



Sunday 11th March 2018

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Assistant Priests: Fr. Dong Tran & Fr. Tao Pham

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Pastoral Worker: Sr. Margaret Sapsford

Pastoral Worker: Christina O'Connor

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

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

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 17th & 18th March

SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers: P. Leonard, C. Bell., T. Sirianni, Y. O'Brien, J. Pittle

Reader: B. Flynn

Commentator: J. Hoyne

Welcoming: P. Thomas

Set-Up: P. Leonard

Counters: C. Bell, F. Peckham, Y. O'Brien

Cleaners: A. Risdale

ST. PETER'S 7:15pm: Next Mass Saturday 7th April, 2018

Special Ministers: E. Gittins, Y. O'Brien, R. Nicolaisen

Reader: P. Leonard

Commentator: P. Keenan

Set-Up: R. Nicolaisen

ST. THOMAS the APOSTLE 6:00pm & 10:30am:

Special Minsters 6:00pm: K. Salm, A. McCarthy, C. & L. Leahy

Special Minsters 10:30am: D. Nixon, F. Landy, A. Letzia, R. Piccolo, R. Rendina

6:00pm: Reader: M. Gargan

Commentator: D. Haesler

Set-Up: M. McKenzie

10:30am: Reader: L. Hobson

Commentator: A. Tomasiello

Set-Up: C. O'Brien

Counters: J. Bohan, B. Riordan, A. McCarthy

Cleaners: 24th March: K. Coen, K. Coen

DATES FOR THE DIARY

March

Wed. 21 Senior Moments Parish Centre 12 noon BYO lunch

April

Wed. 4 Bus Trip From Diamond Creek Station to Laurimar for Lunch

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

Diamond Creek: Angela Caccetta, Thelma Gill, Noela Atkinson, Lyn Stark, Novan Nguyen, Kay Christian, Catherine Leonard, Di Galea, Les Gale, June Saunders, Marjana Susec.

Greensborough North: Noel Casemore, Jo, Helene Grech.

We pray for Fr. Joseph Micallef PE and Fr Peter McGrath who died this week, and for those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of March that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom

Les Ginnivan, Madeleine Blake, Laurence Dunn, John McGauran, Kath Glennen, Sydney Raymond, Michael Pase, Carl Troiano, Rollo Jackson, Elizabeth Salm, Antonio Gallo, Kathleen Sheehan.

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENIOR MONMENTS Wednesday 21st March. BYO light lunch to share 12pm at Parish Centre.

Wednesday 4th April Bus Trip from Diamond Creek station to Laurimar for lunch.

RIP Fr. Peter McGrath CP, founder of the Passionist Family Group Movement, died peacefully on 3rd March. He had been unwell for some time. We have much to thank him for. May he rest in peace.

COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS collect your vouchers when you shop and put them in the box in the Gathering Space at St Thomas and Sacred Heart.

DIAMOND CREEK ANTIOCH REUNION: Sunday 18th March, 12.00 to 5pm at Westerfolds Park, Porter St. Picnic Area, off Fitzsimons Lane, Templestowe, which has a covered BBQ area. Melways Map 33, E3. BYO everything - and some memorabilia. Antioch ran in the Parish for approximately 10 years during the 80's/90's. We would like to see as many of the past Antiochers together as possible. Please pass this message on to anyone you know who was part of our Group. For more info: Cam 0403 136457 Ronda on 0427 331006

ST VINCENT de PAUL Diamond Valley Region is organizing a "Community Sleepout" on Saturday 7th - Sunday 8th July to raise funds to support single parents and their children who are experiencing hardship in the Diamond Valley Region. The committee are in desperate need of volunteers to join the Committee to assist with the coordination and continuation of this fantastic event. The next meeting will be on Monday 19th March at the Greensborough Football Clubrooms at 5.30pm. For info or to RSVP your attendance to the meeting contact John ellis 0437 490 389 or diamvalley.rc.cnc@svdp-vic.org.au

FORMATION IN FAITH

RCIA: If you are interested in learning more about your Catholic faith or perhaps looking at becoming a member of the Catholic Church please contact Mandy through either of the Parish Offices

LENTEN PROGRAM: continues on Wednesdays during Lent after 9.15am Mass in Sacred Heart Church. All welcome

DO YOU NEED HEALING? You are invited to reach out and touch **The FRINGE of HIS GARMENT**, a 2 day journey of inner healing, 9am-5pm, Sat 24 & Sun 25 March, at St Thomas the Apostle, parish hall, Greensborough North. A donation of \$50 is appreciated, students \$30. Book before 19 March via: online at <https://www.trybooking.com/TKLD> and use Promo Code CSOE for 10% discount email: melbourne@schoolofevangelisation.org.au phone Rose 0411 650 339 Retreat presented by the Catholic School of Evangelisation

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE in this months magazine the articles look at the many forms of suffering that occur in peoples lives. We all need help and support at times we just need to know where to turn for this help. The magazine is available in the Gathering Space at \$4 per copy.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held at St. Mary's during Lent on Friday nights commencing continuing to the 23rd March at 7.30pm. All welcome

HEALING MASS will be celebrated on Thursday 15th March at Our Lady Help of Christians, Henry Street, Eltham. The evening will commence at 7.30pm with Praise & Worship followed by Mass. Prayer Ministry and supper will be available. For further details, please contact Emilia 9435 7475 or Rose 9434 3962.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION HOSTS: Gluten, Wheat, Dairy & Corn Free Communion Hosts are available for those who require them. Please see Father before Mass to arrange.

WALK FOR JUSTICE —PALM SUNDAY

Walk for Justice for Refugees will take place on Sunday 25th March Commencing with Prayer Service at St. Patricks at 1pm for where you will walk to the State Library to commence the **Walk**. If you can't make the Prayer Service activities will commence at the State Library from 1.30pm as a lead up to the Speakers and Walk. More info at www.refugeeadvocacynetwork.org

EASTER LITURGIES

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Wednesday 21st March 7pm St Thomas the Apostle **Thursday 22nd March 7.30pm** St Mary's

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thursday 29th March 7.30pm Sacred Heart

Good Friday The Lord's Passion

Friday 30th 3pm Sacred Heart **Friday 30th 3pm** St. Thomas the Apostle

Easter Vigil

Saturday 31st March 7.30pm St Thomas the Apostle (replaces 6pm Mass)

Easter Sunday

Sunday 1st April 9am Sacred Heart **Sunday 1st April 10.30am** St Thomas the Apostle

EXPLANATION OF COLLECTIONS

In every Parish, there are two collections and two separate accounts,

The Presbytery collection/account (1st coll.) provides the pastoral stipend and living costs of the Priest.
The Church collection/account (2nd coll.) provides for the maintenance, office and staff expenses of the Parish

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.

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B

11 March 2018

First Reading 2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke: through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."' "

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 136. R. v.6

***(R.) Let my tongue be silenced,
if ever I forget you!***

1. By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps. (R.)
2. For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! (R.)

Second Reading Eph 2:4-10

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

***God loved the world so much, he gave us
his only Son,***

***that all who believe in him might have
eternal life.***

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 3:14-21

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal
life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not
be lost

but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be
saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned
already,

because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth
comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does
is done in God.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

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