



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: Second Sunday of Advent 9/10 Dec 2017

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



Next Week: Third Sunday of Advent 16/17 Dec 2017

Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Gospel Reflection

2nd Sunday of Advent

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.**

Mark 1:3



Prepare

At the time of John and Jesus, the Jewish tradition used baptism as a ritual bath to cleanse a person who had become ritually unclean and make them able to participate in religious rituals. What John was preaching was a baptism for the forgiveness of sins - a new interpretation at the time. He emphasised that repentance was essential for forgiveness and that there needed to be a conscious returning to God.

What's Happening in our Parish?

PARKING You will have noticed extensive work done in Church and school grounds, to improve traffic flow and parking. This provides 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 elderly, families with very young children and those recovering from accidents, illness or medical procedures. With this in mind we ask 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.

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

SPECIAL MINISTERS FOR COMMUNION TO THE SICK – If you have not already done so, please collect your rosters for February to June 2018, from the table at the back of the church. Thank you for your help.

PARISH SURVEY- Thank you to all who have filled in and returned online and hard copy surveys, Some hard copies of the survey can be found out in the Gathering Space and to be returned by **17 Dec.** For those who wish to fill in the survey online, the link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StMarysParishGreensborough2017>.

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY Can all Library borrowers please check your loans and return any that are overdue? Extensions of loans are available when Library is open. Please note return box is at left of Library door.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 12 December, at 10am in Parish House, St Mary's Greensborough. For information call Maria or John 9467 5173

ALTAR SERVERS Christmas is coming very soon. As you may notice we are lacking with altar servers for the weekend masses so could I invite some young people to consider this. Please contact Fr. Dong 9435 1543

LADIES AUXILIARY would like to thank all who supported us throughout the year. Money raised for Parish including Fete was over \$6,000. Stocking redraw – B. Walsh, Sewing machine – B Papworth. Wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas and New Year.

A BIG THANK YOU Last Monday at our "Prayer Shawl" gathering, we were in a dilemma: No More Wool! The Mature Age Group on hearing this donated "on the spot" a generous amount of money. We were overwhelmed and humbled! Thank you all on behalf of many we minister to.

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.****

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.

Stay in touch with what's happening at the school – pick up a copy of the Candela from the Gathering Space.



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 Come and See: How the Teachings of the Catholic Church Lead Us to Christ by Louis Bosco 282 BOS Given the various conflicting opinions today about Jesus and His teachings, it is clear that many people have incomplete or false perception about Him. This book demonstrates the Christ-centeredness of the Church's teachings, the way in which those teachings bring us closer to Jesus. *Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780*

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

ADVENT BEGINS YEAR B AND THE GOSPEL OF MARK, Mark's Jesus. Monday **11 Dec 7.30–9.30 pm**. St Mary's Church Gathering Space, Grimshaw Street, Greensborough. Donation only. Contact Sandra 9434 7553.

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. Following on from the audio of Francis Sullivan's speech at YTU, you may be interested to listen to the speech by Bishop Vincent Long, given on the same night.

http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/media/139950/yarra_panel_vl.mp3

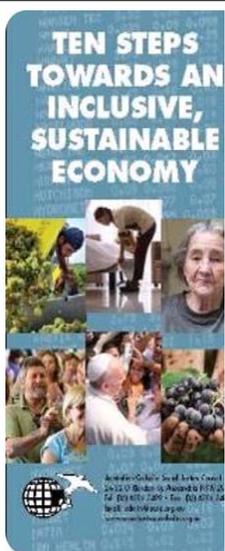
MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE Available in the Piety store for \$4.00 and well worth a read.

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



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:

NEW YEARS EVE DINNER DANCE Sunday, 31st December 7.00 pm – 1.00 am in St Francis Hall 290 Childs Road, Mill Park - Door Prizes! DJ Music, Raffle. **Carvery Meal & Dessert (Vegetarian Meals on Request) Tea & Coffee Provided BYO Drinks Dinner will be served at 8.00 pm. Tickets: Adult: \$40 Child (12 & under): \$20** For Bookings: Contact Ruth 9407 6704 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au