435 1543.

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER –if you are interested in joining a small group on Friday mornings 8am until 9am in the parish house using Ignatian style prayer, praying with scripture and using the Examen, please contact Jacinta Bright at the parish office on 9435 1543.

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.

COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS collect vouchers when you shop and put them in the box in the Gathering Space

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS— We are coming to the end of the term of our current PPC. More information about The discernment process will be forthcoming.

In the next few weeks we will include snapshots of the survey and as we continue our work we will keep you updated of our progress. The PPC will approach parishioners with particular skills to assist us as we continue to work with the survey results. Daily management of what the PPC does will continue, this survey group will form a committee within the PPC.

URGENT CALL FROM CARITAS—This is urgent. The Government is trying to silence charities who speak up for the poor and the vulnerable. If their proposed Electoral Funding and Reform Bill goes through, the impacts on the communities we serve overseas will be immense. We need you to take action now. **Call 02 8083 9152 to add your voice.**

First Reading Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10, 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. (R.)
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

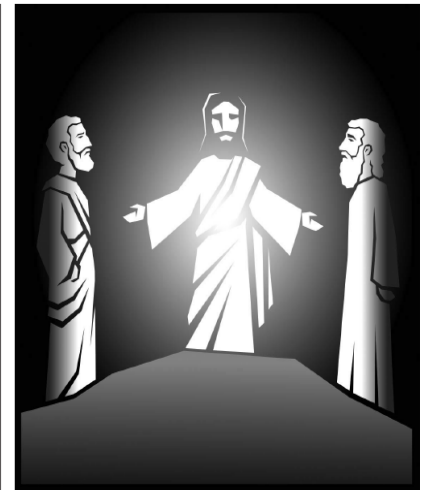
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mk 9:2-10

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

St Thomas Aquinas famously said: 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.' And yet many Christians do think that our ultimate goal is, by the grace of God, to end up as souls in Heaven.

No, I am a human being, bodysoul. If I am to be saved, then this stardust, this fraction of material creation, this earthling, needs to be immersed into Divine energy and light.

The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, especially as recounted in the other gospels, shows what happens when human nature is in total communion with God. Every molecule of his body was evidently pulsing with Divine energy and light. The amazing truth is that God ardently desires that each one of us should share in the transfigured life of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this to occur, we must play our part, accepting that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed the Beloved Son of God, listen to him, and put into practice what we hear.

We could take a moment to pray that after the "repose of the soul" after death, we may participate as bodysouls in the transfigured humanity of the Risen Lord.

mtate@bigpond.com

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.