



Sunday 2nd 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	25 Gipson Street, Diamond Creek 3089	251 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough Nth 3088
Parish: 9435 1543	Parish: 9438 1159	Parish: 9434 7373
Presbytery: 9432 2515	Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au	Email: greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au
Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au	Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek	Website: www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth
Website: www.pol.org.au/greensborough	Secretary: Pat Guatta	Secretaries: Mary Gargan & Lisa Leahy
Secretaries: Frances Olofsson & Sharon Prosser	Mass Times	Mass Times
Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux	Monday: Communion Service 9.15am	Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am
Mass Times	Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am	Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm
Monday: Liturgy of the word 9.15am	1st Saturday of the month: Vigil Mass at St. Peters Hurstbridge 7.15pm	Sunday: Mass 10.30am
Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am	Sunday: Mass 9.00am	Reconciliation Times
Saturday: Mass 8.30am & Vigil Mass 6.30pm	Reconciliation Times	Saturday: 9.30am to 10.30am
Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm	Parish School Principal	Parish School Principal
Reconciliation Times	Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am	Mr. David Delaney Ph: 9434 4565 or Email
Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm	Parish School Principal	Principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au
Baptisms	Mr. Jim O'Sullivan Ph: 9438 1590 or Email	
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.	principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au	
Parish School Principal		
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.

First Week of Advent

LISTEN!



Listen to the cries of the poor

**Do we have compassionate hearts
that hear the distress of the poor
in our world,
in our country,
in our community,
in our homes?**

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"

DUE TO THE ARCHDIOCESE COMPUTER SYSTEM BEING HACKED LAST WEEKEND all Parishes in the Diocese have been without or with minimal services and support all week. We have done our best to produce the Bulletin with what information we were able to obtain from our systems. Please accept our apologies if something has been missed. At time of Printing the website was not accessible so there is the chance that the bulletin has not been uploaded. We shall rectify when systems are fully back. Thank you for your understanding.

DIAMOND VALLEY FESTIVAL OF FAMILY CAROLS - The Annual Festival of Family Carols will take place at St Mary's on **Sunday, 2 December** at 7.30pm. All welcome to be part of this enjoyable community event.

2018 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal TODAY—The Annual Vinnies' Christmas Appeal is being conducted at all Masses this weekend of 1st & 2nd December. Your donations in past years have supported 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 put your donations in the envelopes distributed on the pews, 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.

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN AND MASS Music at the 6.30pm Mass **THIS WEEKEND** and 10.00am Mass **NEXT 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.*

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.**

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.

ANOINTING MASS on **Thursday 6th December at 11am** followed by a light lunch in the Gathering Space. If you intend staying for the luncheon please complete and return an RSVP slip which is available on the small table at the back of the Church. **PLEASE NOTE ON Thursday 6th December there will be no 9.15am mass.**

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.**

SPRING CLEANING - HELP IS NEEDED -Sat 8 Dec at 10am to spring clean and tidy our Church in preparation for Christmas. If you can spare some time to help it will be much appreciated. If possible, please bring a bucket and cleaning cloths, and cleaning products if you prefer your own brand. We need to clean/dust the pews, window ledges and skirting boards. Many hands make light work. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S WALL Next weekend the wall of the church near the door of the Gathering Space will become a Children's Wall. Children are invited to bring back their completed Advent colouring pages/activity sheets next weekend and pin them on the wall. Each week they may bring back new pages and take their previous ones home. We look forward to enjoying the children's vibrant work.

PLENARY 2020 @ ST MARY'S This Plenary is really important for the Australian Church. Over the last few weeks, we have had the opportunity to watch sessions of an e-Conference Synodality in Practice: Listening to the Spirit and Leading Change. Synodality is a way of being Church so that the teachers of the Church, those who define tradition and who develop Church law, enter into new relationship whereby they are called to listen to the people; listen to our hopes and our concerns for the Church. To cooperate with this Plenary is to give your voice so that it may be amongst those who help give shape to the future of the Church. It might take a little bit of reflection and conversation before we recognize what it is that you might want to say, or you may have something pressing on your mind and heart, that you wish to offer. 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. The PPC is currently looking at setting dates for Listening and Dialogue Sessions. There will be at least one in December and more in the new year. Standby for advice as to those dates. If you would like to assist in facilitating a group, please contact the Parish Office on 94351543

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

A SPIRITUALITY OF AGEING— **DUE TO LOW NUMBERS, THIS REFLECTION MORNING HAS BEEN CANCELLED.**

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.

Tom Allen and others A Guide to the Passion: 100 Questions about the Passion of the Christ. 232.96 GUI . This is a companion to the Mel Gibson film **The Passion of the Christ DVD PAS.** Despite the visual and emotional impact of the film, the dramatic events portrayed do not explain themselves and often give rise to perplexing questions: This book offers a fascinating and enlightening insight into the meaning of Christ's passion, explaining how his death was not a defeat, but the beginning of a great victory. *Borrow from our library.*

Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

MEET LUKE, HIS GOSPEL & HIS JESUS—3 Monday evenings **3rd and 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

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.

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

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

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

PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITY Imagine travelling in the footsteps of Jesus from Bethlehem to Jerusalem or celebrating Mass in the centre of Lake Galilee! *Harvest Journeys* are offering an opportunity for parishioners to travel as pilgrims on a journey of faith in 2019, allowing the Holy Spirit to renew us in "words that cannot be easily explained". *Harvest Journeys* offers a range of pre-arranged, authentically Catholic pilgrimages such as: Footsteps of Jesus – The Holy Land, Visitations of Mary – from Fatima to Lourdes, Treasures of Italy, St Francis & Rome, St Paul & the Early Church. Only 10 pilgrims are needed to guarantee a group departure as a parish group. If a pilgrimage to the Holy Places is your dream, contact Donrita Reefman on 0411 702 068 or donrita@harvestjourneys.com for more information. www.harvestjourneys.com/



Send a Christmas message to those you love, and help save lives of mothers and babies in vulnerable communities. Give Global Gifts this Christmas and support women to give birth safely with access to expert care before and after babies are born. This year you can help bring the gift of **Water, Food** and **Sustainable Livelihoods** to women and children around the world. Each Global Gift will go towards supporting our most important work; from giving a community access to the clean, safe water needed to hydrating mother during childbirth to empowering people through sustainable farming and providing vital nutrients needed for a safe pregnancy, birth and early childhood development. Order Global Gift cards online at www.globalgifts.org.au or call us on 1800 024 413.

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.

First Reading Jer 33:14-16

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow
for David,
who shall practise honesty and
integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be
called:
The Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and
teach me:
for you are God my saviour. *(R.)*
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who
stray,
he guides the humble in the right
path;
he teaches his way to the poor. *(R.)*
3. His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant
and will.
The Lord’s friendship is for those
who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. *(R.)*

Second Reading 1 Thes 3:12-4:2

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Sometimes our own lives, the life of the Church, the life of societies and nations cry out for Our Lord Jesus Christ to come again right now and rescue us right now.

In some instances we can become conscious of Jesus’ saving, transforming power in a particular situation. But, for the whole of humanity across the millennia, we do not know the day or the hour when death and all its warriors such as disease and violence, will be absolutely vanquished by Christ in glory.

This can lead to a type of pain which finds solace in all those things which dull the spirit. Our Lord gives examples: debauchery, drunkenness. Today he might have added ‘living in the virtual world’. Rather, Our Lord wants us to live in the real world on high alert.

In the meantime each one of us can be a signal of what is to come. Each time we exhaust ourselves heroically loving someone whom others might abandon, each time we take a risk because we cry out against injustice, and in a myriad other ways, we signal that the Kingdom is already being established on earth.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the strength to be on high alert for the opportunities to translate the legacy of Jesus into our own time and place, thus giving reasons to each other for our faith and hope that Christ *has* come, Christ *is* risen, Christ *will* come again.

mtate@bigpond.com

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