



Sunday 4th March, 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. www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au; Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne: www.cam.org.au

The Partnered Parishes of:

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

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.

4th 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 world

God's Son was not sent into the world to condemn it, but rather "so that through him the world might be saved."

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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead.

What can I do, however small, to bring about justice in our world?

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 Hall , James Kierce Centre, Parish Club Rooms— via Parish Office: greensborough.bookings@cam.org.au/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 Called To Communion : Understanding the Church Today, 1996 282 BEN When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger released this book he called it a primer of Catholic ecclesiology. In it, the future Benedict XVI outlined the origin and essence of the Church, the role of the papacy and the primacy of Peter, and the Body of Christ's unity and "communion." *Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780*

Parish News Continued:

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.

THE AGAPÈ PRAYER GROUP meets each Monday evening 7.45pm in the Gathering Space. Enquiries: Sam Giudice 0412 401 572.

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER –8am until 9am-parish house using Ignatian style prayer, contact Jacinta Bright - 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.

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

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 0413 885 168

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL enrolment for 2019 Prep classes now being accepted. You are welcome to come and see St. Mary's School on the following Open Days, or phone 94334000 for an appointment. **Open Days 28 March:** Tours 9.30am and 12.00pm. Twilight Opening from 4.30pm until 6.30pm; **26 April**-Tours 9.30am and 12.00pm. **8 May**- Information Night 7.00pm. **18 May**- Applications close

Community News:

HEALING MASS Thurs 15 March -Our Lady Help of Christians, Henry Street, Eltham. Contact Emilia 9435 7475 or Rose 9434 3962.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI FAMILY FAIR Sunday 18th March 10am-3.30pm, 290 Childs Road, Mill Park. See noticeboard.

PUBLIC RALLY— Walk for Justice for Refugees at 2.00pm Palm Sunday Sunday 25th March at the State Library—See noticeboard

THE CRUCIFIXION By John Stainer-Palm Sunday **25 March-2.30pm** -All Saints' Anglican Church, Cnr Grimshaw and Church Streets, Greensborough A meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer. Free admittance. See noticeboard.

IS PEACE OF MIND IMPORTANT TO YOU? Deciding to move into an aged care home is an emotional, life-changing decision. Knowing your loved one is safe and well looked after is the most important consideration. If you want the security of knowing your family member's individual needs are cared for, we invite you to visit Bundoora Aged Care Residence to meet our exceptional care staff and learn more about our fantastic lifestyle programs. Call now for your personal tour. **Villa Maria Catholic Homes ,Bundoora Aged Care Residence, Phone 1300 845 526 or visit vmch.com.au**, 1424-1428 Plenty Road, Bundoora.

ACCOMMODATION A lady in St James Road, Heidelberg has some very good accommodation available for a female person at a reasonable rate. For more information please contact Sr. Loreta on 9458 3077.

What's Happening in our Parish?

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

LITURGY TEAM MEETING this **Tuesday 13 March** at 7.30pm in the Parish house. All welcome.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP meets this Tuesday 13th March 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.

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

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES - HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER VIGIL and EASTER SUNDAY 29 March-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 Holy Week ceremonies at St Mary's, we invite you to place your name on roster in Gathering Space.

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

MATURE AGE GROUP Next outing to Begonia Festival, Ballarat -**14 March** seats still available. Bus leaves 9.15am and returns 5.00pm. Cost Members \$49.00 Non Members \$54.00 New Members Welcome. Call Geraldine on 0438148896, Angela 94446298 Kay 9435 5736

CHOCOLATE LAMBS FOR SALE - Gathering Space after masses on **17/18 March** All proceeds 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.

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY A meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held at 10 am on **Saturday March 17** in the Library, All interested parishioners are very welcome to attend.

ST PATRICK'S MORNING TEA Over the past 51 years the Ladies Auxiliary of the Parish have organised a function on or near St Patrick's Day. Many early parishioners, as well as our first Parish Priest, were of Irish Heritage. We are having a morning tea on **Wed 21 March at 10.30am** in the Gathering space. Entry \$5.00 per person. An invitation is extended to all parishioners, ladies and gentlemen to join us for wonderful music and great home-made food. Raffle tickets available on sale after masses **weekend 17/18 March** \$2.00 each. 1st prize 3 rooms carpet shampooed 2nd Prize Fishing rod. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 Lucy 9435 6990.

COMMUNAL LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE -Thur 22 March -7.30pm. Parishioners are warmly invited to share a cuppa after service.

SLAVERY FREE CHOCOLATE THIS EASTER Children as young as 12 years old are picking cocoa in West Africa to make our Easter chocolates. Some of these children are trafficked. Most are forced to pick cocoa from an early age for minimal or no wages, for long hours, in dangerous working conditions, without any possibility of attending school. Most of these children have never tasted chocolate and they never will. Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) is campaigning to ensure that the chocolate we eat this Easter is slavery-free. *Social Justice Group*

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..

PARISH SURVEY UPDATE As our Parish Leadership endeavours to be widely consultative and collaborative, our recent Parish survey was spoken about at weekend Masses, asking you to also encourage others who are not with us at Sunday Mass, to participate. The survey was also circulated via all other parish communication systems, including to all school parents.

Work is continuing with the collation of survey responses. As you might imagine, there are a number of themes emerging, for example the sexual abuse crisis, leadership, liturgy, less at Mass, fewer volunteers. There are words of encouragement, criticism, despair and hope and some people are saying they are just hanging in. In considering how best to continue this process in a transparent and respectful way, we think it appropriate to provide you with the responses in a thematic way; grouping positive and negative responses under themed headings. It is our responsibility, as leaders, to encourage all to, together, stay the course in this process, so that we can be faithful as a parish community to where the Spirit is calling us. Interestingly, we are in Lent. Pope Francis urges us to remember that "Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy," salient words at this time.

The PPC would like to share extracts from the responses, word for word and gathered under thematic headings, with you. In providing the responses verbatim, the PPC avoids unintentionally misinterpreting or diminishing the content in any way. Identifying information such as the names and contact details of respondents would not be included. So that we can proceed as soon as possible, if you have contributed to the survey and would prefer any part of your response to not be revealed, please contact Jacinta Bright by Monday March 12, at the parish office. Jacinta would then locate your specific response and remove or adapt any words that you do not want shared. Some responses have been critical of particular individuals. Although Fr Steven is happy for such criticism of himself to be known, every step will be taken to have any pointed personal criticisms moderated, without losing the substance of the criticism.

Mass Times	6.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.00pm
Data Projection	Volunteer	J. McDonough	J. Corcoran	T. D/Souza
Reader	M. Roberts	E. Smiddy	Sr. Theresa	T. Roxas
Prayer Leader	R. Joseph	T. Tunny	J./L. Hartigan	T. Roxas
Special Minister	Group A-5 Volunteers	Group D-7 Volunteers	Group G—4 Volunteers	Group J—5 Volunteers

Counters Morning:

Altar Society A. Marshall

Sacrificial Giving: 3,432.50

Baptisms G. Schokman – 11/3/18

Thank you to contributors to the Parish Support Program

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B

11 March 2018

First Reading 2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke: through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. (R.)
2. For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! (R.)

Second Reading Eph 2:4-10

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 3:14-21

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light,

so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

How does God picture us? St Paul reveals one of God's favourite ways of regarding us.

'We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, to live the good life as from the beginning He had intended us to live it.'

Just as an artist respects the medium he or she is working in, whether it be oils or crayon, so too God respects us as human beings with free will. Which is why His works of art don't always look the way He intended!

Now, if one has a work of art in the house, a picture or print that means a lot to you, or perhaps the first sketch by a child, do you put it in the darkest corner of the room? Or do you allow just enough light to fall on it so as to reveal how terrific it is, why it gives you pleasure? Of course, the latter.

Now, if you and I are God's work of art, God wants exactly the same. He wants us to be revealed in the light. What sort of light? Christ our Light.

Of course, it might be necessary for the Light to dispel some darkness, some shadow dimension of our lives. In this regard Christ is a healing Light, but this is so that he might illuminate us in a way which more clearly reveals the love which the Divine Artist has for His creation.

We might take a moment to pray for the courage to expose ourselves to Christ's healing light this Lent to be more beautifully illuminated at Easter.

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