



Sunday 23rd July 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



Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 23rd July 2023.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-16-ot-year-a>

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



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

SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN

To all of our valued volunteers, it is a requirement that as a volunteer in our parishes, all volunteers are required to have a current WWCC and you also need to complete the safeguarding training module.

Could you please assist us by completing the online module as soon as possible.



- Is your WWCC currently up to date?
- Is the parish you volunteer at listed with the department of Justice?
- Have you completed your safeguarding training?
- Make sure where you volunteer is registered with the: <https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/>
- You are required to complete the Safeguarding Essential Training. Once complete please send in your certificate to the parish you volunteer in.
- To access the training go to: <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>
- ***If you need help please contact your Parish office.***

A MINISTERS OF THE WORD (READERS) FORMATION EVENING

A Formation evening will be held at St Mary's Church Greensborough on Thursday 10 August at 7.30pm for our partnered parishes.

If you are interested in proclaiming the Word of God and reading the Prayers of the Faithful at weekend Masses, please consider attending this session which will include the historical and spiritual background to the ministry and the opportunity for practical input and feedback.

Current Readers are also invited to attend.

Please contact Marian 0409 591 527 for more information.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED

Catholic Social Teaching has been described as perhaps the most important contribution the Catholic Church has made to the world community during the last two centuries, a cohesive body of thought ratified by our Popes, and which is drawn from the Scriptures, and linked to Society's ever-changing situations. Various Catholic Organisations have been applying its teachings for some time and we believe it's in the interests of subsidiarity for us as parishioners of our partnered parishes to explore practical ways that we can involve ourselves in this wonderful concept.

Our purpose would be to look at the way changes and developments that are occurring, or have already occurred, in our Society impact on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and to attempt to deal with that impact in practical ways, using the experience and expertise of organisations currently working in the field of Social Justice.

We are inviting any of our parishioners who feel that they would like to be more informed and involved in this mission to contribute to the common good in our society.

To find out more, email Ted on mailto:tedthejenk@bigond.com

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

SAINT COLUMBAN'S MISSION SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners of St Mary's parish, Greensborough and St. Thomas the Apostle parish, North Greensborough, I am Fr. George Hogarty, a Columban Missionary who has worked in South Korea in Asia and in both Chile and Peru in South America. On the weekends of the 29th & 30th of July and the 5th & 6th of August 2023 in order to promote the Columban Far East magazine. Hence, I will be sharing some of my experience of the work of the Missionary Society of Saint Columban, or the Columbans as we are generally known.

The Columbans were founded by two Irish Diocesan priests, Frs. Edward Galvin and John Blowick in 1916 and were originally known in Ireland as the Maynooth Mission to China. However, two years later when Rome gave canonical approval on the 29th of June 1918 to the original Maynooth Mission, it took the name The Missionary Society of St. Columban after its patron Saint Columbanus, the Irish missionary monk who evangelized pagan Europe in the sixth century. St. Columbanus or Columban is distinct from St. Columba, another Irish missionary Monk who went to the Island of Iona in Scotland roughly around the same time. Columban is famous for his words *Cristi Simus, non nostri* which is translated as We are Christ's, not our own.

Since 1918, Columban priests, and later the Columban Sisters and Columban Lay Missionaries inspired by the missionary spirit of St. Columban have been crossing boundaries of language and culture to bring Christ to the poor and marginalized and to protect creation.

I hope you will consider becoming readers of our Columban Far East magazine that shares stories of the joys and challenges of the different Christian communities in the 16 countries where Columbans work. By subscribing to our Far East Magazine, you will be able to inform yourselves of the work of the Columban Fathers, Sisters and Lay Missionaries and the peoples we live and work with and possibly become partners in helping the growth of the Churches in Asia, the Pacific and Latin-America where Columbans minister. I offer my thanks for your willingness to listen to my stories about the spirit and work of the Columbans. Until the weekends of the 29th & 30th of July and the 5th & 6th of August God bless.

Fr. George G. Hogarty SSC.



LPFA PROUDLY PRESENTS

Trivia & Entertainment Night

SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

OLYMPIC HOTEL, PRESTON

7PM - LATE

\$80 PER PERSON

ADULTS ONLY

TICKET INCLUDES 3 COURSE MEAL

DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC FROM THE 80S AND 90S

COURTESY OF 'LOUIE AND THE PARTY BOYZ'



WWW.LOYOLA.VIC.EDU.AU/TICKETS

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



BAPTISMS: we pray for Maximus and Oliver who will be welcomed into Sacred Heart community in July.

FAMILY GROUPS: Thank you to Frank for organizing Sacred Heart Family Groups to volunteer at Diamond Creek Rotary Tram Café. They are rostered on again Sunday 30th July. If you are out walking, please support their efforts. Portion of profits forwarded to parish bank account by Rotary so far is \$500.

THANK YOU to the generous parishioner who donated a new vacuum cleaner for the church.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING 13th JULY.

Agenda items discussed at recent meeting included

- The Partnered Parishes Privacy Policy.
- Ted proposes to encourage Partnered Parish parishioners to come together and explore practical applications for Social Justice issues. Information to be in Newsletter.
- Take the Way of the Gospel Forum 25th May attended by Steve, Sr Margaret, Marg, Frank, Brian and Pat.
- Hall Hire Agreement Terms and Conditions.
- School Advisory Council update on upcoming School Review, fundraising for new playground and Twilight Fete 28th October.
- Extension of Sacred Heart PPC term of office date to align with St Mary's, St Thomas and Partnered Parish Pastoral Councils.
- Family Groups to serve refreshments at Rotary Tram Café on Sunday 30th July and two future dates.
- An anonymous parishioner has generously donated a new laptop for Sacred Heart church.
- Relaunch of Sacred Heart Parish Women's Dinner.

Next Meeting Thursday 10th August. Suggestion box in church or Email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER DRIVER: Sacred Heart parish have a roster to take Communion to the residents of Estia Nursing Home Wattle Glen at 1pm each Thursday. We are looking for a second volunteer as a back up to occasionally drive Moya Roadley. Please contact Moya or the Parish Office.

SENIOR MOMENTS: Wednesday 2nd August: Lunch & Movie at Pat Frisby's home.

Wednesday 16th August: Scrabble 12pm in Parish Centre. BYO light lunch.

SAVE THE DATE: Sacred Heart School Fete and Craft Market Saturday 28th October.



ROSTERS:

Cleaning: Week 25th July M. Cusack & W. McEvoy

Sunday 30th July Sacred Heart 9am

Reader: M. Walsh

Commentator: F. Ledda

Eucharistic Ministers: A. Schellens, C. Ledda

Saturday 5th August St Peter's 7.15pm

Reader: R. Nicolaisen

Commentator: Amindha

Eucharistic Ministers: Dharshanie

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

Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Joan Moran, Peter Mejak,

Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard.

Recently Deceased:

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

Mary Keenan, Salvatore, Basil, Maria & Fortunato Caccetta, David Phillips, Kevin Jose, Caterina Borgolotto,

Patricia Nettleton.

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: Please pray for Marlow, Thomas and Matthew who are being Baptised later this month.

BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP: Coffee & chat is on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Everyone welcome. The next is Thursday 27th July at 1.30pm. Could you phone me 0408370685
or email: stewmarq@bigpond.net.au if you are coming so i can book a table Hope to see you Marg.



Roster for Weekend 29th & 30th July 2023

Saturday 6.00pm

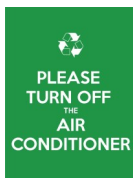
Reader: P. Carty **Commentator:** A. Fernando **Eucharistic Ministers:** C. Leahy, J. Bohan, M. Bedford

Set Up: K. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: M. Kenny **Commentator:** J. Kerr **Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Riordan, F. Landy, C. Riordan

Set Up: J. Kerr



REMINDER TO TURN OFF HEATING/COOLING SYSTEM: Just a reminder to everyone who uses the Church.

Could you please check before you leave that the RAC are turned Off.

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, Estelle Smooker, Tina Butera, Peter Kernjak

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

Kevin Jose, Pat Gannon, Anna de Gier, Michael Pham, Hopetoun Chapman, Edwin Ray, Shannon Risson, Nunzio Napoleone, Mary Kenny, Eileen Mc Inerney, Guido Paciocco, Jack Sutherland, Domenico & Elidia Paliotta, Jack O'Brien, Salvatore De Bartolo, Lynette Corcoran, Petronilla (Nellie) De Leo

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA: The offering of Mass stipends is an ancient tradition in the Church. The priest who celebrates the Holy Mass does so for the intentions of the person who has given the Mass offering, whether it be for a sick person or the soul of a departed loved one or for some other private intention. The money given is in no sense a "payment" for the Mass but rather a free gift, given in gratitude and for the material support of the priest himself. For many priests in the poorest parts of the world, who often have no other means of support, such Mass offerings are a vital contribution to their survival and to their work on behalf of the whole parish. [ACN Australia - Mass Offerings \(aidtochurch.org\)](http://ACNAustralia-MassOfferings(aidtochurch.org))

Windows onto God (in-person event), Sat 29 Jul, 10am-3pm

The windows explored are incarnation, darkness, abundance and self- acceptance. Incarnation, seen in the broad sense of God being in the world, takes in the joy of being alive. With this joy, there is the experience of darkness, which is also part of our human reality. Abundance picks up the theme of incarnation. It reminds us that God is lavish with her/his gifts and wants us to enjoy them. Self- acceptance is linked to these themes since it means accepting both the darkness and the light in ourselves. An interactive event allowing time for reflection and sharing, facilitated by Br Tim Lockwood cfc.

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$60 (BYO Lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

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

PLANNING IS UNDERWAY FOR THE FIRST EVER ST MARY'S COMMUNITY FAIR FOR SATURDAY THE 25TH OF NOVEMBER AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Come along to our Community Fair Open Meeting

WHEN: 26th July 2023 at 7.30pm

WHERE: St Mary's Uniform Shop

SHARE AN IDEA and FIND A ROLE that suits you!

Eg. Sourcing donations, baking goods, organising activities & games, assisting with stalls or rides, helping with set up or pack down & much much more...

Everyone is welcome to come along and join with us.

WANTED GARDEN POTS: We are after unloved garden pots, any size plastic or other (no seedling Pots) in preparation for the Parish Fete. Please leave behind the parish house or leave near the garden seat.



Contact Phil 9435 4506.

ST MARY'S GARDENING NEEDS: Would there be 'lovers of the garden' who would like to be involved in spending a little time caring for a portion surrounding St Mary's? (Barbara has offered to divide the garden into manageable sections) whenever time for each volunteer. Maybe a couple of people could organise to come together!

Please pray about it, as it is such a rewarding ministry and Barb is ever so willing to help you get started, and to help you find a section you'd like to be responsible for. Ever so grateful Anne. (On behalf of Barbara)

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.

COLLECTORS, please wait until the Reflection image is off the screen before starting the 1st collection. 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.

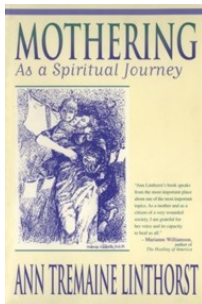
LITURGY NOTES – The Word of God. At Mass we listen to the Word of God, reflect on its message, and respond in prayer. God's Word is active. It is both a word to be heard and a guide to the way we live. We are called to take the Word of God with us in our hearts when we leave the church and return to our everyday lives. As a reminder of this call, at the end of Mass, the book of scripture, open at the Gospel of the day, is placed on the front of the lectern facing the congregation. The Word of God leaves the church in the hearts of the people rather than in a closed book.

Book of the week Be informed, inspired and entertained

Book of the week: Mothering as a Spiritual Journey: Learning to Let God Nurture Your Children and You Along with Them by Ann Tremaine Linthorst



St Mary's Parish Library



Although specifying "motherhood", this book holds treasures for fathers, and for non-parents, as well. It takes the reader on a journey through the "marvellous crises" of child rearing, showing how each crisis offers the discovery of a marvel of spiritual understanding, which heals the problems inherent in that human situation, and blesses both the parents and the child.

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 in one month through the chute outside the Library.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

July 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:

Victoria Debono, Reg O'Connor, Tadwiga Krolkowski, Edward Sheridan, Sarah Kelly, Stanislaw Krupko, Kevin Barnett, Doris Russell, Edward Beers, Sheila Hopkins, Daniel Joseph Carr, Rocco Galati, Irma Cole, Shannon Risson, Mick Phelan, Desmond O'Neill, Yvonne Michell, Kevin Bryan Dillon, Fr Stan Gaidelis, SJ, John Young, John Nugent, Philip Said, Baby del Prado, Carmen Pinzon-Atienza, Fr. Frank Shortis, Bruce Johnson, Denis Cail, Jim O'Connor, Mary McCormick, Jim T. Smith, Mary McMahan, Ellen Rutz, Amy Delves, Shelley Dodd, Manue Galea, Aileen Coffey, Angelina Cardamone, Elizabeth Eames, Annie Theresa Easton, Veronika Early, Scott Marchment, Bill Conroy, Agnes Antons, Alan Diwell, Gwenth Herlihy, Len Moran, Richard Chapman, Sr Alphonse, Desmond Fitt (Snr.), Ed Lawler, Lydia Curè, Natalie Juricevic, Valerie Kissane, Richard Joyce, Thomas Togher, James Murphy, Martin Fitzpatrick, Jason Caulfield, Terry Pitts, Eileen Reardon, Carmen Guerrero-Nakpil



SAVE THE DATE:
25 NOV 2023

St Mary's Community Fair

INFLATABLES & RIDES, MARKET STALLS,
ENTERTAINMENT & STAGE, CARNIVAL GAMES,
STUDENT LED ACTIVITIES, FOOD & BAR.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

**Community Fair
Open Meeting**

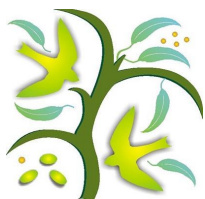
When
26TH JULY 2023
7:30 PM

Where
ST MARY'S UNIFORM SHOP

All Welcome
WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO
HELP PLAN AND RUN THE
COMMUNITY FAIR.

Come to the meeting, SHARE AN IDEA and
FIND A ROLE that suits you!

Eg. Sourcing donations, baking goods,
organising activities & games, assisting with
stalls or rides, helping with set up or pack
down & much much more...



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close 'The kingdom of heaven is like . . .' Jesus describes heaven as risky, paradoxical and expansive. In the paradoxical image of heaven, human values do not always apply because the logic of heaven is outside human logic. Heaven is a place in which the first will come last and the last first, and where an insignificant thing can become the pièce de resistance.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

23 July 2023

First Reading Wis 12:13.16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:26-27

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of
heaven and earth;**

**you have revealed to little ones the
mysteries of the kingdom.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:24-43 (or shorter form Mt 13:24-30)

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. Stop! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. Stop! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Perhaps accentuated by the constant messaging of social media, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come.

We could pause for a moment to relax and to allow the Spirit to express our plea in a way which could never be put into words.

mtate@bigpond.com

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