



Sunday 17th September 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Martin Tanti & Fr Ananda Maddineni MSFS

Parish Pastoral Associates: Sandy Starbuck & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

The Partnered Parishes of:

St. Mary's

204 Grimshaw St.,
Greensborough, 3088

Parish: 9435 1543 **Presbytery:** 7036 9329

Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam1.org.au/greensborough

Secretaries: Tanya O'Meara & Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 5.45pm-6.15pm before evening
Mass

Parish School Principal

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**
principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart & St Peter's

25 Gipson Street,
Diamond Creek 3089

Parish: 9401 6361

Email: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au

Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek

Secretary: Pat Guatta

Mass Times

Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am

St Peter's: 1st & 3rd Saturday 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

Secretary: Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass 10.30am

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.00am

Parish School Principal

Mr David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**
principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

Please send any bulletin contributions to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend bulletin. Thank you

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A,
17th September 2023.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-24-ot-year-a>

Sacred Heart, St Mary's & St Thomas the Apostle are all members of the Diamond Valley Deanery.

Diamond Valley Deanery

www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

www.cam.org.au



Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY A Day to reflect and give thanks

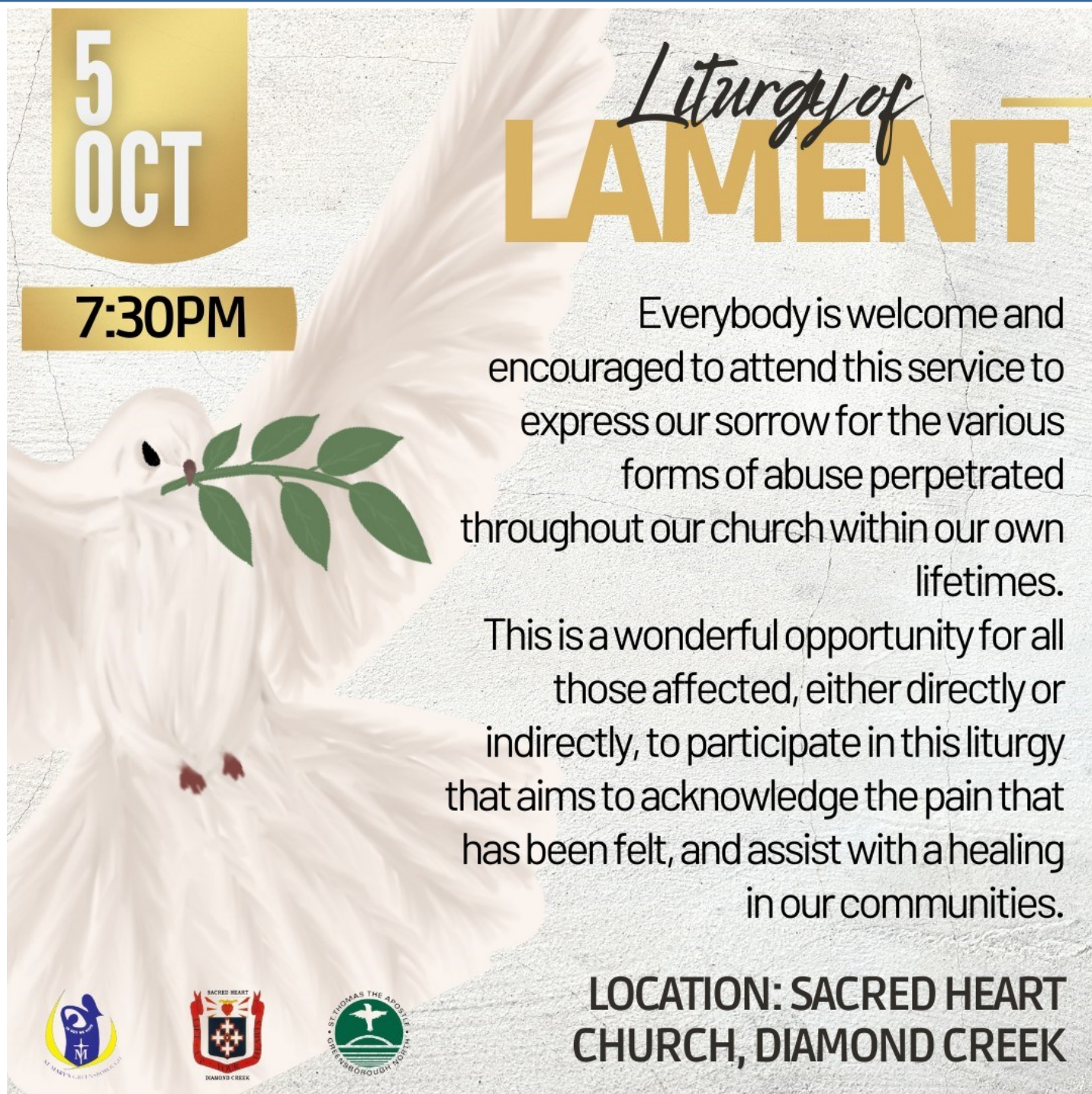
Sunday 17 September 2023 marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we give thanks to the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude Catholic Social Service Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 8,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who work together to serve and support over 211,000 people.

Catholic social services hold a unique position in social services because they serve and are part of an established, connected community of people sharing in the social mission of the Church. We thank parishes for often being at the forefront of providing services to members of their community in need.

In this challenging time of a cost of living and housing crisis, the Gospel message of love, care and welcome is needed more than ever. On this day we consider how we all have a role to play. How might we be more involved in achieving justice in our own communities? How can we advocate for structural changes to build a more equitable society where no one is pushed to the margins, and all can prosper?

17 September 2023 

Social Services Sunday
A day to reflect and give thanks




5 OCT

7:30PM

Liturgy of
LAMENT

Everybody is welcome and encouraged to attend this service to express our sorrow for the various forms of abuse perpetrated throughout our church within our own lifetimes. This is a wonderful opportunity for all those affected, either directly or indirectly, to participate in this liturgy that aims to acknowledge the pain that has been felt, and assist with a healing in our communities.

LOCATION: SACRED HEART CHURCH, DIAMOND CREEK



PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

ARCHDIOCESE TRAINING MODULE

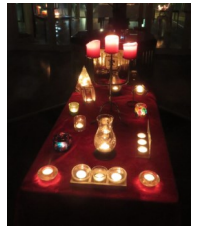
For those of you who have been unable to complete your safeguarding training module, the error has now been fixed, you need to login with your WWCC or VIT card to begin.

To access the training follow the link: <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/>

MASS BY CANDLELIGHT

You are warmly invited to join us for the final Mass by Candlelight for 2023 on Thursday, 21st September at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, North Greensborough. Celebrated in the spirit of Taize, quiet music will commence at 7.30pm, followed by Mass at 8pm.

All welcome. Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 339 or Emilia 0418 120 902



2024 Study Tour

Journey with Paul: Türkiye – Greece: 20 September – 6 October 2024

Tour Leader: Dr Rosemary Canavan

Online Information Sessions: Saturday 16, 23 September, or 7 October 2023 at 2pm

Participants have the opportunity to undertake a study unit with CTC in conjunction with the tour for credit towards an award

RSVP & further information: rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au



The Voice

Australian Catholic Bishops urge us all to respectfully consider our democratic vote in the upcoming Referendum. A robust and challenging debate is occurring. Try to listen and learn from reliable sources of information, and then decide.

From the Australian Electoral Commission Referendum Pamphlet -

Waripiri woman Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price says:

'What we need in Canberra is ears, not a Voice'

Gubrun, Wirangu/Kokatha man and football legend Eddie Betts says:

'I know the Voice won't fix everything but I feel like it's the opening of a pathway to make sure we are included and respected in decision-making on issues that impact us.'



OBTAINING COMPLETION CERTIFICATE FOR ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

- ◆ Login to training link using WWCC number www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org
- ◆ They send a 6 digit code by email.
- ◆ Enter code and verify.
- ◆ You are asked if you are clergy – click 'Next'.
- ◆ The screen below comes up.
- ◆ Click the green 'Acquired' icon.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



BAPTISMS: We pray for Aurora, Freddy and Wylder who will be welcomed into Sacred Heart community in September.

SR. MARGARET SAPSFORD UPDATE: Greetings. My warm thanks to each of you who have journeyed with me expressing interest, concern and prayerful support. My journey continues but I'm enjoying pain-free health and walking more easily each day. I'm filled with immense gratitude to God. Deeply appreciated are medical teams and all here at St Vincent's for their care and generous service. Thank you for your prayers that have and hopefully will to continue to accompany me.

One day we'll meet again. Sr Margaret

VOLUNTEERS: There are forms available in St Peter's & Sacred Heart churches (or the Parish Office) for parishioners who are interested in joining the Readers roster, Baptism Preparation Team or any other ministry. The form includes information about Working with Children Check and the Archdiocese Safeguarding Training Module. Thank you.

THANK YOU: to Arthur for repairing and painting the Sacred Heart church doors this week.

SENIOR MOMENTS: Wednesday 20th September Lunch & Scrabble with Loyola students in the Parish Centre.

Wednesday 4th October Lunch at Platter's Café Diamond Creek

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Next Meeting 7.30pm Thursday 14th September.

Suggestion box in church or Email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

SCHOOL FETE, CRAFT MARKET & CAR SHOW: : Saturday 28th October 11am-3pm. The Fete is a public event that will see us welcome the wider community to share in the fun and games and aim to raise money for our new playground.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE & SACRED HEART PARISHES FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE will once again be held from the weekend of **26th/27th of August until 1st/2nd of October**. Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women. Some of the urgent items are: *Tuna in oil (400gm); Olive oil (750ml-1L); Raw, unsalted nuts; Honey (small bottles); Dried fruit; Tahini; Spices (turmeric, cumin, chilli, garam masala, curry powder); Tomato paste; Toothbrushes & toothpaste; Laundry powder (1kg max.)*

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive the items; there will also be a basket available at Sacred Heart. There will also be list of items needed available to take home.

ASRC Foodbank currently provides free groceries to around 1000 people, including children, every week, most of whom have no income and no work rights. Every donation makes a difference.

ROSTERS:

Cleaning: Week 19th September F. Geoghegan, P. Leonard

Sunday 24th September Sacred Heart 9am

Reader: L. Armiento

Commentator: F. Ledda

Eucharistic Ministers: A. Pieper, C. Garzia

Saturday 7th October St Peter's 7.15pm

Reader: E. Gittins

Commentator: R. Nicolaisen

Eucharistic Ministers: P. Leonard

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Antonietta Nesci, Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard,

We pray for those who have died and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of September that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Terry Moran, Michael Holland, Ann Cusack, Andrew O'Dea, George Ind, Peter Thomas, Francis Goodge, Margaret & Bernie Fitzgerald, Alexander Libertino.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm-4.00pm
Thursdays 8.00am-12.00pm (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.30-3.00pm St Mary's**)
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

BAPTISMS: We pray for Hazel and Gemma who are being Baptised later this month.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE & SACRED HEART PARISHES FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE will once again be held from the weekend of **26th/27th of August until 1st/2nd of October**. Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women. Some of the urgent items are: *Tuna in oil (400gm); Olive oil (750ml-1L); Raw, unsalted nuts; Honey (small bottles); Dried fruit; Tahini; Spices (turmeric, cumin, chilli, garam masala, curry powder); Tomato paste; Toothbrushes & toothpaste; Laundry powder (1kg max.)*

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive the items; there will also be a basket available at Sacred Heart. There will also be list of items needed available to take home.

ASRC Foodbank currently provides free groceries to around 1000 people, including children, every week, most of whom have no income and no work rights. Every donation makes a difference.

INVITATION TO DISCOVER: 7 Young people in the Gospel. Participants of all ages will relate to the examples of these young people, some made negative choices, some positive and one made several mistakes but didn't give up.

9.00am—5.00pm, Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th September at St Thomas the Apostle, Greensborough North.

Adults \$40.00, Concession \$35.00. Book before the 20th September at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CKTUD>

ST THOMAS PPC: Next meeting Wednesday 20th September, 7.00pm in the Parish house.

Roster for Weekend 23rd & 24th September

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: Volunteer

Commentator: E. Sacchetta

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Leahy, J. Bohan, M. Bedford

Set Up: K. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: L. Hobson

Commentator: T. Williamson

Eucharistic Ministers: A. Letzia, A. Kerr, C. O'Brien

Set Up: C. O'Brien

St Thomas prayers are asked for the following Parishioners:

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Miran Kasalo, Peter Kernjak, John Geretschlager

We pray for those who have died recently and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of September that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Jean Watson, Maria Scordo, Gennaro Mascia, Bernadette Richardson, Norah Moylan, Jane Tremayne, Tess Natoli, Barry Williamson, Mollie Kerr, Rocco Crea, Bernadette Linehan, Vincent Mascia, Jim Hardwick Snr, Kevin Power, Antonio Lunardello, Ines Lunardello, Vincenzina Varalla John Ryan, Fr Jim Feenan, John Muscat, Dawn Morgan, Barisa Zilic, Stjpan Kernjak, Bernard Healy

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10am-4pm, Wednesdays 8am-12noon, Thursdays 10am-4pm.

Please send any bulletin contributions directly to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au or greensborough@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you

LADIES AUXILIARY: Next meeting is on Thursday 21st September at 10.15am in the gathering space.

COLUMBAN FATHERS: Thank you to the parishioners of Saint Mary's community for their generous donation of to the Columban Fathers at the collections in August. 5 people signed up to receive the Far East magazine and 7 expressed a possible willingness to help Columban Mission in the future. Thank you to everyone.

CAN YOU HELP AT WEEKEND MASSES? We urgently need Projectionists and Sacristans. Projectionists display the PowerPoint slides which enable us to join as a community in prayer and song. This role does not require setting up the slides.

Sacristans prepare the church, altar and offertory gifts before Mass, and pack up after Mass. These duties take about 10 – 15 minutes. Please contact the office on 9435 1543 if you can help. Thank you.

CHURCH SECURITY : Group members and parishioners are reminded to check that ALL doors of the church and gathering space are securely locked and all lights are off when you leave after evening Masses and meetings. Thank you.

HOLY ROSARY is recited every Thursday morning after 9.15am Mass.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The prayer shawl ministry meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays.

Enquiries: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: First Friday of month, after 9.15am Mass to 3pm. Spend whatever time you can. All Welcome.

ART EXHIBITION: Exhibition of Flow Art by renowned Diamond Valley Artist, Judy Racz will be held at St Mary's Parish Church. It's a great opportunity to purchase a unique piece of artwork at significantly reduced prices.

Take this opportunity to buy your Christmas gifts and help our church....

Come along to an exhibition and sale of flow art paintings by Judy Racz
When: September 23-24, 2023
Time: before and after mass
Venue: Gathering space at St Mary's Catholic Church

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

Be informed, inspired and entertained



St Mary's Library is currently undertaking a stocktake. Can borrowers please check your shelves and return any books you have had for more than a month or two? Please be assured that there are no penalties for lost or late books. We want to make your Library as efficient and useful as possible. (St Mary's Library Committee)

If the Library is not open please ask a priest or sacristan to open the room and you can record your loans on the form provided. Please return loans in one month through the chute outside the Library.



Access to the catalogue is available at: cloud.collectorz.com/247780

PLEASE PRAY FOR

September Baptisms:

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:

Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan, Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky, Rosie Bray, Lois Jones

Recently Deceased:

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

David Hyland, Philip Hedger, John Gallagher, Dason Fernando, Marie Graham, Jim Danaher, Hamilton Todd, Gerald Attygalle, Don Lippiatt, Harold White, Catherine Darcy, Rondal Gravell, Joseph Fernandez, Matt Cashin, Edgar Reid, Laurie Sarjeant, Laurie Boyle, Harold White, Gloria Lockington, Avel Lucas, Christine Clancy, Francis Meehan, Elenor Neeson, Phyllis Fitzgerald, Valerie Willis, Samuel Lentini, Charles Goral Snr, Davina Ann Bongiorno, Joan Taylor, Kevin Fitzgerald, Maree Patterson, Bess Nealy, Anne Hassett, Joseph Ribarich

John Monagle, Wilfred Herrick, Gabriel de Robillard, G.H. Pitts, Eileen Knight, Eileen & Ian Cameron, Christine Ravesi, Thelma Black, Harry White, Merna Jenkinson

Brian McCormick, Patricia Doyle, Fred Batchelor, Paula Pointu, John Smith, William Godfrey, John Armstrong, Marco Parisi, Jack Kenny, Marie Rogan, Bill Pryor, Gerald Attygalle, Patricia Considine, Gustavo Cardamone, Marie Peevers, George Laux, Laura Ritchie, Nicole Hanlon, Erlinda Moroz, Jim Fleming, Dorothy Pryor, Lynette Brown, Kathleen Walsh, Clem Collinan, Reg Darmody, Margaret Herbert

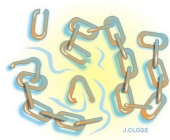
ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

HEART OF LIFE: Waiting at the Well - 4x Thu, 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct, 10am–12.30pm (in-person event) Carole Carmody rsm, Julie Adam

This series offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Places limited.

Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well-series/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne.

Cost \$100 for the series or \$30 per session.



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Being forgiven is aligned to being freed from slavery in this week's gospel reading. Forgiveness and freedom are key values in 'the kingdom', where the chains of guilt and debt cannot withstand the force of persistent, heart-felt forgiveness. In the real world (especially in war-torn countries), forgiveness is a radical and even outrageous option. True forgiveness is a divine attribute, but one which is within our grasp – according to Jesus.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

17 September 2023

First Reading Sir 27:30–28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the **Lectionary for the Mass** ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from **The Psalms, A New Translation**, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the **Jerusalem Bible**, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.