

Sunday 22nd September 2024

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** 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: Lisa & Libby

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: Lisa & Libby

Mass Times

Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am

St Peter's: 1st Saturday 7.15pm

Sunday: Mass 9.00am

Reconciliation Times

Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am

Acting Parish School Principal

Mrs Gina Murphy **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

Mrs Trish Vanderkolk **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

On the first Friday of every month, at St Thomas Parish at 7.00pm we will have Eucharistic Adoration along with confession, everyone welcome.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: You must become a servant of all

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law on love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life.

Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B, 22nd September 2024.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-25-year-b-2024>

Next week: 26th Sunday in Ordinary time.



Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

www.cam.org.au

St Mary's Facebook page

facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/



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.

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS continued

Dear Parishioners of our Partnered Parishes,

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has scheduled to visit our partnered parishes for the weekend commencing Friday 18th till Sunday 20th of October. He will celebrate the Masses on these days, visit our schools and be at meetings we have scheduled for him. You are most welcome to meet with him on the public occasions, **such as the Masses, and especially at the Parish Forum which is to be held on Saturday 19th at 10.30 in St. Thomas' Church.**

Other meetings are scheduled that will engage **various groups** of our parishes. Below is a brief timetable of his visit, and the groups with which he will be meeting. **If you are in any of the groups, you are encouraged to attend those meetings with the Archbishop.**

Please mark these dates in your diaries and make use of the opportunity to meet and speak with our Archbishop.

Fr. Steven Rigo

FRIDAY 18 October	9.00 Archbishop arrives: Met by Parish Priest, Steven Rigo at Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek. Meeting with Parish Priest to talk through the visitation, personal well-being and the Parish.
	10.00 Mass at Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek with school children and tour of school with its new developments.
	11.30 Morning Tea and meeting at St. Thomas the Apostle with Principals, Deputies, RELs (three primary schools + Loyola College) and PP.
Afternoon	1.00 Lunch followed by meeting with Parish staff – secretaries and PAs at St. Mary's (Inc. inspection of registers of the 3 parishes)
	2.30 Free time
	4.30 Meeting with those involved in key ministries in St. Mary's Gathering Space: Safeguarding committee; liturgical ministries; catechetical ministries; outreach and works, baptism teams, social justice groups, music ministry, ministry to the sick, sacristans, Ladies Auxiliary, MAD, Prayer shawl ministry, LAMP, RCIA, Alpha, FISH, Passionist Family Groups, Webmaster committee & etc.
Evening	6.30 Meeting and Dinner: St. Mary's Gathering Space – Parish Pastoral Councils, Finance Committees & Partnered Parishes Plenary Discussion Group.
SATURDAY 19 October Morning	10.00 Australian Church Library Association Annual Meeting in St. Mary's church Gathering Space
	10.30 Parish Forum (no clergy) in St. Thomas' church for Sacred Heart, St. Thomas & St. Mary's parishioners. An Opportunity for parishioners to speak with the Archbishop about priorities, goals and challenges. Questions posed: Tell me where you find Jesus in the life of your parish (What is evangelization)? Think about how and where you would like to see the Parish in 5-10 years, and HOW are WE going to get there (What is Mission)?
Afternoon	12.00 Lunch: St Thomas Presbytery with PP
	1.00 Meeting with Parish Priest at St. Mary's
	2.00 Anointing of the Sick at Deloraine Aged Care (accompanied by Parish Priest):
	3.30 Free time
Evening	6.30 Vigil Mass at St. Mary's, Greensborough
	7.30 Dinner with young people in St. Mary's Gathering Space
SUNDAY 20 October	9.00 Mass at Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek with Morning Tea
	10.30 Mass at St. Thomas, North Greensborough with Morning tea
Afternoon	12.30 Lunch with Clergy at St. Thomas
	1.30 Archbishop Departs

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

SAFEGUARDING

If you need to contact the combined safeguarding committee please email: diamondcreekgreensboroughsafeguarding@cam.org.au

Also Tara McNamara (Safeguarding Officer from the CAM Safeguarding Unit) Tara.McNamara@cam.org.au

Just a reminder: if you volunteer in more than one Parish, could you please make sure that each parish you work in is registered with the department of Justice.

Dear Friends/Parishioners of St. Mary's, St. Thomas and Sacred Heart

Time has come for me to take leave of you all and to move on to the next phase of my Priestly Ministry. Last week Vicar General Fr. Tony Kerin called me to convey the decision of the Archbishop, asking me to take up the Pastoral care of the Airport West Parish (St. Christopher and St. Augustine) from 24th September, 2024. It's always hard to say goodbye but nevertheless we have to move on in life.

It has been an absolute privilege serving you all as the Assistant Priest for the past 17 months. I have fond memories which I cherish for the rest of my life. I carry my Pastoral Experience from here to my new assignment at Airport West Parish. Fr. Steve and all of you made my life very enriching and memorable. Let us be united in prayers as I take up the new responsibility.

May the blessings of the Lord be upon us all

With grateful heart I remain

Fr. Ananda Maddineni MSFS



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

Welcome friends, to the **Season of Creation** which starts each year on 1 September, the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**, and ends on 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. The Season of Creation is a time to "put right" our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion and change of lifestyle. It is a global ecumenical celebration where we pray and act together as a Christian family for our common home.

The symbol for 2024 is **the firstfruits of hope** (Rom 8:19-25). Hope is given to us by God as a protection and guard against futility. Only through hope may we realise the gift of freedom in fullness. Freedom to act not only to achieve enjoyment and prosperity, but to reach the stage in which we are free and responsible. Freedom and responsibility enable us to make the world a better place. Only when we work together with creation can the firstfruits of hope emerge.

For more information please visit:
seasonofcreation.org

"To hope and act with creation means above all to join forces and to walk together with all men and women of good will." Pope Francis, 1 September 2024



Migrant Youth Festival

Celebrating the 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

"God walks with His people"

29 September 2024 · Cathedral Hall, ACU Melbourne

- 9:00 am** Registration, Keynote Address, A Conversation with Archbishop Peter, Group Activities, Lunch and Concert at **Cathedral Hall, ACU**
- 1:30 pm** Pilgrim Walk from ACU to **St Patrick's Cathedral**
- 2:00 pm** Rosary Procession around the Cathedral
- 3:00 pm** Migrant and Refugee Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and migrant chaplains of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

Scan the QR code to register or visit trybooking.com/CSAYK
Registrations close **EXTENDED UNTIL 15 SEPTEMBER!**

Tickets **\$30**

The Migrant Youth Festival is supported by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne



STANDING, SITTING AND KNEELING DURING MASS

For anyone who is new in recent years to the parishes of St Thomas or Sacred Heart or a visitor, you will have noticed that people in our congregations adopt different postures during the Eucharistic Prayer. Some stand, some kneel and some sit. We thought it would be of interest to explain the history within our parishes of these differences.

We remember the first celebration of the Eucharist was at the Last Supper, with Jesus saying to the apostles: "Do this in memory of me". In the early church the Eucharist was initially celebrated as a common meal among believers. Before long the liturgy around the core of the Eucharist developed, with readings from scripture and remembrance of the words and acts of Jesus. This came out of the tradition from the Old Testament of praying in the synagogue or temple. People stood during the celebration of the Eucharist. It was only in the Middle Ages that kneeling was introduced.

During the 20th century enormous change occurred in the ways we celebrated the Mass, coinciding with the Second Vatican Council. The priest faced the congregation from the altar. The Mass was said in the local language of the people. These changes enabled the people to see and understand the liturgy, to visibly connect them with the priest and to be more actively involved. The Communion rail was taken away, removing a perceived separation between the people and the priest. People received Communion standing up. Three new Eucharistic Prayers were approved. The music changed and new instruments were heard. New churches from the 1960s and 1970s were designed differently from the older style. The congregation often sat in a semi-circular arrangement facing the altar as the central focus for the Mass, where the bread and wine became the Body and Blood of Christ. The shape of this gathering space encouraged the congregation to be reminded that they were a community of faith and that they gathered together to express that faith. The design of the churches of St Thomas and Sacred Heart sits within this new style.

In keeping with the new thinking about liturgy, the first parish priest of St Thomas, Father Kevin McIntosh, brought in a change to practice during the Eucharist Prayer. He proposed that the congregation should stand during the whole Prayer. He believed that this would enable full, conscious and active participation during this most sacred part of the Mass. When we stand, we engage directly with the priest standing at the altar. We do not pray personally at this time: we look up and bear witness, fully connected with the words and actions of the priest, who stands in the place of Jesus. There was also a practical reason for the change. Members of the congregation were sitting on individual chairs, without kneelers, making kneeling more difficult and providing the unsafe possibility of chairs moving when people leant on them to assist standing. The change was accepted and standing became the accepted practice at St Thomas for many years. Sacred Heart Parish adopted the same practice independently after moving into their newly completed church in the late 1990s. The children in our primary schools have also followed this practice.

Over time some people have chosen to sit or kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer, for various reasons. We recognise the physical needs of those who are frail, elderly or incapacitated, who may find it difficult to stand, particularly for long periods. Other people may come from different backgrounds and traditions where kneeling is the norm. Some may hold to the traditions of the past when people knelt during this time of the Mass. Standing during the Eucharistic Prayer will continue to be the practice at St Thomas and Sacred Heart and we invite all members of the congregation to join this practice. When we move together it is a sign of unity as a community before God. However, we believe that all members of the congregation should feel comfortable to choose when to stand, sit or kneel during the Mass. The important nature of the posture is that it is reverent before God. This reverence comes not from any rules but from our hearts.

The Combined Liturgy Team of St Thomas and Sacred Heart Parishes



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



Catholic Theological College

Sign up for one or more short, online presentations.

Engaging Your Faith: October 2024

Theology, Scripture, Meditation, Spirituality, Science & Faith.

Choose what interests you from \$25 per session.

For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

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



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday 12.00pm-3.00pm, Wednesday 9.30am-1.00pm Friday 12.30pm-2.30pm*

Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au

NO LITURGY OF THE WORD FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

HELP NEEDED: Help is required to clean the hall toilets every Friday afternoon. This task will take less than an hour and is a paid role. Please contact the parish office for further information.

SENIOR MOMENTS: 2nd October, Mr Rooster Chicken & Chips. 12.00pm

16th October, Scrabble and lunch in the parish centre.

HALL HIRE: Sacred Heart Hall is for hire. For all enquiries regarding cost and terms and conditions contact Alison Pieper on 0417571535 or alisonpieper52@gmail.com

SACRED HEART PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

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

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE & SACRED HEART PARISHES FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE

This will once again be held from the weekend of **25th/26th of August until 5th/6th of October**. Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women. Some of the urgent items are: *Tuna in oil of any size (95g, 185g or 425g), Tomato paste, Coconut cream or milk, Honey, Full cream UHT milk 1 litre, Instant coffee / black tea bags, Sweet / savoury biscuits, Basmati rice, Tinned vegetables (peas, carrots, corn kernels), Oil (750ml – 1 litre), Dried legumes (chickpeas, split red lentils, yellow split peas), Spices (cumin, turmeric, chilli, coriander), Laundry powder 1kg packs, Laundry liquid 1 litre, Unsalted dried nuts, Dried fruit.*

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive the items; there will also be a basket/box 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. <https://asrc.org.au>

ROSTERS:

Cleaning: Week 24th September: Claire & Frank Ledda

Sunday 29th September Sacred Heart 9am

Reader: D. Bayan **Commentator:** M. Farrell

Eucharistic Ministers: A. Pieper, P. Leonard

St Peter's Saturday 5th October 7.15pm

Reader: Aminda **Commentator:** M. Frisby

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

Tony Watson, Bernie Bourke, Lucy & Pat Cassin, Mervyn Bourke, Antonietta Nesci, Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Joan Moran, Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Jacob Draper, George Garzia, Alan Beeby, Kath Rickard, Martin Leonard, Fran Peckham, and the residents of Wattle Glen & Diamond Creek Care Community Aged Care Facilities.

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:

Terry Moran, Michael Holland, Ann Cusack, Andrew O'Dea, George Ind, Peter Thomas, Francis Goodge, Margaret & Bernie Fitzgerald, Alexander Libertino, Mary Cecelia Ratnam, Josephine Louisa Ratnam, Francis Ratnam, Pearl & David Lawrence.

SACRED HEART MEN'S NIGHT

- Sacred Heart Hall, 25 Gipson St, Diamond Creek
- \$45, Classic Spit Roast dinner, & dessert
- Vegetarian options
- BYO Alcohol and soft drinks
- Bookings Essential via QR Code below
- Bookings can be individual and groups welcome!

Arrive 6:30pm for 7pm start
Friday 18th October

Bookings Via link or QR:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CUAPH>

GUEST SPEAKERS

George Schickert - Swap 'n Go Founder
Business and Entrepreneurship

Adam Smith - Aust Defence Force & Vic Police
Leadership & Motivational Speaker

Rachid Imam - Master of Ceremonies

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday 11am-3pm, Wednesday 8am-12.00pm, Thursday 9am-3pm, Friday 9am-12pm*

SANDY'S OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00am-5.30pm and Friday 9.00am-5.30pm*

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LITURGY OF THE WORD WEDNESDAY

ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE: As our two partnered parishes are organising Food Drives for people Seeking Asylum, a reminder that St Mary's parish has a year long collection. The box is in the Gathering Space - near the front door. Especially needed are tuna (in oil), milk, tinned fruit, tea, coffee, detergent, soap powder. The Centre is very grateful to St Mary's for the food and toilet-ries, that continues to be donated.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP: We have a day trip to Kilmore Races organised for Tuesday 15th October, 2 seats still available: call Gerald-ine. 048 148 896.

LADIES AUXILIARY: Thank you to everyone who supported our Morning Tea on Wednesday morning. Combined Parishes Car Raffle tickets on sale after Masses each weekend until sold out. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 Lucy 9435 6990

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

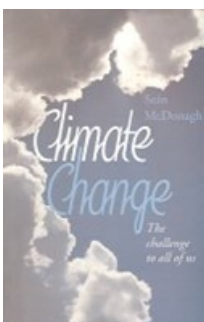
Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan, Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky, Rosie Bray, Peter Miles, Leon Gray, Amparp Sarmiento, Fr Terry Kean, Maureen Carr, Garry York, Enlee Lew, Rachael Angelotti, Janice Duffell, Mary Bowler

Recently Deceased:

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

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, Florence Penry, John Alexander, Valentina Moore, Br. John Fillingham OFM, Anne Cantwell, Peter McClellan, Joseph Gogola, Garry Mansfield, Linda Nihill, Jack Hawshaw, Michael Monteleone, Onofrio Saltalamacchia, Marie Kelly, Roma Beach, Linda Nihill, Kate Williams, Angelo Rizzi, Maria Canale, Isabel Tippet, Carmel Lee, Michael Considine, Beryl Trenergy, Maria Biagioni, Victoria Santos, Marie Purcell, Kit Finnigan, Sr Chrysostom Ashe, Doris Rooney, Mons Bernie O'Regan, Dr Sukumaran, Lionel Fonseca, Aileen Pettigrove, Beryl Trenergy, Joseph Quigley, Leslie Waldron, Eileen Fleming, Nell Hawe, Ian Comrie, Alice Anderson, Mary Morton, Ray Davine, Shirley Finley, Fergus O'Neill, Frances Fernandez, Azucena Flores, Alfred Pacey, Luis Francisco, Phillip Lockington, Sr. Brigid Hussey, Frank Bainbridge, Christopher Cranenberg, Maria Vallejo, Eileen McManus, Rosalind Vaz

Be informed, inspired and entertained.



This month we celebrate **Season of Creation 2024**. The Library is presently displaying books on environmental protection from our collection.



Father Sean McDonagh is an Irish Columban missionary and eco-theologian.

"We have an obligation to make sure that the world we hand on to future generations is as fruitful, as fertile and as beautiful as the one we ourselves inherited".

The Library holds several of his books.

cloud.collectorz.com/247780

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday 8.00am-11.45am, Wednesdays 12.30pm,-4.00pm, Thursdays 8.00am-11.30am, Friday 8.00am-4.00pm* **Tuesday 12.30pm-3.30pm, Sacred Heart, Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.00-3.00pm St Mary's)**

BAPTISMS: Please keep in your prayers Christian and Finnley who are being baptised later this weekend

BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCH: Spring has finally arrived and we feel more inclined to get out and enjoy the warmer weather and to socialise with friends and family.

Please join us for our next gathering when we meet in the St Thomas' Parish Meeting Room for a light lunch on Thursday 26th September at 12.30pm.

If you are able to join us this month, please contact Sue McMahon (0418173209) or sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com

We only need a few people to bring a plate to share each month, so if you wish to bring a plate this month, please also let Sue know.

For everyone else, we ask for a \$5 Donation \$5. We look forward to seeing you on the 26th.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE & SACRED HEART PARISHES FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE

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

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Roster for Weekend 28th & 29th September

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: A. Fernando **Commentator:** S. McMahon **Eucharistic Ministers:** K. Salm, M. Bedford

Set Up: K. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: L. Hobson **Commentator:** M. Bosco **Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Riordan, C. Riordan

Set Up: J. Kerr

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

Miran Kasalo, John Geretschlager, Dominic Cambareri, Fr Terry Kean, Vince Granata, Wil Watson, Bernie Murray

We pray for those who have died recently including Fr Des Magennis & Fr Gerard O'Collins 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,

Varisa Zilic, Stjpan Kernjak, Bernard Healy, Shirley McCarthy



LECTIONARY ART & REFLECTION by Jenny Close

In the logic of God's *basileia* the first will be last and the least will be greatest. In this reading from Mark's gospel Jesus shows how this ideal works in real terms by giving 'first' and 'greatest' status to a little child. Jesus confounds the pretensions of his disciples by an appeal to the heart when he affectionately hugs the child to himself.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

22 September 2024

First Reading Wis 2:12, 17-20

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man,
since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the
law

and accuses us of playing false to
our upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he
himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son,
God will take his part

and rescue him from the clutches of
his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and
with torture,

and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have
his word for it.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayers;
listen to the words of my mouth. *(R.)*
2. For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. *(R.)*
3. But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. *(R.)*

Second Reading Jas 3:16-4:3

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds
sown in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition,
you find disharmony, and wicked things of
every kind being done; whereas the wisdom
that comes down from above is essentially
something pure; it also makes for peace,
and is kindly and considerate; it is full of
compassion and shows itself by doing
good; nor is there any trace of partiality or
hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they

work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear
fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in
the desires fighting inside your own selves?
You want something and you haven't got
it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an
ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you
fight to get your way by force. Why you don't
have what you want is because you don't
pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it,
it is because you have not prayed properly,
you have prayed for something to indulge
your own desires.

Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

*God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our
Lord Jesus Christ.*

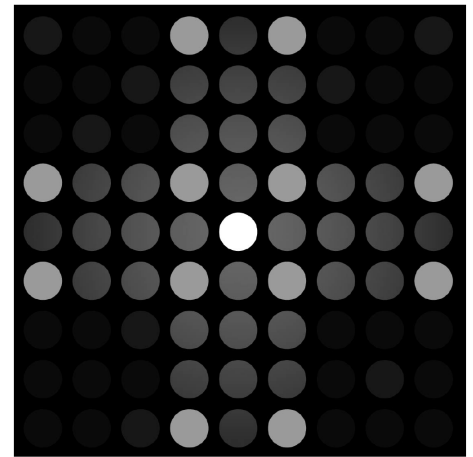
Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 9:30-37

*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity
... All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants
of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
disciples made their way through Galilee;
and he did not want anyone to know,
because he was instructing his disciples;
he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be
delivered into the hands of men; they will
put him to death; and three days after he
has been put to death he will rise again.'
But they did not understand what he said
and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he
was in the house he asked them, 'What
were you arguing about on the road?'
They said nothing because they had been
arguing which of them was the greatest. So
he sat down, called the Twelve to him and
said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must
make himself last of all and servant of all.'
He then took a little child, set him in front
of them, put his arms round him, and said
to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these
little children in my name, welcomes me;
and anyone who welcomes me welcomes
not me but the one who sent me.'



Reflection by Nick Brodie

Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in
the disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid
of asking too many questions, they
almost seem to prefer being ignorant
rather than admit the limits of their
own understanding. Strangely, this self-
imposed ignorance does not prevent
them from posturing for position. What
a warning for the Church this episode
seems to offer!

While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is
often interpreted in terms of the virtue
of humility, the other aspect of Jesus'
point is easily overlooked. Every
Christian is called to be 'last of all and
servant of all'. Ours is a faith of humble
service.

The scriptures repeatedly make the
point that faith is always embedded in
creation. A mountain, a road, a town,
and a house all frame the action in this
episode. Because the Church exists
wherever its members go our beliefs
and prayers are not restricted to church
buildings. We take our faith on roads,
into our homes and towns, and even up
mountains.

Given this, our faith compels us to have
a special care for all of creation. As
Jesus clearly intimates, by humbly
serving created things we express our
love of the Creator who made them all.

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