



ST. MARY'S PARISH

www.cam.org.au/greensborough

Member of Diamond Valley Catholic Deanery

www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne: www.cam.org.au

204 Grimshaw Street, Greensborough 3088

Ph: 9435 1543 Fax: 9432 1727 Email: greensborough@cam.org.au

Parish Priest: FR. STEVEN RIGO, Assistant Priest: FR. DONG TRAN,

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright: Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux

Parish Secretaries: Frances Olofsson, Sharon Prosser:

School Principal: Helen Anderson,

VISION STATEMENT

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

Mass times

Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 5.00 pm

Tuesday to Friday 9.15 am

Saturday 8.30 am and 6.30 pm (Vigil)

Liturgy of the Word

Monday 9.15 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.00 am, 5.45 pm

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.

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.

St Mary's Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

This Week: Fourth Sunday of Advent 23/24 Dec 2017

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



Next Week: The Holy Family 30/31 Dec 2017

Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3 Heb 11:8, 11-12; Lk 2:22-40

Gospel Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent

***Here am I, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me
according to your word.***

Luke 1:38



Trust

In first century society, women were regarded as much lower in status than men. So it is significant that the first revelation of Jesus is made to a woman - Mary. The angel Gabriel announces that Mary has won God's favour. This would have been unimaginable to many Jews at the time, yet, through Mary's trust and love, God was revealed in human form.

What's Happening in our Parish?

THANK YOU from St Vincent De Paul The Greensborough Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society express our heartfelt gratitude for parishioners' magnificent response to our Christmas Appeal. The combined total donated from St Mary's and St Thomas' at this stage, is \$11,149 and we know from experience in previous years that this sum will continue increasing well into January. While this sum of money will help us supporting people for the first half of 2018, just on 60 Christmas hampers and toys were delivered to families with young children, thanks to the magnificent donation of food items and toys from the communities of St Mary's and St Thomas' primary schools and Loyola College.

THE THREE KINGS in the Christmas story were wise men from the east, famous for their learning and wisdom. When they saw a strange star in the sky, they knew that it meant the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem. They travelled for some time following the star so that they could worship the baby King and bring him gifts. The Kings of our nativity scene will move slowly each week towards the star. They will finally arrive in the crib on 7 January on the Feast of the Epiphany which celebrates the visit of the Kings.

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

PARISH SURVEY- Thank you to all who have filled in and returned online and hard copy surveys, Some hard copies of the survey can be found out in the Gathering Space and to be returned by **31 Dec.** For those who wish to fill in the survey online, the link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StMarysParishGreensborough2017>.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS The Parish Office will be operating through January but with reduced hours. During this time if you need assistance please call 9435 1543 and we will contact you as soon as we can. There will be no Church Bulletin during the month of January.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS If you are wondering how to discuss social justice issues as you gather with others this Christmas, the following from the Edmund Rice Centre might be useful "This holiday season, many of us will be spending time with family members who are very quick to recite what they hear on talkback radio or read in the tabloid press. That's why we've put together a guide to help you speak up for social justice and human rights this Christmas and holiday season, particularly about [refugees and people seeking asylum](#), [climate change](#) and [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples](#)." See http://www.erc.org.au/surviving_christmas

PARKING You will have noticed extensive work done in Church and school grounds, to improve traffic flow and parking. This provides better traffic flow and safety for pedestrians. It has been noted however, that while there are several disabled parking positions, there are some members of our community who on a temporary or permanent basis, do not qualify for a disabled permit but still have difficulty walking the distance from some of the car parks, across our undulating terrain, to the Church. These include elderly, families with very young children and those recovering from accidents, illness or medical procedures. With this in mind we ask that at Mass times, the 12 parking spaces closest to the Church, be left free for them to use. We would like to remind anyone who is using these parking spaces that you may find it easier to enter the Church by the side door on the Presbytery side.



*Loving God,
let us, like Mary, be overwhelmed
with the deep joy of knowing
that we, too, are highly favoured
as your adopted sons and daughters.
May this cause us to truly rejoice,
and like Mary,
say 'yes' to your will
and purpose in our lives.
Amen*



The Agapè Prayer Group – The Agapè Prayer Group has concluded for 2017 and will reopen in February 2018. Enquiries: Sam on 0412 401 572. Wishing you all a joyous and peaceful Christmas with family and friends and a New Year filled with hope and love

ST MARY'S LIBRARY THE PARISH LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR ALL. Come and browse through the large selection of books, DVD's etc that are available. Great opportunity to watch a family movie during the holidays. **NEW MEMBERS MOST WELCOME.** Library catalogue is available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780 **Library catalogue available online at cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

What's Happening in our Parish - Continued...

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY Can all Library borrowers please check your loans and return any that are overdue? Extensions of loans are available when Library is open. Please note return box is at left of Library door.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE Available in the Piety store for \$4.00 and well worth a read.

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.

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 the 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 0413885 168

Community News:

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION COURSE, "THE FRINGE OF HIS GARMENT", will be presented on **24 & 25 March** at St Thomas the Apostle, Nth Greensborough. **THE FRINGE OF HIS GARMENT** is a journey of inner healing with Jesus, the doctor who heals the deepest wounds of our life. Contact: Sandra Bishop 9434 7553.

VACANT POSITIONS ON CAM WEBSITE Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

- [Retail Assistant, St Patrick's Cathedral Shop - East Melbourne](#)
- [Lifestyle Assistant, Mercy Health - Sandringham](#)
- [Parish Secretary, St Mary's Star of the Sea, Sorrento](#)
- [Pastoral Associate, Christ the Light Parish for the communities of Mernda, Whittlesea & Kinglake](#)
- [Domestic Support, St Gerard's Parish, Dandenong North](#)
- [Parish Secretary, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, Eltham](#)

Further details can be found on either the Archdiocese website at: <http://www.cam.org.au/Jobs.aspx>

DON BOSCO SUMMER CAMPS 2018 8 to 11 January, 15 to 18 January and 22 to 25 January 2018
56–62 Dromana Parade, Safety Beach Don Bosco Camps annual summer holiday camps offer a fun and exciting holiday for all young people, regardless of financial circumstances, in a safe and supportive environment. This summer there will be two camps for juniors aged 9 to 13 (8–11 January and 22–25 January) and another camp for seniors aged 13 to 16 (15–18 January). The camps are run completely by volunteer youth leaders. Transportation to Safety Beach is available from Sunbury, Essendon and Chadstone. **Cost:** \$160 **Bookings:** www.donboscocamp.org.au **Details:** 5987 2692 or dbc@donboscocamp.org.au. See noticeboard.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2017 **AT ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH, GREENSBOROUGH**

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve Vigil - Sunday 24 Dec 6.30pm and Midnight

No 5pm Mass

Carols will commence half an hour prior to the masses

Christmas Day - Monday 25 Dec 8am and 10am only

NO 5pm mass



All are most welcome to come and celebrate. Please pass this information on to those who do not regularly attend our parish. This information is also available on the Archdiocese and Deanery websites. Visit: www.cam.org.au, www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

