



Sunday 3rd March, 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. Lenin 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.

Good from Good

'The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good.' What makes a person good? Is it that they have had good things happen in their life? There are plenty of people who have had good things in their life but they remain cynical and spiteful people. Similarly there are plenty who have had the hardest of circumstances yet goodness constantly flows from them. It's not the external influences but what we do with them that determines whether we are nurturing 'good treasure' or harbouring 'evil treasure'. This is not just sugary sweetness but a deliberate decision to be a person of hope.

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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"

PLEASE NOTE: THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE UNATTENDED NEXT FRIDAY 8TH MARCH FROM 12 NOON

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES are at 9.15am and 7.30pm Wednesday 6th March.

LAST CHANCE - PLENARY We will have one more opportunity for a listening and dialogue group on Monday morning 4th March in the Gathering Space at 10am. All welcome. Parishioners are also encouraged to go home and invite someone they know in the next day or so, to have their say. It might be someone you know has a story to tell,...or has moved away from the church..... You are asked to dig deep and take this action so that we capture the thoughts and feelings of as many as we can. It could mean approaching family, a friend, a work colleague.....or anyone.... let's do all we can to bring this home now! Resources are available on the table in the Gathering Space Or go to www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE OF PARISH AGM TO 11AM ON SUNDAY 31ST MARCH. MORE DETAILS SOON.

LAUNCH OF NEW PARISH WEBSITE – see our redesigned Parish website. The address for our new website is <http://www.cam.org.au/greensborough>. We are still working hard on uploading information, images and links but go on and have a look to get some idea of how it will be and then come back regularly. We hope that our new website will be a great contribution to our *striving to be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world*. We thank all who have worked on the redesign and the parish groups who have sent us information about their group. PPC Website Design Subcommittee

'CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY' - March 3rd. You might like to tidy up some rubbish from an area near your home. Social Justice Group

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held in St Mary's church at **7.30pm each Friday evening during Lent**. The Stations or Way of the Cross provides an opportunity for a meditative reflection on Jesus' journey to the Cross.

ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY. The blessed palms which remained after Palm Sunday last year will be burned before Lent to provide the ashes for distribution on Ash Wednesday. Parishioners are invited to return the palms they received last year and place them in the basket in the Gathering Space.

"LIVES CHANGE WHEN WE ALL GIVE 100%" – PROJECT COMPASSION 2019 Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lent awareness and fund raising campaign to help end global poverty, promote justice and enhance community dignity. **Caritas Australia** has over 100 development projects through Catholic relief organisations worldwide. This year St Mary's Social Justice Group members will be handing out Project Compassion collection boxes at the Masses on **March 2 and March 3** prior to Ash Wednesday on March 6. Thank you.

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR HOLY WEEK A warm welcome is extended to all parishioners to come along to St Mary's Church from **7-9 pm on Wednesdays 13, 20, 27 March & 3, 10 April** for Choir Practice for the Holy Week ceremonies. All music will be provided, but because of copyright please email Megan on mamitchem@gmail.com so that music can be organised. It would be wonderful to have some new faces join us. Thank you in advance!

MATURE AGE GROUP Please come and join us for a outing to the Blue Lotus Water Garden at Yarra Valley, on **13 March**, seats still available on bus. Members \$58.00 Non Members \$60.00 included in the price is entry to Garden and 2 course lunch at Yarra Valley RSL. Bus will be leaving William St, at 9.00am. Please contact Geraldine 9435 4306, Angela 9444 6298 Kay 9435 5736.

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY The Friends of the Library will hold a meeting in the Library at **10.30 on Saturday 16 March**. All interested parishioners are very welcome to attend.

LADIES AUXILIARY Our first function for 2019 will be "The St Patrick's Day" Morning Tea, on **Wednesday 20th March in the Gathering Space at 11am**. Entry \$5.00 per person. Entertainment by the "3 E.E.E.'s" featuring Eamon Spillane. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 Lucy 9435 6990. Bookings after Masses **16/17 March. Pay at the door.**

SCRIPTURE STUDY - The Gospel of Mark will be the first topic of exploration for the new Parish Scripture Study groups. The Tuesday morning group begins on 5th March. Wednesday evenings and Friday afternoon groups are currently underway. Sessions run over 10 weeks. Enquiries - Parish Office 9435 1543.

MUSIC MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN - 6.30pm Mass 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 an instrument and play along with the choir and musicians. Enquiries - parish office 9435 1543.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT MASS This Saturday night we welcome the children who will accompany the musicians and choir for the final hymn. The next opportunity is Sunday the 10th at 10.00 Mass. We will also begin our Children's Liturgy of the Word on March 10th, where we take children from grades one to four into the Gathering Space to share the readings with them at a child's level. You might like to bring your children or grandchildren to Mass, if you don't already.

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's Wall in the church.

THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE is on sale again this year. 1st, Prize is a new Kia Rio, 2nd and 3rd Prizes are 2 new Kia Picantos, and 4th to 14th Prizes are Coles Myer Gift Cards. **Cost still only \$2 per ticket.** All proceeds go to our Parish Community. Tickets selling now and can be purchased at the Parish Office. Raffle drawn 4th May, 2019.

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE now available in the Piety Store. \$4

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS GROUP will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 in the Parish House, St Mary's Greensborough. Anyone wanting to pray for our children and youth are warmly invited to come along to pray and support one another, non-grandparents also welcome. For information please call the Parish Office on 9435 1543.

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.

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

AID FOR TOWNSVILLE YOUTH All Saints Anglican Church together with Parade College are putting together donations people affected by the devastating floods in Townsville. They are seeking items for kids/ teenagers returning to school. So if you are in the position to assist we are seeking donations of Stationary for primary and high school- Pens, pencils, exercise books, rulers etc.; Lunch boxes; School bags, School shoes (new only); Or vouchers that can be used to purchase (no cash please). New goods only. **There shall be a box in our Gathering Space for any donations** or contact Colleen Treacy. All Saints Anglican Church 0435 107 633/ treacyc@optusnet.com.au

Community News

HOMELESSNESS AND CARITAS 2018-2019 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 a partner. The women may end up 'couch surfing' between their children's homes, or they may become actually homeless. These ladies and their families need intensive, specialist help. If possible let's try to assist the homeless as this is the Church's Social Justice year highlighting A Place to Call Home: making a Home for everyone in our land." Support can be offered through St Vinnies, Lentara or Caritas. Thanks.

LENTEN MEN'S RETREAT "OVERCOMING TEMPTATION & ADDICTION": The Dominican Friars invite men aged 18 to 40 to a weekend retreat at St. Dominic's Priory, 816 Riversdale Rd, Camberwell, commencing 5:00pm Friday 8th March until 3:00pm Sunday 10th March. Cost is \$50 and includes all meals. If interested please feel free to contact Br. Sebastian sebastian.condon@op.org.au

FOUR LENTEN REFLECTION MORNINGS— Mar 16 & 23, Apr 6 & 13 (10–11.30am) at Currajeen 811 Bridge Inn Rd, . Come! Join those who in previous years have appreciated. Reflecting with Jesus in the Lenten gospels. All are Welcome! Sr Maureen RSC 9717 3355.

THE FRINGE OF HIS GARMENT A journey of inner healing particularly for adults on **Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th March 9am-5pm** at Loyola College Funtion Room, 325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia. Mass included both days. For booking: promo code: Loyola for 50% discount when booking online at <https://www.trybooking.com.ZPVV>. Please see noticeboard.

Open Mind, Faithful Heart: Reflections on Following Jesus by Pope Francis 248.4 FRA The inspiration needed to address the urgent challenges to our world and human living today is clearly outlined in this book. The spiritual foundation for much of what Pope Francis has surprised the world with since his election, radically reframing the Catholic contribution, is found in these texts which their author wished to gather just before expecting to retire--but then being called to Rome instead. Open Mind, Faithful Heart offers an irreplaceable window into the heart and soul of the pope who is changing how the world sees the Church. *Borrow from our library.* Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780

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.

Mass Times	6.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.00pm
Data Projection	Volunteer	J. McDonough	J. Corcoran	T. D'Souza
Minister of the Word	L. Kempen	B./J. McDonough	L. Hartigan	M. Lonsdale
Prayer Leader	R. Joseph	B./J. McDonough	L. Antoni	M. Lonsdale
Ministers of Communion	5 Volunteers at all Masses and 6 Volunteers for Fr. Tao			

Counters Morning:

Altar Society A. Marshall.

Baptisms G. Schokman – 3/3/19

Sacrificial Giving: \$3,200.70

Thank you to contributors to the Parish Support Program

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

3 March 2019

First Reading Sir 27:4-7

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:54-58

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A Greek word for an actor is *hypokrites*, and Jesus often uses it in a disparaging way. How often have we heard the sad, sometimes angry, remark by someone let down by a person they trusted: 'It was all a big act'. Eventually, the true character of the dishonest or manipulative person is revealed. All the acting in the world will not forever suppress what is bound to overflow from the heart.

This takes us to the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus pronounces a blessing on 'the pure in heart, for they will see God'. This does not describe those who are ritually or sexually pure, but those who, at the core of their being, are not actors. There is no duplicity or camouflage, no lie or deception clouding the heart. Because of this, Jesus says they are well prepared to see God because they do not have the great plank of acting in their eye.

Of course, we already see God in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, so that we can pray with the clear-sighted Richard, Bishop of Chichester in 1253: 'O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly, day by day.'

We could pause for a moment and resolve to make that prayer with a pure heart. Then, when we grace-fully share Christ's resurrection life in Heavenly Glory, in the embrace of Divine Love we shall truly see the Triune God face-to-face!

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**Message from Fr. Steven Rigo
regarding the Conviction of Cardinal George Pell**

Since last Tuesday, after hearing and reading about the conviction of Cardinal George Pell for charges of historic sexual abuse, I have felt quite devastated because it further shatters the credibility of the Church and reinforces the pain and harm done to many vulnerable people. Personally, I have had concerns with many aspects of the Cardinal's leadership, especially in his roles as Archbishop of Melbourne and Sydney, but I had never considered the possibility that he would abuse his power in an explicitly sexual way with minors.

There have been two trials on the same matter; in the first trial the jury could not reach a unanimous decision; the second trial reached the verdict that has now been made public. Despite this, Cardinal Pell maintains his innocence against the convictions. Several commentators have written about the implausibility of his committing these offences in the Cathedral sacristy, and that we need to await the outcomes of an Appeal against the conviction as we allow the judicial processes to continue as with any person awaiting appeal. Whatever the outcome of that in the future, we need to accept the fact that a jury unanimously found him to be guilty of all the charges, based on what seems to be convincing evidence to which the public does not have access. Clearly, many other people are convinced about his guilt. It makes me realise the complexities with which the judicial system needs to grapple – nothing is simply black and white.

Many priests, religious and lay people around the world working on behalf of the Catholic Church have been found guilty of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable people over the last three decades. Many of the leaders in the Church have mismanaged the issue of paedophilia over the years by misguidedly moving personnel from one parish to another, or one school to another. This has severely eroded the credibility and integrity of the Church everywhere. I am sure that many Catholics have left the Church in disgust or have even lost their faith in God whom they have come to know through the Church. That particularly distresses me because we, who have been mandated to minister God's life-giving love, have in these ways shamefully and actively turned people away from God. As such, I wish to acknowledge the courage of victims and survivors of clergy sexual abuse who have come forward, facing humiliation, unbelief and denigration for exposing and bringing into the light the shameful behaviour of official representatives of the Church.

What makes this conviction of Cardinal George Pell even more destructive for us is that he has been the Catholic Church's leader of our Diocese and our country and had risen to a most prominent position of leadership in the universal Church. The personal influence he has had on the Church throughout the world over the last twenty-five years has been enormous. He has also been the one who established a process of dealing with the victims and perpetrators of sexual abuse. The value of that process, its intensifying the hurt upon the victims and survivors, and its motivations, are all debatable, but when he was Archbishop of Melbourne, he certainly seemed to be determined to put into place a process to deal with the massive problem of the abuse of vulnerable people by clergy. All this, I find it confusing to reconcile.

In stating all of this about the conviction and impending sentencing of Cardinal Pell, I wish to acknowledge the hurt, disappointment and disillusionment that has been felt by people and Catholics in particular at this time and let you know that I am also deeply hurt and confused. This distressing event also presents an opportunity and a challenge for the Church to take seriously the obligation to put into place radical structural changes to ensure that clericalism and everything else that enabled such abuse of power may be eliminated from the functioning of the Church. My hope is that this event adds to the submissions people have made to the Plenary Council for the bishops of Australia for their agenda to determine what changes are necessary to become the Church God calls us to be at this time. May we put into place better processes of support in responding to complaints and accompanying people who have been hurt to deal better with their painful reality and offer better pathways for their healing. More locally and immediately, I would like to assure you, our parishioners, that our leadership team of priests, pastoral associates, principals and staff will always work to protect our children. The safe-guarding of our children and vulnerable people is a priority of our pastoral and educational ministries. I would personally like to thank you for your commitment to the Church and our parish community in these challenging and humiliating times. May this fire us up to become the Church we should be together. I am happy to discuss this further with anyone who seeks further clarification, support or access to support services. With gratitude for your support and your faith in our parish community,

Fr. Steven Rigo
(Parish Priest)