



Sunday 9th December, 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 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	25 Gipson Street, Diamond Creek 3089 Parish: 9438 1159 Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek Secretary: Pat Guatta	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
<u>Mass Times</u> 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	<u>Mass Times</u> 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	<u>Mass Times</u> Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sunday: Mass 10.30am
<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm	<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am	<u>Reconciliation Times</u> Saturday: 9.30am to 10.30am
<u>Baptisms</u> 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.	<u>Parish School Principal</u> Mr. Jim O'Sullivan Ph: 9438 1590 or Email principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au	<u>Parish School Principal</u> Mr. David Delaney Ph: 9434 4565 or Email Principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au
<u>Parish School Principal</u> 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.

Second Week of Advent

LISTEN!



Listen to calls to change

How can we listen to the voice of the Spirit calling us to change so that we may respond to the question -

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia today?

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.

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – For Melbourne Overseas Mission. Thank you.

LITURGY TEAM will meet this Tuesday 11 December at 7.30pm in the Parish house. All parishioners welcome.

ST MARY'S MATURE AGE GROUP—Our next outing on the 12th December 2018, to Williamstown with lunch at Koorinal Golf Club. If unable to attend, as our bus is at capacity with a waiting list, can you please let us know. Geraldine 94354306, Angela 94446298, Kay 9435 5736. **Please be at William Street car park by 9.00am as the bus will be leaving at 9.15am sharp.**

PARISH SURVEY CELEBRATION – there will be a cuppa and wine and cheese after the **6.30pm Mass on Sat 15th December**, a year since the survey was instigated in the Parish. We will celebrate the release of the concluding summary of the survey and share the observations of the Parish Pastoral Council of the survey's pressing themes as well as the initiatives taken and plans made by PPC in response to these themes. Come along and share with others your experience of completing the survey and of reading the collated responses as they were released during the year. We will start right on 7.30. we hope you can spend an hour with us for this celebration and conversation. The final topic on volunteers has been collated and attached to the bulletin.

MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR: There will be a practice for the choir for singing for Midnight Mass on Wednesday 19th December from 7p.m. till 8.30pm. All welcome. Enquiries: Tony Roberts 0429 584 927.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND COMMUNION, PRAYER LEADERS, PROJECTIONISTS and SACRISTANS If you are available to exercise your ministry at Christmas masses you are invited to add your name to the roster on 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.

LADIES AUXILIARY Tickets for the Christmas Stocking are on sale at masses this weekend prior to drawing a winner after 10am mass. Winner will be notified. A stall with Christmas Gift ideas will in the gathering space after all masses. Merry Christmas to All.

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.

URGENT HELP NEEDED—A St Mary's Parishioner is in urgent need of an experienced home cleaner for her home. She lives in the Bundoora area. Please contact the Parish Office on 9435 1543 for further details.

CHILDREN'S WALL Children are invited to bring back their completed Gospel colouring pages/activity sheets each weekend and pin them on our new Children's Wall. We look forward to enjoying the children's vibrant work.

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND MASS Music at the 10.00am Mass **THIS WEEKEND**. Instruments are provided and parents are welcome to bring children up, if they are very little or a bit nervous. *Thank you to the Liturgy Team and Musicians and singers for your big welcome and encouragement of the little ones in our midst.*

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENITENTIAL SERVICE This Advent, as we continue to build the community of our partnered parishes – Sacred Heart Diamond Creek, St Thomas' the Apostle North Greensborough and St Mary's Greensborough – parishioners of all three parishes are invited to attend a **combined Communal Penitential Service at St Thomas' Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd. Greensborough, on Tuesday 18 December at 7.30pm, followed by a cuppa.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS June 2018 - Council to **Homeless Persons**—In the last 8 years there has been a significant increase in the number of Australia's older women experiencing homelessness. This can be the result of low income, low superannuation, poor health, marriage breakup or death of their husband. They may end up 'couch surfing' between their children's homes, or homeless. These ladies and their families need intensive, specialist help. If possible let's try to support the homeless this Christmas.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre is in need of tea, coffee, tinned fruits, fish, detergents, nappies and toiletries .

MEET LUKE, HIS GOSPEL & HIS JESUS— Monday **10th December, 7.30-9.30pm** at St Mary's Church, Gathering Space, Grimshaw Street, Greensborough. Donation only. Further information Sandra Bishop 9434 7553. See notice

FOR SALE A parishioner has a brand new motorised scooter for sale. It has never been used. It is worth \$1,400.00, but the owner is prepared to sell it for \$600.00 or nearest offer. Enquires via parish office on 9435 1543.

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 .

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

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

PLENARY 2020 @ ST MARY'S

This Plenary is really important for the Australian Church. Together we will find the words to submit to the bishop in answer to their question: **What is God asking of the Church in Australia at this Time?** Having said that, we are each welcome to submit responses as individuals. The Plenary website will direct you to the response page at plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. Our first **listening and dialogue session will be held on Sunday 16th December after 10am Mass**. Further sessions will be offered next year. If you would like to assist in facilitating a group, please contact the Parish Office on 94351543. The last two Plenary eConference sessions will be shown next Tuesday, the 11th of December at 10.00, in the church. Mrs Lana Turvey-Collins, the Plenary Council facilitator, speaks on Synodality in Practice-Preparing for the Australian Plenary Council and Professor Massimo Faggioli, Professor of Historical Theology, Villanova University of Philadelphia, USA and Con-joint Professor, BBI-The Australian Institute of Theological Education speaks on Structures of Synodality.

Listening and Dialogue sessions for Plenary 2020

We will be offering listening and dialogue sessions in the coming months to allow opportunities for our community to gather for group prayer and discernment.

Our **first session will be offered next Sunday December 16th after 10am mass**. We expect each group will gather for 1.5 - 2 hours guided by a facilitator to answer the question - "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"

To express your interest in attending, please provide your name and contact details on a 'sign up' sheet in the gathering space or contact the Parish Office on 9435 1543 and leave your details. We will be in touch shortly. We strongly encourage all to 'have your say'.

Warm regards

Sue Hollowood and Lauren Hartigan

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

New Positions:-

Group Leader, St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Tertiary Chaplain, RMIT University

Tertiary Chaplain, Deakin University

Tertiary Chaplain, Latrobe University

Pastoral Associate, St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell East

Parish Secretary, St Joseph's Parish, Elsternwick & Holy Cross Parish, Caulfield South

Parish Secretary, St Leonard's Parish, Glen Waverley

Parish Secretary / Bookkeeper, St Joseph's Parish, Northcote

Still Accepting Applications:-

Youth Minister, St Joseph's Parish, Meredith

Parish Secretary, St Pius X Parish, Heidelberg West

Domestic Support, St Pius X Parish, Heidelberg West

Parish Secretary, Resurrection Parish, Keysborough

Further details can be found on the Archdiocese website at:

<http://www.cam.org.au/Jobs.aspx>

FREE INFORMATION LEAFLETS, NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS a variety of catholic and other relevant information leaflets and publications available free of charge from the Magazine Racks in the Gathering Space. Please feel free to browse and take home whatever material is of personal interest

ATTENTION CREDIT CARD CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE contact the parish office on 9435 1543 or email to greensborough@cam.org.au if there has been a change to your credit card details, e.g. expiry date, new card. Your contribution cannot be processed without up to date information. Thank you for your assistance.

Stay in touch with the School news—pick up a copy of the Candela in the Gathering Space

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.

Brave New Church : From Turmoil to Trust by William J. Bausch, 282 BAU Father Bausch focuses on 14 challenges facing the Church, including religious illiteracy, anti-Catholicism, secularism, pluralism, Church scandal, and authority. He also considers the transitions and responses that can move the Church forward as it seeks to minister to parishioners of the 21st century. *Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780*

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

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

Victoria Police has put out an urgent call for compatible blood donors. Rare blood type. You must be of Indian, Pakistani or Iranian descent and have blood type "A" or "O". It is for a little girl, Zainab Mughal, who has a rare blood mutation complicating her treatment for cancer. For further information, please see flyers on the table in the Gathering Space and please pass this message to others you may know. https://www.oneblood.org/zainab/?fbclid=IwAR2LVMT8i_UBtf0cVBYOqikMRdf0Hqs3yokF8PIyh1z_UGMuU-Jt8dmsTT0

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Wednesday 12 December, 7pm. St Patrick's Cathedral, corner Gisborne Street and Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. A Christmas Concert in the glorious setting of St Patrick's Cathedral. Featuring Anthony Halliday (organ) and Joel Brennan (trumpet). Works by Handel, Bach, Corelli, Daquin and Halliday. See noticeboard.

50TH FESTIVAL OF PRAYERS CAROLS AND READINGS Fri 14 Dec 7.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne The simple words and melodies of carols have expressed the faith of ordinary Christian believers for many centuries. Carols are mostly associated with Christmas, although some are also appropriate for other times of the Church's liturgical year. The readings and music at tonight's service focus upon Advent, when we await the promise of Christ's glory. The tradition of the carols service dates from the late nineteenth century, but it stems from the great tradition of the daily prayer of the Church, taking as its common structure the old monastic office of Matins with nine readings and responsories. Towards the end of tonight's celebration, the Blessed Sacrament will be placed in a monstrance and enthroned upon the altar.

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM Monday 7 to Friday 11 January 2019 Experience college life and a taste of the Campion College course, including literature, history, theology, hiking and sports. **Contact:** study@campion.edu.au or (02) 9896 9300 **Bookings:** register online at www.campion.edu.au/summer. See noticeboard



SAINT LUCIA DECEMBER 13—Saint Lucia was born into a rich noble Roman family in 283 AD. As a young teenager, Lucia had already committed her life to God. She was zealously working in the service of God helping the poor. In addition she helped her fellow Catholics hiding in the dark underground catacombs who were at risk of suffering persecution. She would wear a wreath of candles on her head to find her way in the dark, as her hands were full of food and drink for the people. St Lucia was also well known for her beautiful eyes. It was said that her eyes radiated her love for Christ. Lucia sets a good example to our young people today who are persecuted for their faith at school, at universities and work places. Her message would be to stand strong in your faith, no matter how hard the situation may be. St Lucia is also the patron saint of Syracuse. Over the centuries many people have been healed by God through the intercession of St Lucia.

First Reading Bar 5:1-9

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary.

John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony.

The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.

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