



Sunday 4th November, 2018

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

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

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 3089

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.

Love

Jesus reminds us "you must love your neighbour as yourself."

There's an unspoken, underlying idea here that is absolutely crucial. Before you can love your neighbour, you must first love yourself. To say that you love yourself today can imply a level of boastfulness or ego. However, what is required is a genuine love of self—an acceptance; a respect; a true valuing of self. Only then can we know how to treat others. When we ask ourselves how we would want to be treated it points us towards how we should treat others. What is summed up so simply by Jesus is a very tough ask!

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What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

LADIES AUXILIARY Tickets for our Giant Christmas Stocking will be on sale next weekend, **10th/11th November** after all masses at \$2.00 per ticket. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906.

MATURE AGE GROUP Please come and join us on **Wednesday November 14th** for a game of Bingo and a demonstration by Myriad Glass, commencing at 11.30am with meeting, then at 12.00pm we will be having a demonstration by Myriad Glass followed by a game of Bingo. We will be also collecting for our last outing for the year, Members please call Geraldine or Angela, non members \$53.00 price includes a two course lunch at Koorinal Golf Club, and a trip to Williamstown by Ferry. Geraldine 9435 4306 Angela 9444 6298.

DIAMOND VALLEY FESTIVAL OF FAMILY CAROLS - CHOIR PRACTICE -The Annual Festival of Family Carols will take place at St Mary's on **Sunday, 2 December** and a choir is being formed with practices taking place from 7 - 8:30 pm on Sundays - 11, 18, 25 November where we will learn two Carols for the event.. Domenic La Ferlita will be our pianist. Please contact Megan at mamitchem@gmail.com to register your interest.. All ages and voices will be made very welcome.

ALTERNATIVE WAY OF VOTING FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS—consider a postal vote if you are away on election Saturday or have difficulty walking or standing for long periods of time. Application for postal votes can be made at any time until 21st November, but get them in as soon as you can to make your vote count. You can pick up an application from Australia Post Offices or at the Pre Polling office at the Back of Savers Store (Old Tom Lane Pharmacy). There is a limited number of forms out in the Gathering Space too.

LOST—gold chain with little crosses on it. Very precious to the owner. If found please contact office on 9435 1543. Thank you

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND MASS In response to the call for people to assist with facilitating Liturgy of the Word for Children, during Mass, we have six people now who would like to be part of the team for this wonderful ministry. If you would like to join us, contact Jacinta Bright at the parish office on 9435 1543 or via email at Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au. We will have a workshop in the parish on **November the 13th, commencing at 6pm**, in the Gathering Space. Mary Ryan, from the Archdiocese, will provide the formation and speak about resources. Music at the 6.30pm Mass on the first Saturday/Sunday of the month and 10.00am Mass on the second Sunday of the month, will be another opportunity for children to be nurtured, to be appreciated and to participate, when they join in playing instruments for the final hymn. Instruments are provided and parents are welcome to bring children up, if they are very little or a bit nervous. This initiative brings so much joy, not only to the children but to all of us gathered when we are open to the Spirit who calls us to life. If you have any children's instruments at home that you would like to donate to our little collection, please leave them in the sacristy for collection. *Parents, this might be an opportunity for you to engage your children at mass and Grandparents, this might be an opportunity for you to engage your grandchildren. Thank you to the Liturgy Team and Musicians and singers for your big welcome and encouragement of the little ones in our midst.*

PLENARY 2020 – WE NEED YOU! We are at a pivotal moment in the Australian Catholic Church. Some even describe this moment as a tipping point, where if change does not occur, they will walk away – and these are good strong, committed Catholics, but they have just about had enough. They long for a Church that lives the Gospel values with integrity, making room for all to feel heard and respected. Pope Francis has spoken very clearly about the need for the Church to eradicate the scourge of clericalism, which is idolatry and very destructive. This Plenary needs to be taken very seriously by all of us. We need to cooperate with the Holy Spirit who breathes new life. *This Plenary process is a prayerful process of listening and dialogue parish groups are asked to participate and we are encouraged to participate as individuals too. Opportunities will be provided for us to gather as a community. More information will follow about dates and times. We will show, after 8.00 and 10.00 Masses, a different video clip on each of the following dates: November 11th, 18th and 25th. The video clips are part of an E-Conference entitled "Synodality in Practice: Listening to the Spirit and leading Change". We will show the clips in the church and will begin straight after the 8.00 Mass is finished and repeat it straight after the 10.00am Mass is finished. Each clip goes for approximately 40 minutes. It will be a challenge for us to work in with baptisms which will happen on the 11th and 18th, so we ask for your cooperation in making the timing run smoothly. After each Mass, you might like to gather for a cuppa in the gathering Space for an informal conversation about what you have heard and are reflecting on. Sometimes it is helpful to be able to talk with others because it helps us process what we have heard. The speakers are as follows: Archbishop Mark Coleridge, chair of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Commission for the Plenary 2020 Council: *Leaders that Listen: Synodality in Practice*, Ms Lana Turvey-Collins, Plenary Council Facilitator: *Synodality in Practice – Preparing for the Australian Plenary Council* and Fr Richard Lennan, Professor of Systematic Theology, School of theology and Ministry, Boston College, USA, : *Change and the Church's Tradition*. Please set aside time on these Sundays to join us in this important preparation for Plenary 2020.*

A SPIRITUALITY OF AGEING In our society which values and promotes youth, the Church has something to say about the important place of every person, including the youth and including older people, regardless of age. In fact the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Elderly is a prophetic sacrament, calling people to recognise the faith of those who have lived long and perhaps suffered much. It is in our vulnerability that we make room for God. Ageing can be a time of challenge and a time of rejoicing. We offer anyone, ageing or not, the opportunity to join us for this reflection morning, facilitated by St Kerin Caldwell sgs. The Spirituality of Ageing: Live now – why wait. **Brochures are in the Gathering Space. Date: December 5th, Venue: St Mary's Church gathering Space, Time: 10.00 until 12.00.** **RSVP** St Mary's Parish Office by **December 3rd** 9435 1543 or greensborough@cam.org.au

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.

Martin Sheen: Pilgrim on the Way [BLOG SHE] Martin Sheen, best known for his role as a Catholic president in the TV series The West Wing, returned to the practice of his Catholic faith at the age of forty after decades away activating his faith with energy, grace, and joy.

Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

ST. MARY'S TENNIS CLUB would like to hear from anyone interested in playing competition in 2019 for: Juniors–Friday nights or Saturday mornings Seniors– Night time – Men, Women & Mixed - Daytime – Tuesday Ladies For more information email stmarystennis56@gmail.com .

CATHOLICARE APPEAL Thanks to the community of St Mary's Greensborough Parish for its generous donation of \$1,788.95 to the recent CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare, who work on behalf of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Together we fulfil the Church's mission of service to the community. We help families and individuals to develop strong and healthy relationships, and ease the pain of difficult life transitions so that they can live 'life to the full'. Thank you for enabling us to continue this vital work.

FAMILY GROUPS ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER- WHY NOT JOIN IN

1. 6 November —Cup day Lunch
2. 25 November —Picnic at Daylesford

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

MELBURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE now available in the Piety Shop at \$4 a copy.

SOCIAL JUSTICE The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre is in need of tea, coffee, honey and sweet biscuits, and any other ongoing support.

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY Many thanks to those who generously donated copies of Melbourne Catholic to the Library. 2017 and 2018 are now complete. We are just missing a few from 2016, and would be grateful for copies.. Thank you. Library Committee.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP meets 2nd Tues of month -10am in Parish House, St Mary's Greensborough. Anyone wanting to pray for children and youth warmly invited to pray and support one another, non-grandparents also welcome. call Maria or John 9467 5173.

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.

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

SOUTHERN STARS SOCIAL CLUB for single Catholics in 25-60 year age group. Over 28's Party Night **Sat 17 Nov-8pm** -Benedict House, 301 Warrigal Road, Burwood. Cost \$13 with supper and door prizes. Enq Peter 9885 2167 or email sssc.starsc@gmail.com. See noticeboard

ONE-DAY COURSE ON THE EUCHARIST BY CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION An inspiring course on 'The Eucharist' will be held at St Francis of Assisi Parish, 290 Childs Road, Mill Park, on Saturday, **17th November, 9 am – 5 pm**. It is presented by the Catholic School of Evangelisation. Everyone is invited to come – to learn and reflect on the mystery of the Eucharist. BYO lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided. Donation of \$30. Email: schoolofevangelisation@gmail.com or Ph: Rose Rendina 0411 650 339. See noticeboard.

ANNUAL LPFA TWILIGHT MARKET Loyola College will be held in Companion's Hall on **Sunday 2 December** from 3pm – 7.45pm. Interested Stall holders are asked to contact Kim on 0435 156 995 or volunteers4loyola@gmail.com

First Reading Dt 6:2-6

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my
stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes.
(R)
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be to the God that saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown love for his anointed. (R)

Second Reading Heb 7:23-28

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the

other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

*All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 12:28-34

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Generally, in the gospels, the scribes are shown as antagonistic towards Jesus and when we begin this passage we may be expecting a trap being laid by the scribe. In Jewish tradition, a lot of teaching occurs through a question and answer style and often the question is related to a particular teaching from Torah. Here, the scribe approaches Jesus as a teacher, a rabbi, and poses a question just as he would to any other worthy teacher. He asks which of the commandments Jesus regards to be foremost. This could be an opening question to any teacher and one would expect it to be the start of a long conversation. Neither of the commandments Jesus quotes come from the Ten Commandments with which we are most familiar, but, rather, they come from other parts of Torah (the Law). His qualification of the first commandment – to love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength – is a way of capturing the whole person. What Jesus is saying is to love God completely and utterly with your whole person. Then he follows up and adds another commandment – 'You must love your neighbour as yourself.' The scribe agrees with Jesus' teaching and adds that these are far more important than offering sacrifice. This is a pretty controversial statement from a scribe! Sacrifice has been the official form of prayer practised in the Temple for a very long time and he suggests that love of God and love of neighbour are far more important! It is because of this understanding about the priority of love over religious practice – the hallmark of the kingdom of God that Jesus proclaims – that Jesus pronounces the scribe to be 'not far from the kingdom of God.'

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