



Sunday 29th July, 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		
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.

A Miracle of Sharing

Some scripture scholars suggest that the real miracle of the feeding of the multitude was not so much a multiplication of meagre resources by Jesus but rather a personal response by individuals within the crowd. It is suggested that upon seeing the willingness of Jesus (and the small boy whose food it was) to share the small amount of food available, everyone dug into their pockets and pulled out the small amount of food they also had and shared it with one another. The miracle was a breaking through from selfishness and isolation to a spirit of sharing and community.

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.

Mark S. Smith, **How Human is God 231 SMI** This book invites readers to use their God-given ability to work through important questions that many people have about God today: Why is God so angry in the Bible? Is the biblical God male or female (or what)? Who is Satan? Why do people suffer? By exploring the Bible's answers to these and other biblical questions, people can come to understand better... their living and loving God *Borrow from our library.* **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY The Library stocktake is now complete. A few items are missing. Can all library users please check for any overdue items you may have at home and place in Library return chute (at left of Library door)?

THANK YOU for your Sacrificial Giving contribution over the last financial year and for your support over the years. New envelopes are available in the Gathering Space. If your envelopes are missing or you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office-94351543.

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.

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

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.

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. "Visit to the BLESSED SACRAMENT is the practice which is the fountainhead of all devotional works." POPE PIUS X.

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

HONOURING THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD 5th August—please see brochures on table in gathering space—limited numbers.

NORTH EASTERN BREAKFAST - an event bringing Christian churches of all denominations together with community leaders and organisations, business people and politicians, in prayer and fellowship-**Fri 24 Aug, 7am** at The Manningham, 1 Thompson Road, Bulleen. This year's speaker is Professor Toby Hall from Saint Vincent's Health Australia. Register online at www.nepb.org.au See noticeboard

HELPING OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS FORUM FOR PARISHES -Sat 25 Aug, 9.30am-12.45pm. Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. The forum will review practical ways in which parishes can help asylum seekers in our midst. Phil Glendenning AM, Director Edmund Rice Centre will discuss current national priorities and pre-conditions for a humane refugee policy. There is still a great need for support for asylum seekers and refugees, with the Federal Government intending to withdraw financial support from thousands of vulnerable people. Cost: \$20, includes lunch. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/WBHM>

EUROPE PILGRIMAGE Fr. Stephen from Highett Parish would like to invite you for a 17-day pilgrimage that he is leading departing on 7th October 2018. This pilgrimage features Avila, Fatima, Santiago, Medjugorje, Lourdes, Milan, Padua, Assisi and Rome for an all-inclusive price of \$7200. This fare includes Return Airfares + Local Transfers + Stay in 4 Star Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8513 0680 & 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au. Last 2 seats available for 15th August. See noticeboard

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECT DATE FOR THE WHITE HELMETS DOCUMENTARY SHOWING IS THURSDAY 2ND AUGUST—7PM.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP will meet on the 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.

MATURE AGE GROUP come and join us, on the **8th August**, for a game of Bingo in the James Kierce Centre, meeting starting at 11.30am to 12.30pm with Bingo starting at 1.00pm. We will also be collecting for our next outing to Shrine of Remembrance on the 12th September 2018, with 2 course lunch. Members \$33.00 Non Members \$36.00. Please contact Geraldine 9435 4306 Angela 9444 6298 Kay 9435 5736

A BROKEN CHURCH IN A BROKEN WORLD - A REFLECTION DAY In response to comments made in the recent parish survey, and through various other interactions, revealing feelings of disappointment, shock, humiliation and anger at the revelations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Abuse, noticing also a certain malaise in the Church and sensing a mixture of concern and desperate hope for what our Church might become in the future, in a world which seems to be increasingly fearful and divided – this reflection day invites us to honour and name feelings like shame, concern or fear, and despair or hope as important insights and to be open to the Spirit who is already at work in the mess. How might we cooperate with God in transforming the Church so that we become the Body of Christ; a broken Body in a broken world?
Sat Aug 4; 10.00am -3.30pm; at St Thomas the Apostle church, North Greensborough. Facilitator: **Jacinta Bright** our Pastoral Associate and also a Spiritual Director. Bring a small plate of lunch to share. Contact St Mary's Office -9435 1543, or email Jacinta at Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au with enquiries and, so that we have an indication of number, to let us know if you will be joining us on the day

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND 4/5th August will be for St Mary's Fete which is on the **17th November**.

FAMILY GROUPS ACTIVITIES FOR JULY - WHY NOT JOIN IN 29th July - Open House in the City—If you would like to join one of the planned activities and learn more about Family Groups at St. Mary's please contact Pauline or Michael Prendergast on 94342464

SUPPORT NEEDED for Asylum Seekers Many have been receiving an allowance of \$45 per day while waiting for their application decision. They were not allowed to work. The Government has changed that. It has started to send letters to many, saying that in four weeks time their allowance will be stopped and they must find work. Many will be unable to do so. The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre will now have greater demands on their services. Can you please help with Food and Toiletries? Ellen Smiddy - 9435 5145. Social Justice Group

INITIATIVES INVOLVING CHILDREN AT MASS—One of the actions to arise from responses given in the Parish Survey and other conversations, either from parents of young children wanting a connection to Mass but not quite getting there, or from others who miss the presence of young families at Mass, is to provide a special ministry for young families. If you are interested in assisting, please contact the Parish Office. One initiative we will start with is to create a special place for children in our music ministry.

Music: At first we will trial this initiative twice a month; once at 6.30pm Mass on a Saturday and once at 10.00am Mass on a Sunday. Children will be asked to come over near the choir and musician's area and to take one of the musical instruments provided in the box and help make the final hymn as joyful as possible, by joining in the music. The dates for this coming month of August are **Saturday night the 4th of August at 6.30pm** and on **Sunday the 12th of August at 10.00am**.

Children's Liturgy of the Word we have tried earlier to introduce Children's Liturgy of the Word, but for some reason it didn't continue. We would love to provide this experience for children. It involves the children going into another room, just before the readings, with leaders who would explore what the readings are in a way that children understand, using activities and other various means. The children then return to the parents in the church after the Liturgy of the Word. We would really like to introduce this ministry again, but we need adults who would be interested in helping us. Mary Ryan from the Archdiocese is very happy to come out and help us get set up and to provide training. I am hoping we could introduce Children's Liturgy of the Word at the same Masses in which we have the children's music and that we have enough volunteers to have a roster so that maybe you would only be needed once a month – or more if you would like. If you would like to help, please contact Jacinta Bright at the parish office – Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au or 9435 1543.

Take Home Gospel Activity Sheets for Children have been provided in previous times and over a long time, but this practice was stopped as no one took the sheets. Following a request, we will try it again, giving a two months trial. Perhaps this notice will alert parents that they are there. These will be available on the table in between the internal glass doors into the church.



Is there more to life than this? Who is Jesus? Why Did Jesus Die? Have you wondered about the meaning of life? Join us for a journey of discovery exploring this and many of the big questions. Church Gathering space, 7.00pm **this** Tuesday commencing with a light meal, followed by short video and small group discussion. To assist with catering, please contact Jo Giudice on 0411 045 572 to register or just turn up. You will be made welcome.

ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA (FEAST DAY 31 JULY) born 1491 into a Spanish family of minor nobility. As a young man he was inflamed by ideals of courtly love and knighthood and dreamed of doing great deeds. In 1521, while recuperating from a grave battle wound, Ignatius experienced a conversion. Reading the lives of Jesus and the saints made him happy and brought desires to do great things. He realized these feelings were clues to God's direction for him. Over the years, Ignatius became expert in the art of [spiritual direction](#). He collected his insights, prayers, and suggestions in his book *the Spiritual Exercises*, one of the most influential books on the spiritual life ever written.

SOME IMPORTANT INSIGHTS:

We are very well aware of the diminished numbers joining us to celebrate the Eucharist on a Sunday. These numbers have been dropping for a long time now. We often have suggestions about how to attract young people back to Mass, but any such initiatives would be superficial and have no long lasting effect unless we listen to not only what our young people are saying, but also to what many people in the Church are saying much the same today.

In 2015, Australian Catholic University surveyed 5000 young people, asking them two questions. The responses indicate that young people want a Church of integrity, joy and love.

Surely, this is how Jesus called his followers to be, for each other and the world.

What were the four things that young people were looking for in the Church?

A compassionate community, especially for the poor.

A listening church, especially to their experience of the world.

A welcoming, inclusive and joyful community.

A community that practices what it preaches

What came in as the five major blocks to belonging to the Church and participating in it?

The sexual abuse of children by clergy: hypocrisy.

The lifeless liturgies and poor preaching they experience.

Lack of women's leadership

Negative attitudes to sexuality (including homophobia & celibacy)

The image of God: how could a good and loving God allow suffering in the world?

We may or may not agree with these points. The important thing is that we are under no illusion as to the importance of taking stock and this means listening whole heartedly to the Holy Spirit in our own hearts and the hearts of others, who speak boldly and in love. This time in history is vital for the Church and we need each other to engage in the work of the Holy Spirit.

The eight great calls of Pope Francis to the Church

Obedience (Obaudire: to listen to God, the actual situation, the tradition of the church, other experts informed conscience)

Love: "Character is what you do when no one is looking"

Compassion

Care of the earth

Humility

Gratitude

Forgiveness

Joy

Soul Sisters Presents

THE WHITE HELMETS—PLEASE NOTE CORRECT DATE –THURSDAY 2ND AUGUST

A short documentary set in Aleppo, Syria and Turkey in early 2016. As the violence intensified, The White Helmets follows three volunteer rescue workers as they put everything on the line to save civilians affected by the war, all the while wracked with worry about the safety of their own loved ones. Moving and inspiring, The White Helmets is both a snapshot of the harrowing realities of life for ordinary Syrians who remain in the country, and a humbling portrait of the power of the human Spirit.

In Aleppo, the most important thing to remember is that all life is precious. The White Helmets search for survivors among the wreckage as bombs continue to fall. These ordinary men are extraordinary heroes

As daily airstrikes pounded civilian targets in Syria, a group of indomitable first responders risked their lives to rescue victims from the rubble. Oscar nominated director, Orlando Von Einsiedel, follows the perilous work of volunteers who braved falling bombs to rescue civilians from the carnage of Syria's civil war.

When: Thursday 2nd August

Time: 7pm

Venue: St Mary's Church Gathering Space

We look forward to viewing this video, enjoying wine, cheese, conversation, friendship and an insight into the selflessness and compassion and courage of these people.



A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ST MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 12TH 2018

On July 12th 2018, Our Parish Pastoral Council convened. Kristel Roxas led our opening prayer as we listened and reflected on the Word of God through John 14: 15-31 The Promise of the Holy Spirit. Nine of us gathered for a full agenda, which invoked lively discussion. There were three main focus areas for the evening:

- ◆ the Australian Plenary Council 2020,
- ◆ Our response to the NE link project and further discussion, and
- ◆ Reflection on responses to the recent Parish survey.

The Plenary Council 2020 – the council identified a number of council members who will meet in the short term to brainstorm options for engaging and listening to our community. How will we best elicit our community's answers to the question, "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" It's also worth subscribing to the Plenary website for updates:- <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

North East link project - The PPC identified the importance of coordinated response from St Mary's to the North East Link Authority. The council determined that the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) might be best positioned to do this. Kristel Roxas will take this to the next SPC meeting for discussion.

Parish Survey responses - Prior to the meeting, all council members received a copy of collated responses to the recently completed Parish survey. There was considerable discussion on the content, themes and what's next? With newly appointed councilors present, we continue to discern our next steps.

And finally to mention, our PPC Deputy Chairperson was nominated and appointed – Lauren Hartigan. Thanks Lauren.

Sue Hollowood. On behalf of St Mary's PPC.

First Reading 2 Kgs 4:42-44

They will eat and have some left over.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:10-11, 15-18. R. v.16

(R.) *The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.*

1. All your creatures shall thank you,
O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. (R.)
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 4:1-6

There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

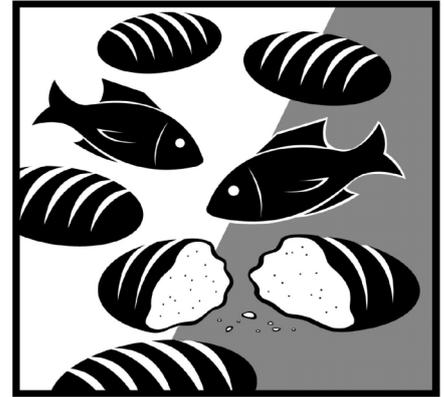
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 6:1-15

He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

In the readings for Ordinary Time, we take a break from the sequence of readings from the Gospel of Mark for a few weeks and this week's reading begins a diversion into chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. The whole of John 6 is an extended discourse that explores the image of Jesus as the Bread of Life. The chapter and the discourse begin with this week's miraculous feeding of the multitude. As this event occurs in each of the four gospels there is a compelling argument that there is some basis in fact or, at the very least, that the metaphoric image of Jesus feeding a crowd was an enduring one in Christian communities.

Jesus is described as testing the disciples, asking them where they might be able to purchase bread for the crowd. Phillip is overwhelmed at the thought of spending a fortune on enough bread for more than 5,000 people. A small boy nearby had a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, gave thanks and then had the disciples begin to distribute the food. When everyone had eaten their fill, the disciples collected twelve hampers of leftovers. Some commentators suggest that the twelve baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel – indicating that the message of Jesus will be enough to feed and sustain the whole of Israel. Having witnessed this miracle the people have a sudden insight into who they think Jesus might be – the promised Messiah come to free them from their Roman oppressors. Wary of the crowd's mistaken understanding of what the Messiah is to be, Jesus literally heads for the hills to avoid being made a political figurehead for the people.

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