



Sunday 30th June 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: Pat Guatta

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

Acting Parish School Principal

Mrs Jo Nolen **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: Do not be afraid; only have faith

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth.

Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B, 30 June 2024.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-13-ot-year-b-2024>



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

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.

Letter to Parishioners of the Partnered Parishes of Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Thomas the Apostle
from the Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council

Dear parishioners,

It has been seven years since our three parishes came together into a partnership, with Father Steven Rigo as Parish Priest for all three parishes. Each parish has its own special history and culture, community and ways of being. Each has a Parish Pastoral Council, responsible to its community by supporting the spiritual and personal growth of all people and building a flourishing parish.

In 2023 the Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council was formed. This occurred in recognition that *"there are matters which affect and connect the three parishes, both now and into the future"* (PPPC Rationale). *"The Council works collaboratively with the individual councils (PPCs), building strong and respectful relationships, recognising the strengths of each faith community and assisting the partnership to discern, plan and work together for the benefit of all"* (PPPC document 2023).

In this time of change and reflection in our Church, parishes are commissioned to discern their vision and mission as Christians and to build strong communities of faith and action. This work has begun in our individual parishes and in our partnership. The strengths of being in partnership have been recognised and are being developed. They include:

- The formation of a Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council.
- The Liturgy Teams working together to set themes for Advent and Lent and to plan and organise joint liturgies and activities.
- Social Justice teams working collaboratively – e.g. concerning the Referendum
- Shared formation for special ministers of Baptism, the Eucharist, Communion to the sick, readers.
- Collaborative work between the schools and between the parish offices.
- Opportunities for spiritual and personal growth – for example, various courses about the Gospels, Faith Circles, Families in Spiritual Harmony, Alpha.
- Prayer services.
- Support groups.
- Information sessions on various topics.
- Social events.
- Shared newsletter.
- Partnered Parishes Plenary Council Facilitators Group.

It is important that we now look further into the future and recognise that there are many challenges now and ahead for faith communities. We need to envision and plan for how our partnership will function and thrive in years to come. This will come about through open and collaborative work across the parishes, identifying ways in which we can maintain and build our spiritual life and the financial livelihood of our partnership. Through open and honest communication, we will enable the voices of our parishioners to be heard through the decision-making processes.

We look forward to working supportively and cooperatively with all parishioners to strengthen and enhance our partnership.

Membership of the Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council:

- ◆ Father Steven Rigo – Parish Priest
- ◆ Father Ananda Maddineni – Assistant Priest
- ◆ Sandy Starbuck – Pastoral Associate
- ◆ Margaret Farrell – Sacred Heart
- ◆ Frank Ledda – Sacred Heart
- ◆ Elizabeth Whiting – St Mary's
- ◆ Lorenzo Gullone – St Mary's
- ◆ Nick Scully – St Mary's
- ◆ Tim Holland – St Thomas
- ◆ Michael Bates – St Thomas
- ◆ Cathy O'Brien – St Thomas

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS continued

SAFEGUARDING

Our Partnered Parishes are so incredibly thankful for the amazing work of our Volunteers.

Without your time, talent and commitment, the inner workings of our Parish community would not be the same. As a reminder, to be compliant as a Volunteer there are some vital steps that need to be taken first.

These include obtaining a Working With Children Check or VIT registration for Children and Vulnerable people, registering your place of volunteering on your WWC Check application or on MyCheck page and keeping it active throughout your entire service, completing the Essential Safeguarding training online and signing the Code of Conduct. Once again, thank you for your generous and valuable service to the Parish.

Links:

* <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

* <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>

MISSION TRANSFORMS LIVES-theirs....and yours

Have you been considering whether an overseas professional placement with Palms is for you? Wanting to share your skills to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions while living authentically in another culture?

If you're happy for the trip, come to Palms' [Discovery information session](#) at Altona on 11 July. Meet Soraya and returned Palms participants to discover more about [Assignments Aboard](#). Alternately, please enquire at palms.org.au

Venue: Mary Help of Christians Church Hall

Address: 97 Railway St N, Altona VIC 3018

Date: Thursday 11th July 2024

Time: 5:30pm to 6:30pm

0422 472 567

palms@palms.org.au



VOCATIONS: DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN

The Vocations Office invites all men discerning a vocation to a retreat day. This will be on Saturday 6th July, 10..am-4.00pm at the Carmelite Monastery Kew.

The day will include talks on the Priesthood and discernment as well as time for prayerful reflection.

RSVP by Wednesday 3rd July at [vocations @cam.org.au](mailto:vocations@cam.org.au)

CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Help farmers like Chiquito in Timor-Leste to feed their families

Extreme weather, spiralling food costs and the lasting scars of conflict have left almost one in ten children in neighbouring Timor-Leste suffering from acute malnutrition.

You can help provide farmers like Chiquito in Timor-Leste with training in modern agricultural techniques, as well as provide them with support to protect their crops, improve yields and realise the full potential of every last acre of arable land.

With your generous donation, parents like Chiquito can have enough food to feed their families both today and tomorrow, as well as extra produce to sell at the market – giving them the means to pay for medical care and the basic necessities needed to live a healthy and dignified life.

Your donation this tax time can help farmers like Chiquito to feed their families and make hunger history.

Donate online at: www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

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



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday & Thursday 10.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday & Friday 8.30am-2.30pm.*

Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

BAPTISMS: we pray for Flynn, Anderson, Noah & Flynn who are welcomed into our community in June.

MONTHLY RAFFLE: tickets are available after 9am Masses. This month's prize is a "Winter Warmers" hamper.

Thank you to our *Senior Moments* Group. Tickets are \$2 or 6 for \$10.

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUPS FUNDRAISING: Reminder our Family Groups have kindly rostered on at Diamond Creek Rotary Tram Café this Saturday 29th June. Please go for a walk and enjoy a coffee.

DIAMOND CREEK ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL: There will be a leaving collection after Masses next weekend 6th/7th July. Envelopes are also available for cash or credit card donations, which can be placed in collection bags or left at the Parish Centre during July. Donations will be distributed locally in our Parish, where assistance is provided with food, paying gas/electricity bills, chemist expenses, delivering firewood etc. Donations of toiletries or cash would be most appreciated. Thank you.

The SH PPC meeting was held on Thursday 13 June and the following matters were discussed:

A report from the SH St Vincent de Paul Society which included a brief history of the Society and was established in Diamond Creek 60 years ago this year. Currently we have 8 active members

- Planning has begun for a Prayer Service on Peace and Hope in September
- Our Parish Seniors Group has offered to manage our regular fundraising raffles
- Participating in Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle this year
- Safeguarding requirements
- Mercy Cottage maintenance
- A report from our primary school – many activities underway, including the Letter Writing project between parishioners and senior students and Baptismal cards from students to families
- Further discussion on the Men's Night planned for October – a committee, including parishioners and school parents has been formed.

THANKSGIVING CREDIT CARD DONATIONS: We still have some Credit Cards being rejected. Please contact the office if you would like to change your card details. Thanks to those who have updated.

SACRED HEART MEMORIAL GARDEN PLAQUES: The cost of supply and installation is \$350. Please contact Marg Farrell via email at ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com or leave a message with Pat in the Parish Office if you would like a loved one remembered in this way.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Next meeting Thursday 11th July. Suggestion box in church or email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

SENIOR MOMENTS: 3rd July 12pm Pastie, Pie & Cake lunch and scrabble with Loyola College students in the Parish Centre.
Wednesday 17th July 12pm Lunch & Scrabble 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

ROSTERS

Cleaning: Week 2nd July M. Cusack, W. McEvoy

St Peter's Saturday 6th July 7.15pm

Reader: M. Frisby **Commentator:** J. Robinson

Sunday 7th July Sacred Heart 9am

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

Eucharistic Ministers: R. Padget, R. Belli

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

Denney Hegarty, Mary O'Dea, 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, Kath Rickard, Martin Leonard

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

Carmel & Albert Mowlam, Nicola Nesci, Ken Parker, Maureen Parker, Michael Cusack, Saviour Camilleri, Philip Leonard

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 11am-3pm*

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

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



SANDY ON LEAVE: *Sandy will be on leave from Wednesday 13th June and returning on Tuesday 23rd July. If you have any queries for Sandy could you please contact Lisa or Libby in the Parish office.*

The office will be closed next Wednesday 3rd July & will close at 1.00pm on Thursday 4th July, apologies for any inconvenience.

LADIES AUXILIARY: Cake Stall after Masses this weekend in Gathering Space. Please keep Wednesday 17th. July free for our guest speaker Senior Constable Alison Keppel discussing " Safety in the Home". See flyer below.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN'S CHECKS: It is important that all volunteers have an up to date WWCC, as our parish records are currently being audited.

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.

A LOST PROPERTY BOX is on the lower shelf of the bench in the gathering space.

The Kitchen is a wonderful asset for all Parish groups a special request, if your group has used the dishwasher which is available for all groups, please nominate a member of your group to empty after cycle completed so that we can all share the facilities.

Thank you.

ST. MARYS/ST. THOMAS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 WINTER APPEAL

This year's Appeal will be officially launched on the weekend of 6/7 July. The theme this year is 'Working Homeless', focusing on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Families manage to cope with day to day costs but as soon as something unforeseen crops up, they have no funds to cover the cost of the repair or rent. We have seen working families in this situation increase this year.

We are therefore seeking the kind assistance of you the Parishioners of St. Mary's and St.Thomas' to give what you can afford to enable us to support these families -

1. Appeal envelopes will be provided on the ends of the seats and at the back of the Church - they can then be placed in the 2nd Collection of each Mass on the 6/7 July weekend or soon after.
2. Phone/Credit card donations can be arranged by calling 13 18 12 and stating you are donating to the Greensborough Conference
3. A new option this year is donating online directly to our Greensborough Conference Page

via - <https://my.fundraiseforvinniesvic.org.au/vinnies-winter-appeal-2024/greensborough-conference>

Thank you for your previous generosity and kind attention to this notice.

Maureen Lonsdale

Greensborough St. Vincent De Paul Conference



SAFETY IN THE HOME

On Wednesday the 17th of July in the gathering space at St Mary's commencing at 11.00am with a light refreshments followed by Senior Constable Alison Keppel speaking to us on "Safety in the Home."

Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Maureen on 9435 5906 or Lucy on 9435 6990, to make a booking for catering purposes.

\$10.00per head, payable at the door.

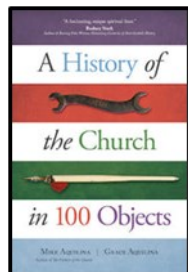


WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued



Be informed, inspired and entertained.

Book of the Week



A History of the Church in 100 Objects by Mike and Grace Aquilina

God makes Himself known and accessible through material things, always accommodating Himself to our condition. When Catholics tell their story they don't just write it in books but preserve it in memorials, artifacts, relics and museums. For those into historical trivia this unique, well-illustrated book examines 100 objects and places – the “stuff” that tells our story..

cloud.collectorz.com/247780

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, Carlos Manabat, Maureen Carr, Garry York

Recently Deceased:

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

Gaudencio Mission, Rose Flegg, Patrick McGeown, Bob Rutter, Tony Brain, Frank O'Callaghan, June Crammer, Frank Liubetic, Edgardo Polines, Ante Anticev, Umberto Cornel, Boguslaw Kubicki, Len Krohn Jnr, Bartolo (Bob) Casamento, Edward Dobrzynski, Gennaro Farralla, Victor Attard, Mary & James Caldwell, Norman Dunn, Sr. Christina Welsford, Patricia Gould, Stephen Dowling, Edward Brennan, Fr. Frank O'Regan, Jean Davidson, Leo McGrath, Jack Taylor, Fr Vince D'amico, Dan Phelan, Melecia Espino Jr, John Bentley, Ante Anticel, David Harding, Sarah Wagstaff, Marion Tebbens, Greg Callinhan, Fr. Paul Dalton,

Bernadette Eason (nee Harford), Mary Anne Klepper, Bert Sadlier, Laurie Newmann, Eileen Gallagher, Genevieve O'Reilly, Daryl Turner, William Hickey, Agnes Hickey, Michael Rodgers, Maria Gangemi, Dionisia Sarmiento, Noreen Conroy, John Ryan, Maria Krupko, Keith Dober, May & Tom Scott, Neil Mullavey, Winnie Huxtable, Joe Dynes, Jeanne Perombelon, Frederick J. Joyce, Anna Stupnicki, Edith Leslie, John Crutchett, Percival Simmons, Crisanta Silimin, Margaret Pearce, Rose De Highden, Michelle Bourdet, Catherine Morrissey, Glenys Williamson, Naomi McMahon, Elsie Atchison, Lillian Leahy, Adrian Wright, Wes Henderson, Genevieve O'Reilly, William Williams, Bertrand Sadlier, Clarence Duffy, Bert Brown, Fred Edwards, Ellen Beers, Lila Trembath, Antonio Siragusa, Agnes Hickey, William Hickey, Richard, Sherill Mills, Molly Hall, Francesca Cataldo

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: *Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm,-4.00pm*
Thursdays 8.00am-11.30am (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.00-3.00pm St Mary's**)
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

BAPTISMS: Please keep in your prayers Charles and River who are being baptised later this month.

Summary of PPC Meeting 19th June

- There is currently no updated about the proposed ELC/kindergarten from council.
- 25th Anniversary, asking for volunteers to help with morning tea.
- Hoping to have the new website operating before August.
- New Lectionary with slightly different reading, reading son newsletter will continue to be from Liturgy Help
- School, celebrating St Thomas Feast day on the 27th June, Email has organised a video from Christopher John for the students about the windows.

ST. MARYS/ST. THOMAS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 WINTER APPEAL

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Thank you for your previous generosity and kind attention to this notice.

Maureen Lonsdale



25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

Following the Mass on Sunday the 18th of August we will be finishing off with a morning tea.

I am looking for a team of volunteers to help me with the planning and setting up for this special occasion.

If you wish to be involved can you please contact me directly in the office by phone **9434 7373**. or email greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au so we can organise a time to meet.

Thank you Lisa



Roster for Weekend 6th & 7th July

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: T. Holland

Commentator: A. Fernando

Eucharistic Ministers: S. Bishop, Volunteer

Set Up: Volunteer

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: T. Williamson

Commentator: M. Bates

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

Set Up: S. Dossa

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, Dominic Cambareri, Fr Terry Kean

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

Pauline Georgiades, Joanne Tubb, Antonio Napoleone, Eric Rosario, Leo Campbell, Des Price, Bert Smooker.

Gordon Shannon, Saverio Posterino, Domenico Di Giandomenico, David Wong, John Iacobucci



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

30 June 2024

First Reading Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24

It was the devil's envy that brought death into the world.

Death was not God's doing,
 he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.
 To be – for this he created all;
 the world's created things have health in them,
 in them no fatal poison can be found,
 and Hades holds no power on earth;
 for virtue is undying.
 Yet God did make man imperishable,
 he made him in the image of his own nature;
 it was the devil's envy that brought death into the
 world,
 as those who are his partners will discover.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2

*(R.) I will praise you, Lord,
 for you have rescued me.*

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
 And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
 O Lord, you have raised my soul from the
 dead,
 restored me to life from those who sink into
 the grave. (R.)
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
 give thanks to his holy name.
 His anger lasts but a moment: his favour
 through life.
 At night there are tears, but joy comes with
 dawn. (R.)
3. The Lord listened and had pity.
 The Lord came to my help.
 For me you have changed my mourning into
 dancing,
 O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Cor 8:7. 9. 13-15

Your abundance should supply their want.

You always have the most of everything – of faith,
 of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for
 any cause, and the biggest share of our affection
 – so we expect you to put the most into this work
 of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord
 Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for
 your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty.
 This does not mean that to give relief to others
 you ought to make things difficult for yourselves:
 it is a question of balancing what happens to
 be your surplus now against their present need,
 and one day they may have something to spare
 that will supply your own need. That is how we
 strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who
 gathered much had none too much, the man
 who gathered little did not go short.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Tm 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away
 with death*

and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 5:21-43

or shorter form Mk 5:21 1-24. 35-43

Young girl, I say to you, arise.

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the
 other side, a large crowd gathered round him
 and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the
 synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name,
 and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded
 with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is
 desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on
 her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus
 went with him and a large crowd followed him;
 they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered
 from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long
 and painful treatment under various doctors,
 she had spent all she had without being any
 the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse.
 She had heard about Jesus, and she came up
 behind him through the crowd and touched his
 cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had
 told herself 'I will be well again.' And the source
 of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt
 in herself that she was cured of her complaint.
 Immediately aware that power had gone out
 from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and
 said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples
 said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing
 round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"'
 But he continued to look all round to see who
 had done it. Then the woman came forward,
 frightened and trembling because she knew
 what had happened to her, and she fell at his
 feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,'
 he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go
 in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived
 from the house of the synagogue official to say,
 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to
 any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard
 this remark of theirs and he said to the official,
 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he
 allowed no one to go with him except Peter and
 James and John the brother of James. So they
 came to the official's house and Jesus noticed
 all the commotion, with people weeping and
 wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to
 them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The
 child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed
 at him. So he turned them all out and, taking
 with him the child's father and mother and his
 own companions, he went into the place where
 the child lay. And taking the child by the hand
 he said to her, 'Talitha, kumi!' which means,
 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got
 up at once and began to walk about, for she was
 twelve years old. At this they were overcome with
 astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not
 to let anyone know about it, and told them to
 give her something to eat.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the gospel, Jesus reaches deep into
 the world beyond life and rescues a
 young girl from the jaws of death.
 Earlier, he was jostled by the crowd
 and felt healing power leave him in
 order to restore an afflicted woman.
 Repeating the words of last week's
 gospel: Who is this man? Is this
 someone with whom we want to
 become involved? On the other hand,
 can we afford not to get involved with
 him? This is a man who can lead us to
 life even in the midst of death. He is
 someone who is interested in the well-
 being of everyone, even those who
 may not be highly valued by society –
 women and children, the chronically ill,
 those who carry the seeds of death
 within them.

God's graciousness toward us should
 prompt us to be generous toward
 others. What we receive as life-
 enhancing gifts, we must share with
 those in need, those to whom life has
 not been kind. As we have been
 favoured by the healing touch of God,
 so we must extend that same loving
 touch to others. The love of Christ
 impels us to be openhanded as we
 approach those in need. Following
 Jesus' lead, we must not only give to
 them, we must also allow them to take
 from us. At times this will require that
 we share material resources; at other
 times it might mean that our energy
 will be drained in our service of them.
 In all of this, Jesus has set the
 example for us to follow.