

Sunday 3rd February, 2019

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Assistant Priests: Fr. Lenin Thenamirtham & 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:

<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.

The Gospel reading begins with this reaction to Jesus' words: *And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.* Jesus then goes on to challenge the people and their reaction changed drastically. Things began to turn sour when Jesus spoke words that were no longer pleasing to their ears. So, right there and then they decided to kill Jesus even if Jesus spoke truths in the synagogue out of His great love for them.

- Why do you think the people's reaction to Jesus went from being positive to being filled with fury?
- How do you respond when someone challenges your preconceptions of yourself, others or God? Is there room for improvement? In what way?



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"

WELCOME TO 2019 we hope you all had a safe and peaceful break, and are well rested for the year ahead. We welcome once again Fr. Lenin to our St Mary's Community. We are back to the normal routine with parish activities. Thanks to the continued work and support of the many groups and individuals in our Parish - we can truly celebrate the blessings of today and look forward to the future with hope.

SCRIPTURE STUDY - The Gospel of Mark will be the first topic of exploration for the parish Scripture Study groups. We have 20 people signed up for this initiative and three groups. We have a Tuesday morning group, facilitated by Susan Kempen, starting at 10am in the middle meeting room of the parish house, beginning on March 5. We have a Wednesday evening group, facilitated by Michelle D'Souza, starting at 7pm in the middle meeting room of the parish house, beginning on February 27 and a Friday afternoon group, facilitated by Jackie Corcoran, which will be held at Anne and Pat Fleming's home, beginning at 2pm. The Friday afternoon group is at full capacity at present, but the other two groups still have room. The cost of the 10 week program is \$20 per participant. This mostly covers the cost of a Study Set, which includes a Commentary on the Gospel of Mark and a book of questions for reflection to be used with prayer during the week. The format of each session is that there will be time of prayer, sharing and then watch a video presentation by a Scripture scholar. Our group facilitators are parishioners who have volunteered to take on this role in their groups. Enq - parish office 9435 1543, - **be quick** if you wish to join a current group or perhaps if you are interested we could start another group, because supplies are limited at the distributor's.

MUSIC MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN - We begin again, the lovely experience of including children in our music ministry at Mass. At present these opportunities will be available at 6.30pm Mass (so this weekend) on the first Saturday evening Mass of the month and at 10.00am Mass on the second Sunday of the month. Children will be encouraged to come forward, near the choir area and they will choose a little instrument and play along with the choir and musicians or if we don't have choir and musicians, they will accompany the taped music. It is clear that this initiative brings joy. Enquiries - parish office 9435 1543

LENTEN PROGRAM We have one person so far, who has expressed interest in the Lenten program "All I have is yours: Forty days to freedom" by Michael McGirr. Participants will reflect on a selection of readings, gospel, prayers and personal reflections, underpinned by commentary that questions and prompts the reader, nourishing and encouraging important conversation. If you are interested, please contact the parish office by February 15th.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD AT MASS -meeting of those already committed and others interested in joining the team leading the children in this ministry - is on **Thursday the 7th of February at 7.00pm in the front room of the parish house**. We are almost ready to start this wonderful ministry. Enquires Jacinta Bright 9435 1543 or Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au

CATECHIST CLASSES Sunday Religious Education classes for children attending Government schools will commence on **Sunday 10th February** in St Mary's School at 9.00am. For any enquiries contact the Co-ordinator - Geraldine Conroy 0438 148 896.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY has a wonderful group of caring ladies who meet each Monday to knit/crochet for various needs of those around us. Our Prayer Shawl group resumes 10 -11.30am on **Mon 11 Feb** in the Gathering Space at St Mary's Church. All welcome

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 94675173.

FOUND IN THE CAR PARK - small brown scapular. If it is yours you can collect it from the parish office during the week, or call us on 9435 1543 and we can make an arrangement for you to collect it after a weekend Mass.

CHILDREN'S TAKE HOME GOSPEL ACTIVITY SHEETS are available in the Gathering Space each week. Children are invited to bring back their completed sheets and pin them on the Children' Wall in the church.

INVITATION Parishioners of the Partnered Parishes of Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek, St Mary's Greensborough and St Thomas' North Greensborough are invited to join the staffs of our three Parishes' schools, at a Mass at **4.30pm on February 6th**, at St Thomas Parish church, to mark the beginning of the school academic year, at which teachers will be inducted. Following the Mass, you are invited to stay for drinks and nibbles and to get to know the school staffs. Please contact Jacinta Bright on 9435 1543 or Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au by the 4th of February, so that catering arrangements can be confirmed.

ST MARY'S DIGITAL CONTENT PRODUCER (VOLUNTEER ROLE) One of the key aspects of providing hospitality is offering a welcoming presence—be it in person or online. St Mary's is currently redeveloping its website to ensure that it reflects the mission and diversity of our parish community. As such, we are looking for someone who would be able to volunteer their time to perform the role of a Digital Content Producer. Under the direction of the St Mary's Website Development Team, this person would be responsible for: 1) **ongoing maintenance** of the website using the DotNetNuke (DNN) platform. This includes updating event-related information (on a weekly basis) and liaising with groups to ensure pages are kept up-to-date (on a quarterly basis) and; 2) In consultation with the Website Development Team, **curate online content** that would further the mission of St Mary's to be 'a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world'. This position requires a high degree of organisation, an understanding of website platforms and a keen interest in the wider life and work of the parish. Training will be provided in the DotNetNuke (DNN) platform and tasks can be done remotely. If this sounds of interest to you or you know someone who would fit this role, please contact the Parish Office on 9435 1543 for more information.

COMMUNION ROUND MINISTERS—If you don't have a new roster please contact the Parish Office for a copy. Thank you.

AVAILABLE FOR RENT—Self Contained Bungalow. Non-smokers only to enquire. Contact: 94446023 or 0425741992

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.

Constructing Jesus: Memory, Imagination, and History by Dale C. Jr. Allison 232 ALL What did Jesus think of himself? How did he face death? What were his expectations of the future? In this volume, internationally renowned Jesus scholar Dale Allison Jr. addresses such perennially fascinating questions about Jesus. *Borrow from our library.* **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE - Now available in the Piety shop at \$4.

SCAM ALERT If you receive a phone call purporting to be from Australian Broadbands about connecting the NBN and asking you to press 1 for a technician, hang up because this is a scam. Do not press 1. See <https://www.aussiebroadband.com.au/support/knowledge-base/general/scam-calls-how-to-identify-them/> for further information.

VOLUNTEERS SURVEY forms are still available to be completed to express interest in joining an existing St Mary's Parish group, suggest something new or if you are wanting to find out more about what's available. Please complete and place in the box in the Gathering Space. Thanks to those who have completed forms already. Details will be forwarded to the appropriate groups soon.

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 CONTEMPLATIVE 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

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING Thurs 7 February 7.30pm Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop Peter Comensoli. All Welcome. See noticeboard.

COMMUNITY EVENT at St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham, 79-81 Pitt St. Eltham. A service to honour the memory and loss of lives and homes on Black Saturday held at 6pm on 7 Feb. Contact Kathleen: 0439032977. See noticeboard.

LOYOLA COLLEGE—CLASSIC CAR SHOW Fri 15 Feb-325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia. Enjoy a BBQ and look at cars from Metro Classic Cruisers Car Club & Independent Owners. Free event. Details: LCCAA@Loyola.vic.edu.au or Anthony-0438002758. See noticeboard

CATHOLIC MISSION ST VALENTINE'S DAY HIGH TEA Thursday 14th February 3.30pm—5.30pm at Park Hyatt Melbourne, 1 Parliament Square, Melbourne. Cost \$35.00 www.trybooking.com/ZIFN purchased before 5th February. For information 9412 8412 or Lorraine.Valledares@cam.org.au. It is about love, laughter and giving. See noticeboard.

SEEKING ACCOMMODATION—My name is Lani, I am 20 years old going on 21 this year, and I am looking for some accommodation. I currently live in Queensland, but am moving to Bundoora to study. I am a Christian, and I am looking for somewhere as close to RMIT University in Bundoora as possible. I have a budget of about \$160 or less per week, but can be flexible. I am unlikely to have a car, therefore would need somewhere close to a bus stop or the trams to commute to university quickly and easily. I will do my own food, I love animals and I am good with children, and I am very easygoing overall! I do not smoke and will be moving some time late February (around 25th). Please contact Parish Office on 94351543 if you can help. Thank you.

First Reading Jer 1:4-5. 17-19

I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.
So now brace yourself for action.
Stand up and tell them
all I command you.
Do not be dismayed at their presence,
or in their presence I will make you dismayed.
I, for my part, today will make you
into a fortified city,
a pillar of iron,
and a wall of bronze
to confront all this land:
the kings of Judah, its princes,
its priests and the country people.
They will fight against you
but shall not overcome you,
for I am with you to deliver you –
it is the Lord who speaks.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15

(R.) I will sing of your salvation.

1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me. *(R.)*
2. Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked. *(R.)*
3. It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been
my help. *(R.)*
4. My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still. *(R.)*

**Second Reading 1 Cor 12:31-13:13
or 1 Cor 13:4-13 (shorter form)**

There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Lord sent me to bring Good News to
the poor
and freedom to prisoners.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Lk 4:21-30

Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Nazara was a village of 300-400 people and it had a small town mentality. The inhabitants were enraged when Jesus found good precedent for extending his saving mission to foreigners outside the community of the Chosen People. Jesus embodied the boundary-breaking nature of God's grace.

Many Christians recite the old formula: 'No salvation outside the Church.' But we Catholics believe that, by responding to God's (often anonymous) grace, a person can lead a good life which prepares them for heavenly glory.

This means that the billions around the world who will never hear the Gospel, or who hear it distorted through the megaphone of an alien culture, can be saved. There is no limit/boundary to the Merciful God's finding a way into the hearts of all human beings.

We could take a moment to pray in gratitude for our graced privilege of being members of the Church, nourished within it by the Sacraments and the Gospel, but whose boundaries can never circumscribe the mercy of God.

mtate@bigpond.com

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What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?



PLENARY 2020 @ ST MARY'S – What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?

In October 2020, the Catholic Church is gathering to make plans and decisions for the future. A number of people within the Parish have already got together to consider the question: *What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?* Your voice is also needed to help create the agenda. What are your experiences of God in your life, your faith and the Church?

Listening and Dialogue sessions are being offered to provide an opportunity for people to listen and share their experiences and to reflect on the questions they may have about the future of the Church in Australia. 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. The sessions are either open-topic or have a specific theme with session dates as follows and will be held in the Gathering Space:

- ♦ Social Justice Issues – Tuesday 5 February, 7:30pm
- ♦ Open Session Friday 8 February, 10:15 am (after morning Mass)
- ♦ Role of women in the Church – Monday 11 February, 7:30pm

If you are not able to attend a session but would still like to have your say, individual responses can be made online at: plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or submission forms can be completed and returned to the Gathering Space and the PPC will submit them on your behalf.

We strongly encourage all to 'have your say' for Plenary 2020.

St Mary's Parish – presenting an exciting opportunity!

As we gather momentum in the parish with regards to the Plenary question, *What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?* we feel inspired to go out inviting responses from our broader community. We have had printed enough leaflets for every household within our parish boundaries and we need help now to deliver them. This is a great opportunity for a bit of exercise and to cooperate with this Spirit led initiative, for the sake of the Australian Church.

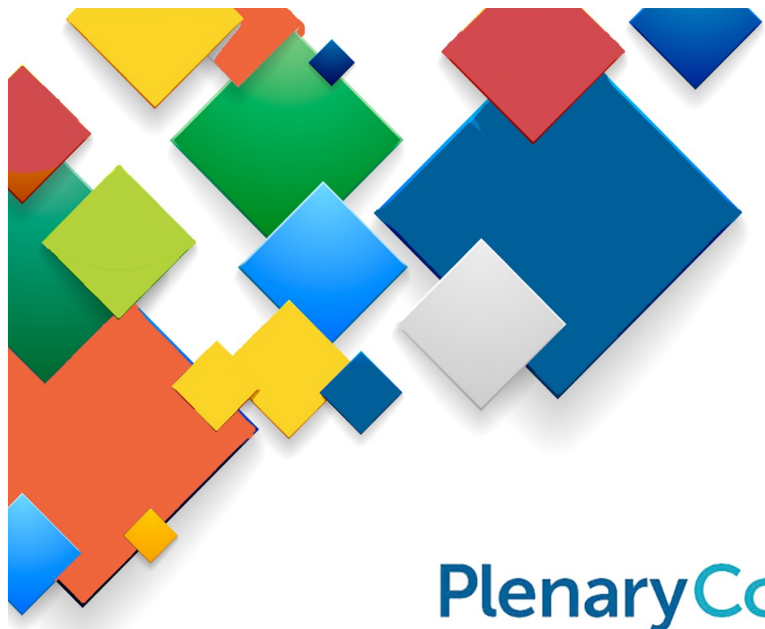
The parish has been divided into zones. You might like to take a whole zone or find someone to share it with. You might like to choose a zone in your own area, or explore a different area within the parish. It is an opportunity to create an important memory for your children, or grandchildren by taking them with you, letting them help you help the Church at this important time in our history.

The Plenary Council wants feedback from the wider community as well as from committed Catholics. Imagine how it could be that we help inspire people to notice a Church striving to live out the mission God gives us, to be more authentic, more open, more Christ-like. Surely that should be the desire of the Church at all times.

All materials and information will be available in the foyer at the conclusion of this weekend's Masses and over the coming weeks if need be. Thanks kindly for your support with this important initiative.

Any enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

Will you help us?



PlenaryCouncil2020

'Listen to what the Spirit is saying...' REV 2:7

HAVE **YOUR** SAY

THE FUTURE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

www.plenarycouncil.org.au

"No matter where **you** might find yourself in relation to the church:

- ◆ Deeply engaged or only partially involved,
- ◆ Uncertain or disillusioned, or even angry,
- ◆ On the margins,
- ◆ Or perhaps a friendly or critical observer.

we need to hear from **you** (because) the church needs to listen to everyone."

Archbishop Tim Costelloe
President of Plenary Council 2020

