



Sunday 18th November, 2018

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Assistant Priests: Fr. Dong Tran & 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:

St. Mary's

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

Mass Times

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

Reconciliation Times

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

Sacred Heart

25 Gipson Street,

Diamond Creek 3089

Parish: 9438 1159

Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au

Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek

Secretary: Pat Guatta

Mass Times

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

Reconciliation Times

Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am

Parish School Principal

Mr. Jim O'Sullivan **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**

principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass 10.30am

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.30am

Parish School Principal

Mr. David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**

Principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

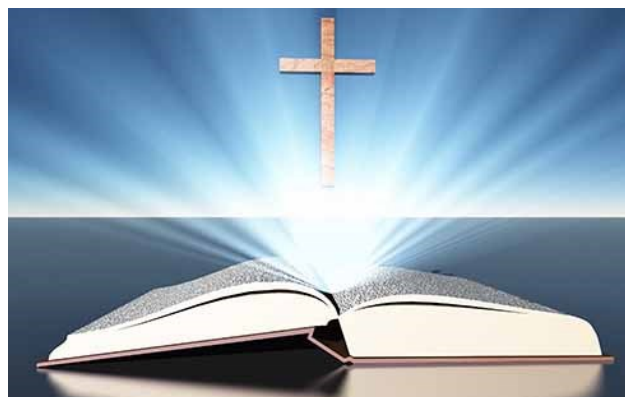
Communion to the Sick:

Any parishioner who cannot attend Mass due to illness and would like to receive Communion is asked to contact the parish office.

People of Hope

Whilst the community who were the intended audience of the Gospel of Mark were expecting the return of Jesus and the end times to occur during their lifetimes, nearly two thousand years later we realise that wasn't the case. Today, as in Mark's time, many people approach the future and change with fear and apprehension. As Christian people we are called to be optimistic and hopeful as we approach the future. We know that God is good, that God loves us unconditionally and that God has a dream for us. That is the simple basis of Christian hope.

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.

What's Happening in St Mary's Parish?

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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS The next roster – January to June 2019 - will be prepared soon. If you are no longer available for your ministry, wish to change your mass time or have changed your email address, please contact Marian by **Sunday 18 November** on 0409 591 527 or mariantacey@optusnet.com.au Thank you.

FAMILY GROUPS ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER- WHY NOT JOIN IN 25 November —Picnic at Daylesford If you would like to join one of the planned activities and learn more about Family Groups at St. Mary's please contact Pauline or Michael Prendergast on 9434 2464.

MEET LUKE, HIS GOSPEL & HIS JESUS—3 Monday evenings **26th November, 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

LADIES AUXILIARY Thank you to everyone who supported us on Fete day. Our end of year lunch will be on **Wednesday 28th November at 12 noon**, at Watsonia RSL. Friends and supporters are welcome to join us. **Tickets for the Christmas Stocking will be on sale after masses weekend 24/25th November, Drawn Sunday 2nd December after 10am mass.** Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906.

NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE MASS All welcome to our annual Mass to be celebrated on **Friday 30 Nov at 7:30pm**. At this special Mass, which many grieving families have found comforting and inspiring, we remember and pray for our deceased relatives and friends. Light refreshments served after Mass in the Gathering Space.

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. We request that those on the Communion to the Sick round, whether in home or care facilities would please extend the invitation when next visiting. PLEASE NOTE on Thursday 6th December there will be no 9.15am Mass.

2018 ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL The Annual Vinnies' Christmas Appeal will be conducted at all Masses over the 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.

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: stmarystennis56@gmail.com .

PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAM 2019 - An update of our sacrificial giving is due early 2019. To meet this a new project team is to be initiated to run the renewal program. If you would like to be a part of this short term project please advise Fr Steve or Paul Girolami 0418 959 508.

THE PLENARY Last weekend (10/11 November) we didn't have so many stay after 8.00 Mass, but we had a great number of people stay after the 10.00 Mass to watch the DVD clip of Archbishop Mark Coleridge, as he spoke to us about synodality, a concept that is new to most of us. We are being urged to become a synodal Church, which means that we are urged to shift from a place or attitude in which the ordained were seen to have the full wisdom of the Holy Spirit, in relation to what God would like for the Church, to a place where the laity is consulted and the wisdom of the laity, inspired by the Holy Spirit, is taken seriously when considering the direction of the Church. The term synodal or synodality describes a Church journeying together, listening to the Holy Spirit and open to whatever it is that the Holy Spirit is saying. There is no predetermined direction. Synod is a Greek term; *Syn* meaning together and *hodos* meaning walking this way together So, its not about someone leading, telling us where to go, we are doing it together. It's a journey – we are finding our way together. You may find some articles Fr Noel Connelly MSC, on the synodal sense of the Plenary, to be of interest. They are in the Gathering Space.

This week we will watch the DVD session with Fr Richard Lennan, a systematic theologian, as he speaks about Tradition, traditioning and traditions. We can become caught up in believing that the Church does not or should never change. Fr Lennan explores for us, the central and vital place of Tradition, with a capital T in relation to tradition, which emerges in support of Tradition, but which can change and at times should change. The Richard Lennan session is for 25 minutes. We will start straight after 8.00 and 10.00 Masses, again with the opportunity for a cuppa and conversation in the gathering Space afterwards. Last week's discussion was enthusiastic, and hopeful and made us more curious, which is important. The Holy Spirit raises up in us the wonder of what could be.

A SPIRITUALITY OF AGEING In our society which values and promotes youth, the Church has something to say about the important place of every person, including the youth and including older people, regardless of age. In fact the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Elderly is a prophetic sacrament, calling people to recognize the faith of those who have lived long and perhaps suffered much. It is in our vulnerability that we make room for God. Ageing can be a time of challenge and a time of rejoicing. We offer anyone, ageing or not, the opportunity to join us for this reflection morning, facilitated by Sr Kerin Caldwell sgs. The Spirituality of Ageing: Live now – why wait.

Brochures in Gathering Space. Date: Wed Dec 5th, Venue: St Mary's Church gathering Space, Time: 10.00 -12.00. RSVP St Mary's Parish Office by November 30th 9435 1543 or greensborough@cam.org.au. Please note NEW RSVP DATE

*Pope Francis Twitter@Pontifex - We are called to listen to what the Spirit tells us.
The Holy Spirit is always something new.*

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.

Margot Patterson Islam Considered: A Christian View 297 PAT This gives an overview of the history, beliefs, and practices of Islam and explains some of the sources of tension between the Middle East and the West. In this lively and readable book, Patterson points out the common roots and shared values of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and assists Christians in identifying the connections between all three of the great monotheistic religions. *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 a copy.

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

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY Many thanks to those who generously donated copies of Melbourne Catholic to the Library. 2017 and 2018 are now complete. We are just missing a few from 2016, and would be grateful for copies.. Thank you. Library Committee.

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

FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS 14-day Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel featuring Petra, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem for an all-inclusive price of \$5490. Departures Dates: Fr. Richard (24 March 19), Fr. Kenneth (26 May 19), Fr. Colin (31 May 19). The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. Call **03 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561** or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 'Footsteps of Faith': Encountering the Christian Tradition 19 September – 15 October 2019 Ireland, England and Italy. Tour Leaders: Rev. Dr Max Vodola, Dr Frances Baker rsm, and Rev. Prof. Austin Cooper omi AM. **Information Session: 6 Sat. 24 Nov. 11.00 – 1.00 pm** RSVP: Jenny Delahunt T: 9412 3314 E: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

SRI LANKAN PRAYER GROUP Come and join our Christmas Carol programme 2018. "Love came down" Organized by Sri Lankan prayer group of St Mary's Church Greensborough on the **1st of December at Greensborough Parish hall from 6.00pm onwards**, (entrance free & dinner will be provided). RSVP before 25/11/18. Contact: Dilshan 0415730277; Winifred 0425880611.

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

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH – Free Community Lunch – Wed 21 November, 12 Noon. Great Food at no cost. Great Company- a listening ear for those who need one. Just turn up on the day. 14 Church St. Greensborough, opposite Target Carpark entrance. See noticeboard. **Casual BBQ Lunch – Thursday 27th December 1200 – 130pm.** Informal all welcome. **Donations for Christmas Hampers Needed** Each year All Saints Anglican Church Greensborough provide a limited amount of Christmas Hampers to those who most need it. We are seeking non-perishable donations of food e.g. Christmas cakes, puddings, tinned ham, salmon, biscuits any other Christmas food items that you think may be appropriate. Please if you or can assist drop off any donation to our Christian Book Shop at 14 Church St Greensborough. Alternatively if you have a specific person that you think may be appropriate for a Christmas hamper please feel free to contact me directly via email (please do not advertise this to the public). Contact: Colleen Treacy treacyc@optusnet.com.au

First Reading Dn 12:1-3

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 15:5. 8-11. R.v.1

*(R.) Keep me safe, O God:
you are my hope.*

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
3. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness forever. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 10:11-14, 18

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of

all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Be watchful, and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand
before the Son of Man.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:24-32

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Although this is not the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the major theme found in the readings is the end of time. The events that will usher in and will take place during this time are described in apocalyptic terms. The struggles of life will culminate in a massive cosmic confrontation between the forces of good and those of evil. This last battle will be universal in scope, just like the first primordial conflict between chaos and God.

In some way, all of today's readings state that good will finally prevail over evil. In the last days Michael, the angelic warrior of God, will rise up. In the epistle, Christ is pictured seated triumphantly at the right hand of God with his enemies under his foot, a sign of conquest. Finally, in the gospel, the Son of Man, the mysterious figure from apocalyptic literature, comes in the clouds with great power and glory. All of these images are apocalyptic; each of them is quite hopeful.

We read these stories at the close of the liturgical year, because we are coming to the conclusion of our yearly telling of the story of salvation. However, apocalyptic images are timely whenever we find ourselves in the throes of the battle with evil and it appears that we will succumb. These forms will remind us that good will be able to withstand evil. From this we will conclude that we need only trust in God.

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