



Sunday 24th June, 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	Mr. Jim O'Sullivan Ph: 9438 1590 or Email principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au	Mr. David Delaney Ph: 9434 4565 or Email Principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au
Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm		
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.		
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.

What's in a name?

The name 'John' originates from the Hebrew language and means 'God has shown favour (grace)'. The name given to John the Baptist reflects both the favour God showed to Elizabeth and Zechariah in granting them a son and also the favour that God showed to the people through John. John's whole ministry was to call people back to God; to recognise that they were in God's favour and to respond accordingly through the way they lived their lives. In Luke's gospel, when Jesus announces the commencement of his ministry he announces the coming of the Lord's year of favour.

Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd



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.

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.

Come and See: How the Teachings Of the Catholic Church Lead Us to Christ by Louis Bosco [282 BOS] will help the reader to go beyond merely knowing what the Church teaches to understanding why she teaches it and how her doctrines really do bring us closer to Jesus. *Borrow from our library. Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780*

St Mary's Parish News Continued:

The Big Group Hug is a local charity supporting disadvantaged families in the community and beyond. They provide donated socks, jocks, singlets and pyjamas to help parents care for children, from newborn to 12 years . Items can be left in the gathering space. Collecting until the end of term two. Any questions please contact, Mary - 0419 554500. See noticeboard.



ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY The Library is about to conduct a stock take. Can any borrowers who have overdue items please return them as soon as possible? Thank you Library Committee

PLEASE NOTE: There has been a series of burglaries involving breaking into presbyteries and parish churches in nearby suburbs. I strongly encourage and request that you be vigilant with security if you have access to the church or parish house.

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.

PARKING FOR ALL MASS TIMES While there are several disabled parking positions, there are some members of our community who have special needs on a temporary or permanent basis and do not qualify for a disabled permit. With this in mind we are asking that at Mass times, the 12 parking spaces closest to the Church be left free for them to use. We thank you for your anticipated co-operation.

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 these 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 0413 885 168.

Community News

Catholic Theological College. *Intensive Study Options Now Available!* **Winter Intensives:** 6 Weekdays in July: *Choice of Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Religious Education or Christian Spirituality units.* **Saturday Intensives:** 6 Saturdays: *Choice of Meditation or Ageing units.* **Weekend Intensives:** 3 weekends: *Liturgy and Sacraments unit.* **Audit and Credit options available.** Enquiries: Mr Jude Caspersz (Registrar) T: 9412 3309 E: ctc@ctc.edu.au See noticeboard.



CATHOLIC
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ANNIVERSARY MASS -Are you celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60–70 years of marriage this year? You and your family are invited to join us for the 2018 Annual Anniversary Mass! The Mass will be held on **Sunday 29 July** at St Patrick's Cathedral. Couples who register for the Mass will receive a commemorative certificate. Registrations close Friday 13 July. Contact: 9287 5587 or lmf@cam.org.au. See Noticeboard.

RETREAT IN EVERYDAY LIFE – Here's an invitation to rest in your inner room while pondering the joys and sorrows of your everyday life. The retreat will be held at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Box Hill over 5x Mondays, 23 July 2018 from 1.15 pm – 2.15pm. Kindly regis-

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

MEMORIAL MASS 9.15am next Friday 29th June. This monthly Mass is offered for all parishioners' deceased family members and friends. The Bereavement Support Group invites you to a cuppa and chat after Mass in the Gathering Space.

IMPORTANT NOTICE—The toilet in Parish house near meeting rooms is now working. Tea-making facilities still not available for meetings held in the house. Apologies for the inconvenience, but all the plumbing in the house is to be replaced.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Come along and join with us, for wine and cheese, as we watch David Letterman's interview with Malala. We will have an opportunity to then have a conversation about Malala's experience and the courage she has to make a difference in the world, for women and girls. Venue: Gathering Space of the church at 7.00pm, where we will have the heaters on. Hosted by the group Soul Sisters.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES have written letters to parishioners. Students have written about themselves and their confirmation preparation. Please take a letter and share your experience. Letters are available from the basket on the table in the Gathering Space. Thank you -Year Six teachers.

ALPHA - A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY— Have you wondered about the meaning of life? Are you looking for purpose and answers to the big questions? Join us to explore these questions in a friendly, open and informal environment. Each evening, we share a light meal (provided), watch a short and engaging video followed by a discussion in small groups. Join us **Tuesday evenings at St Mary's Church, 7:00pm – 9:15pm commencing 17 July.** Please sign up in the Gathering Space or contact Jo Giudice 0411 045 572 or Trevor 0435 823 002 for more information.

ALPHA IS COMING TO ST MARY'S AND WE NEED YOUR HELP! – Do you make a great lasagne or an amazing casserole? A fantastic pasta bake or a warm hearty soup? Perhaps you can provide a delicious dessert, cake or slice to have with coffee? The Alpha team is on the search for some talented cooks to help us cater for our weekly meetings from July 17th to September 25th. Don't think you can do each week? That's fine! We'd still love to try some of that amazing food. Any assistance appreciated. If you think you could help, please contact Jo Giudice 0411 045 572.

SUCCESSFUL OPENING FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL—Thank you to all parishioners at St Mary's and St Thomas' for a very successful opening weekend for our Vinnies Winter Appeal. The total sum donated from the two churches last weekend was \$7,750 - a record for the first week. We know that donations continue to arrive for two or three weeks after the appeal weekend, and so we might reach \$10,000 cash donations this winter, along with items of food, blankets and clothing which we have also received. Meanwhile, our two primary schools have collected a total of 45 laundry baskets of nutritious long life foods to be distributed as food parcels to the people we assist. Thank you all. Ian Fraser, President, Greensborough Conference.

SILENCE IN THE LITURGY In response to comments expressed in the Parish survey, and in line with General Instructions of the Roman Missal, a period of silence will follow the Homily. This will provide an opportunity for personal reflection on the Word of God, and complement the silent periods we already observe after the first and second readings. The first collection will be taken up after this period of reflection.

THANK YOU FROM THE ASYLUM SEEKER'S RESOURCE CENTRE for your response to our distress call in recent weeks. As there has been a great response to winter clothing, the SSRC has enough clothes for the moment. However, shortages are ongoing. If you can assist with long-life/non perishable food, especially fish and milk, please place your donations in the box in the foyer.

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.

VOLUNTEERS AT THE AUSTIN HOSPITAL: Parishes in our area have a long history of doing voluntary work at the Austin Hospital. This ministry takes different forms. Some volunteers offer to visit the hospital during the week, offering prayer, support and Communion to the Catholic patients. Others help once a month checking which patients would like to attend Mass at the hospital chapel, while other volunteers help wheel the patients to and from the chapel. Some parishioners support this ministry by being present at this Mass. Mass at the Austin Hospital is on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am. (There is also Mass at the Repatriation Hospital chapel on the fourth Sunday of each month at 11:00am.) All volunteers working at the hospital need to be registered. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact St John's parish office (94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au). Thanks for your support

Saint of the Week—St John the Baptist—Born June 24—John the Baptist was a contemporary of Christ who was known for evangelization and his baptizing of Jesus Christ. Jesus' baptism then started the beginning of His ministry. According to the Gospels, he baptised many people in the river of Jordan on their confession of their sins and often foretold of Jesus' coming. Because of this, many of Jesus' followers started out as followers of John. Jesus declared that no greater man than John had been born of a woman. John is also seen as a prophet and messenger to tell the people of the coming of Jesus.



Pope Francis Verified account Twitter @Pontifex 21 June

Praying together, walking together, working together: this is the way that leads to Christian unity.

First Reading Is 49:1-6

Behold I will make you a light to the nations.

Islands, listen to me,
pay attention, remotest peoples.
The Lord called me before I was born,
from my mother's womb he pronounced
my name.
He made my mouth a sharp sword,
and hid me in the shadow of his hand.
He made me into a sharpened arrow,
and concealed me in his quiver.
He said to me, 'You are my servant Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
while I was thinking, 'I have toiled in vain,
I have exhausted myself for nothing';
and all the while my cause was with the
Lord,
my reward with my God.
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his
servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:
'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring
back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends
of the earth.'it.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 138:1-3. 13-15. R. v.14

(R.) I praise you for I am wonderfully made.

1. O Lord, you search me and you know me,
you know my resting and my rising,
you discern my purpose from afar.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to you. (R.)
2. For it was you who created my being,
knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for the wonder of my being,
for the wonders of all your creation. (R.)
3. Already you knew my soul,
my body held no secret from you
when I was being fashioned in secret
and moulded in the depths of the earth. (R.)

Second Reading Acts 13:22-26

Christ's coming was announced beforehand by the preaching of John.

Paul said: 'God made David the king of our ancestors, of whom he approved in these words, "I have elected David son of Jesse, a

man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose." To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal."

'My brothers, sons of Abraham's race, and all you who fear God, this message of salvation is meant for you.'

Gospel Acclamation See Lk 1:76

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You, child, will be called the prophet
of the Most High;
you will go before the Lord to prepare
his ways.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:57-66, 80

John is his name.

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son; and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a kindness, they shared her joy.

Now on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother spoke up. 'No,' she said 'he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'But no one in your family has that name', and made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. The father asked for a writing tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And they were all astonished. At that instant his power of speech returned and he spoke and praised God. All their neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about throughout the hill country of Judaea. All those who heard of it treasured it in their hearts. 'What will this child turn out to be?' they wondered. And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew up and his spirit matured. And he lived out in the wilderness until the day he appeared openly to Israel.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

When Elizabeth gave birth to a son, the whole village was quite certain that the child would be called Zechariah after his father. But Elizabeth resisted and Zechariah had no hesitation in writing, 'His name is John' – is John. Present tense.

This caused great consternation in the village. This could only mean that more shocking breaks with tradition were to come. And in the last verse of today's Gospel, we learn that this now young man is not preparing for priestly service at the Temple!

He is out in the wilderness! He has adopted the lifestyle of the most marginal, living outside settled existence where tradition suffocates.

Pope Francis constantly urges us to be challenged by those existing on the margins. This encompasses not only those who are suffering exclusion, injustice or who are simply without the necessities of life. He is also concerned with those on the peripheries of world power. Perhaps this is best symbolised in the choosing of a Cardinal from Tonga which has only 15,000 Catholics!

We could pause for a moment to pray that we are sufficiently open to receive God's messengers, who may erupt from the margins, from 'the wilderness' of the peripheries, even from Argentina!

mtate@bigpond.com

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