



ST. MARY'S PARISH

www.cam.org.au/greensborough

Member of Diamond Valley Catholic Deanery

www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne: www.cam.org.au

204 Grimshaw Street, Greensborough 3088

Ph: 9435 1543 Fax: 9432 1727 Email: greensborough@cam.org.au

Parish Priest: FR. STEVEN RIGO, Assistant Priest: FR. DONG TRAN,

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright: Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux

Parish Secretaries: Frances Olofsson, Sharon Prosser:

School Principal: Helen Anderson,

VISION STATEMENT

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

Mass times

Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 5.00 pm

Tuesday to Friday 9.15 am

Saturday 8.30 am and 6.30 pm (Vigil)

Liturgy of the Word

Monday 9.15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.00 am, 5.45 pm

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.

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.

St Mary's Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

This Week: First Sunday of Advent 2/3 Dec 2017

Is 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent 9/10 Dec 2017

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



Gospel Reflection

1st Sunday of Advent

***Beware, keep alert;
for you do not know
when the time will come.***

Mark 13: 33



Keep Alert

In the midst of the excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas.

It is important to keep alert, as we are cautioned in this week's gospel. Alert to what is happening around us in the world, and alert to what is happening within us.

What's Happening in our Parish?

PLEASE NOTE – Due to the Anointing Mass being celebrated next Thursday 7th December at 11am, the daily 9.15am mass will be cancelled. Thank you.

PARKING You will have noticed recently, the extensive work done in the Church and school grounds, to improve traffic flow and parking. This is providing better traffic flow and safety for pedestrians. It has been noted however, that while there are several disabled parking positions, there are some members of our community who on a temporary or permanent basis, do not qualify for a disabled permit but still have difficulty walking the distance from some of the car parks, across our undulating terrain, to the Church. These include the elderly, families with very young children and those recovering from accidents, illness or medical procedures. 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 would like to remind anyone who is using these parking spaces that you may find it easier to enter the Church by the side door on the Presbytery side. We thank you for your anticipated co operation in this matter.

PARISH SURVEY- Thank you to all who have filled in and returned surveys, both online and hard copies. Some hard copies of the survey can be found out in the Gathering Space. For those who wish to fill in the survey online, the link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StMarysParishGreensborough2017>

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND COMMUNION, ALTAR SERVERS, PROJECTIONISTS and SACRISTANS. If you are available to exercise your ministry at our Christmas masses you are invited to add your name to the roster on the table in the Gathering Space. Thank you

WELCOMERS at Christmas masses Parishioners are invited to consider extending the hospitality of Christmas by greeting visitors and fellow parishioners in the Gathering Space as they arrive for Christmas masses. If you wish to do so, please add your name to the roster on the table in the Gathering Space. Thank you

An ADVENT COMMUNAL PENITENTIAL SERVICE will be held in **St Mary's Church on Wednesday 13 December at 7.00pm** followed by supper in the Gathering Space. The same service will also be held at **St Thomas' Church, Greensborough North, on Tuesday 12 December at 7.00pm.**

ADVENT BEGINS YEAR B AND THE GOSPEL OF MARK, Mark's Gospel & his Jesus. 2 Monday evenings: **4 & 11 December, 7.30 – 9.30 pm.** St Mary's Church Gathering Space, Grimshaw Street, Greensborough. Donation only. Further info: Sandra Bishop 9434 7553. This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.

2017 ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL The Christmas Appeal to be conducted this weekend **2/3 December** is Vinnies' major end of year appeal. Your donations in past years have been distributed to support local families in need – donations for which those families and we, the Greensborough Conference, are heartily thankful. Again this year, we are asking for cash or credit card donations, to provide direct financial support to families to meet their immediate needs. Please place your donations in the envelopes provided, and place them in the leaving collection. More envelopes will be provided in the gathering space if required. Collection bins will also be provided for any non-perishable food items which might be donated. Thank you, Ian Fraser, President

GREENSBOROUGH INTERCHURCH COUNCIL FESTIVAL OF FAMILY CAROLS – Join us here at St. Mary's **Sunday 3rd December from 7.30pm.** All are welcome to be part of this enjoyable community event.

ANOINTING MASS -Thursday 7 December, 11am followed by a light lunch in Gathering Space. If you intend staying for lunch please complete and return RSVP slip, available on the small table at the back of the Church.

E-CONFERENCE GOSPEL LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF CHAOS: THE HOPE OF POPE FRANCIS - St Mary's will be showing the DVD of the recent E-Conference "Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: The Hope of Pope Francis" on Wednesday the 13th of December from 10.00 until 3.00. Speakers and panellists are Professor Massimo Faggioli, Mr Paul Kelly, Professor, the Hon Bob Carr, Sr Clare Condon SGS, Rev Dr Gerald Arbuckle SM, Ms Elizabeth Proust and Sr Ruth Durick OSU. The presenter is Mr Noel Debien. There will be time to view each presentation and discuss. Venue: St Mary's Gathering Space. Bring a small plate of lunch to share. In order to assist our planning for the day please contact St Mary's parish Office on 9435 1543 or email Jacinta Bright on Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au to let us know you will be coming. This E-Conference is presented by The Broken Bay Institute: The Australian Institute of Theological Education and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.



The Agapè Prayer Group – The Agapè Prayer Group meets each Monday evening 7.45pm in the Gathering Space. All are welcome to come and join us as we reflect and discuss the Scripture for the following weekend. Enquiries: Sam Giudice 0412 401 572.

ST MARY'S LIBRARY The library has received a generous donation of several books by Father Joseph Girzone. These include a series of fiction books about a Christ-like figure named Joshua (FIC GIR) as well as other books on Jesus and the spiritual life, notable for accessible language and themes of ecumenicalism, liberal humanism and brotherly love, which some readers may find controversial. A film version of Joshua is available at DVD JOS. *Borrow from our library.* **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

What's Happening in our Parish - Continued...

FREE TO A GOOD HOME a single bed with base on castors and a toddlers ¾ bed with mattress. Linen included. Both beds in excellent condition. Please contact Megan: 9435 1551

MATURE AGE GROUP Join us for our last 2017 outing to Noorlim Estate Homestead- **13 December**, with a 2 course lunch at Nagambie Lakes Entertainment Centre, cost members TBA Non Members \$59.00. Seats still available. Bus leaves William St entrance 9.15am returns 4pm. Contact Geraldine 9435 4306, Angela 9444 6298 Kay 9435 5736.

FETE UPDATE –Keep an eye out for Fete Committee online Auction coming soon–great Christmas shopping ideas.

Blue Knot Day - Francis Sullivan. If you did not make it to the St Mary's Blue Knot Day event to hear Francis Sullivan speak, following is a link to the speech he made at Yarra Theological Union earlier that week. The content is similar to what he spoke about here at St. Mary's. <http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/media/139945/Yarra-Panel-FS.mp3>

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE Available in the Piety store for \$4.00 and well worth a read.

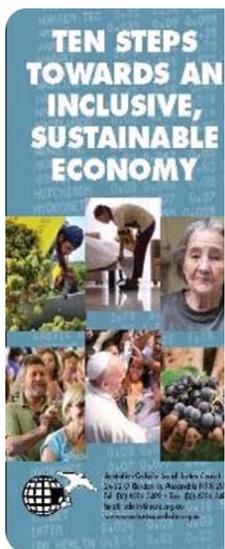
WELCOME Parishioners are invited and always welcome to come in and make a cuppa and have a biscuit in the gathering space kitchen. We ask that you please clean up after use. Thank you and welcome.

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 0413885 168

PLEASE COLLECT copy of Archbishop Hart's statement on Euthanasia and assisted suicide from Gathering Space.



Australian Catholic Bishops 2017-18 Social Justice Statement has the theme *Everyone's Business Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy*. The following is the second of ten steps from the statement that we can take towards an Inclusive, Sustainable Economy.

Step 2. BECOME INFORMED ABOUT 'ECONOMIC EXCLUSION'

Since 1992, overall national wealth increased by 40 per cent ... Australians now have the world's second-highest average net wealth per person. The problem for those who believe in a just society is that the benefits of more recent growth have been spread so unevenly. The top 20 per cent of households received far greater increases in income than the poorest 20 per cent. (Social Justice Statement 2017-2018, pp.4-5)

Jesus calls us to build a just society. This includes working together to eradicate poverty and ensure all benefit from a society's common wealth. *Get the facts about economic exclusion. While many live in comparative comfort, three million Australians (including over 730,000 children) live in poverty.*

For more on the statement see <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications>.

Community News:

NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH - 14 Church St Greensborough Christmas Day – BBQ Lunch - Monday 25 December 12 – 1pm. As we realise many have nowhere to go on Christmas day, we are opening our doors on Christmas day for a BBQ lunch for the first time. Please book including phone number and number of guests attending. This informal lunch follows our Christmas day church services. No food parcels available on the day. Lunch with lots of friendly faces. **RSVP by 19 December** to 0400 021 381 or akhilgardner@gmail.com . See noticeboard.