



Sunday 29th April, 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:

St. Mary's

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

Mass Times

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

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm

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.

Parish School Principal

Mrs. Helen Anderson **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email** principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart

25 Gipson Street,

Diamond Creek 3088

Parish: 9438 1159

Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au

Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek

Secretary: Pat Guatta

Mass Times

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

Reconciliation Times

Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am

Parish School Principal

Mr. Jim O'Sullivan **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email** principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass 10.30am

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.30am

Parish School Principal

Mr. David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email** Principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

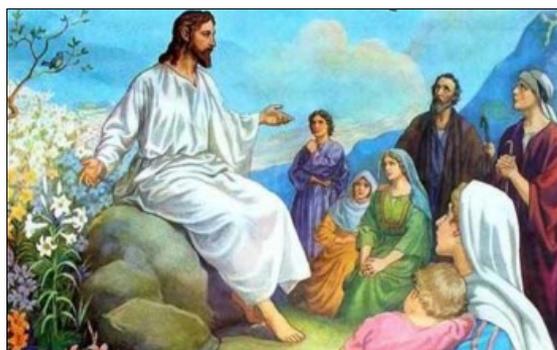
Communion to the Sick:

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

Bearing Fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd



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.

The Political Pope George Neymayr [262.13 NEU] This is a bracing look at the liberal revolution that Pope Francis is advancing in the Church. To the radical academic Cornel West, “Pope Francis is a gift from heaven”. To many conservative Catholics he is the worst Pope in centuries. *Borrow from our library.* **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE now available in the Piety Shop. This month includes stories on Welcoming Refugees, The 2018 Year of Youth and monthly film and book reviews. At only \$4, it's well worth the 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.

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.

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER –8am until 9am-parish house using Ignatian style prayer, contact Jacinta Bright - parish office on 9435 1543.

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 these 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. **8 May**- Information Night 7.00pm. **18 May**- Applications close

Community News

PLEASE NOTE: Our Lady's Parish in Eltham now has only one Sunday mass, which will be held at 9.30am.

SACRED HEART LADIES DINNER Friday 4th May at 7pm in Parish Hall \$30ph carvery & dessert BYO drinks and glasses. Raffle profits donated to charity. Final numbers for the caterer & payment by Tuesday 1st May Contact Pat 9438 1159 (Parish Centre)

CATHOLIC FRIENDSHIP 40+: **CARLTON DINNER—Saturday 5 May, 7pm.** Il Gambero, 166 Lygon Street, Carlton. Melbourne Catholic Friendship 40+ (formerly Solo Catholics) invites you to a Carlton dinner at this quintessentially Italian restaurant. The group holds social events and faith-based talks at different venues across Melbourne where people can form lasting friendships. Registration: <https://www.meetup.com/Melbourne-Catholic-Friendship-Group-40/events/249973461/> . Details: Simon on 0418 302 046

OUR LADY OF THE WAY, KINGSBURY— The Church Role in our Lives. **Saturday 19th May, 7-9pm.** At OLW Church Hall, 15 Green Ave Kingsbury. Guest speaker is Josh Angrisano, who will share his passionate storytelling and fire for the Gospel, all the while using the vehicle of Hip Hop to poetically share his story. See Noticeboard.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A RETREAT/REFLECTION DAY on the Pastoral Theology of Pope Francis. “People Come First” - Facilitated by Br Mark O'Connor FMS Masters of Theology & Masters of Philosophy . **Saturday 26 May, 2018. Time: 10am—3:15pm. Venue: St Damian's, 5 Settlement Road, Bundoora.** Please book in with Marisa (Deanery Resource Person) via email at deanery.diamondvalley@cam.org.au or through the Parish Office 9467 2797, by Friday 19th May, 2018. *All welcome. No charge.*

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES We welcome Eucharist candidates and their families at our Masses this weekend as they are presented to our Parish Community in preparation for the receiving of the Sacrament of First Eucharist later in the year. Our prayers and support are with you all.

PLEASE NOTE: There has been a series of burglaries involving breaking into presbyteries and parish churches in nearby suburbs. I strongly encourage and request that you be vigilant with security if you have access to either the church or parish house.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS are available on our website.—www.cam.org.au/greensborough. If you would like a hard copy a small number is available at the Parish Office.

VINNIES GREENSBOROUGH - NEW MEMBERS WELCOME Our small group of about 15 active members invite you to join us in our work for disadvantaged people, including whole families, in the Greensborough / Watsonia area. **Women and men**, all are welcome to join with us in our work of assisting people with money for food, power bills, rent, pharmacy bills, school costs, and any other way we can assist people in need. Learn how the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) operates at the local level; how it all began; SVdP as spirituality in action; and the bigger picture of SVdP in Victoria, in Australia and internationally. We particularly welcome more women to join us, because many of the families we assist are women, alone or with children, but only about 30% of our current membership are women. Please ring Ian Fraser on 0412 658 968 for details about Vinnies and how to join.

WE NEED HELP! The Funeral Ministry Team needs assistance from people familiar with computers, to help with set up and running of slide and video presentations at funerals. You would be part of a great, committed team, who offer a practical and caring service to those who come for our help at the time of a funeral. Please contact the office on 9435 1543, if you have some spare time and would like to help.

THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE is on sale again this year. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes are 3 all new Suzuki Balenos, and 4th to 14th Prizes are Coles Myer Gift Cards. **Cost still only \$2 per ticket. This is the final weekend of selling tickets after masses. You can still purchase your tickets from the Parish Office.** Remember we had 1st and 4th prizes won by tickets purchased from St. Mary's last year. You've got to be in it to win it. All proceeds go to our Parish Community. Tickets selling now.

ANOINTING MASS. All are invited to attend our Parish Anointing Mass on **Thursday 3 May at 11am** followed by a light lunch in the Gathering Space. If you intend staying for the luncheon, could you please complete and return an RSVP slip available on the small table at the back of the Church. We request that those on the Communion to the Sick round, whether in home or care facilities would please extend the invitation when next visiting.

CALLING FOR NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS The Parish Pastoral Council works collaboratively with our Priests and Pastoral Associate as the leadership group of the parish. Every two years the Parish Pastoral Council has a renewal of its members to offer the opportunity for other parishioners to be involved in this leadership role and to bring in a new wave of energy to the group. We are currently calling for those who are considering becoming a member or those who are just curious about the council, to come along to our Discernment Day on **Saturday, 5th May from 9am-12pm**. There is some pre-reading, the 2018 PPC AGM Report and the PPC Guidelines, which is available through the parish office or from your friendly PPC member at mass. **Please inform the parish office or a member of your attendance by May 1st.** If you have vision, or if you are curious - if you have energy and commitment to the life of the church - then this is the place for you!

LADIES AUXILIARY Our Winter Warmers sale is on the weekend of **5th and 6th May** after all masses. Donations of craft items would be appreciated. Many wheat bags for sale. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 and Lucy 9435 6990

ALPHA TEAM TRAINING WORKSHOP—Saturday 12 May, 9am–4pm. St Mary's Catholic Parish, 204 Grimshaw Street, Greensborough. Would you like to learn how to run Alpha in your parish? Alpha is an easy-to-use tool for evangelisation which has been used by thousands of Catholic parishes around the world. Alpha presents the core of the Christian faith, the Kerygma, in a welcoming and friendly way which appeals to millennials, and seeks to address their questions and concerns. This training workshop will look at where Alpha fits in the faith formation process in a parish and how Alpha can become an integral part of a parish pastoral plan to evangelise and grow missionary disciples. **Details and bookings:** Lorraine McCarthy on 0402 217 123 or lorraine.mccarthy@alpha.org.au

FAMILY GROUPS ACTIVITIES FOR MAY—WHY NOT JOIN IN.

1. 26th May—M & M's Dinner. Trivia Night
2. 27th May—De Costa—Cranbourne Botanical Garden
3. 27th May—Fernandes—Breakfast locally TBA



If you would like to join in one of the planned activities, if you are interested in learning more about family groups, or if you would like to join a family group, please call co-ordinators, Michael and Pauline Prendergast on 9434 2464

BATTERIES - Last year the Social Justice Group collected over 25 kgs of household batteries that avoided dangerous chemicals leaching into the environment. Thank you parishioners. Sunday the 22nd April was Earth Day and many countries are looking at cutting down their use of plastics in particular. What can we all do? Social Justice Group.

Pope Francis Twitter: Dear young people, never get tired of being instruments of peace and joy among your peers!

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or:

(R.) Alleluia.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;

my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we reflect on the way salvation brings an ecclesial community into being. This community is joined to Jesus as branches are part of the vine. It is a multi-faceted community, devoted to good works and to prayer.

The image of the vine and the branches is an intimate characterisation of the community of believers who share the same divine life. This community thrives on Christ's resurrected life that surges through all of its members. The early church was a multi-ethnic community. It included inhabitants from Jerusalem, Judea, Galilee, Samaria and even Damascus. Some of these people were firmly rooted in Jewish customs, others were more Greek in their culture. It was the fulfilment of the promises made so often in the past, that the saving power of God would reach the whole world.

Our own ecclesial community of believers is also multi-ethnic. Where formerly parishes or liturgical assemblies might be made up of people of only one ethnic identity or economic status, today there is much greater diversity and rapid change of character. Like the early Christians, we too are often suspicious of newcomers. In the face of all of this variety, we are called to open our hearts to the various manifestations of God's power and to fashion a community that gives glory to God. Today's readings remind us that we demonstrate our love for God and for each other in the way we live. Joined to Christ as branches are part of the vine, we too are enlivened and thereby bear fruit in abundance.

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