



**Sunday 2nd May 2021**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Dixon George

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Jacinta Bright & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

**The Partnered Parishes of:**

**St. Mary's**

204 Grimshaw St.,  
Greensborough, 3088  
**Parish:** 9435 1543  
**Email:** Greensborough@cam.org.au  
**Website:** www.cam.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. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**  
principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

**Sacred Heart**

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  
**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

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 8th & 9th May**

**SACRED HEART 9.00am**

**Special Minister:** M. Cusack, J. Bruce  
**Reader:** B. Greaves

**ST THOMAS VIGIL 6.00pm & 10.30am**

**Special Minister 6.00pm:** K. McMahon, D. Haesler, L. Leahy  
**Special Minister 10.30am:** F.R. Piccolo, J. Millar, B. Iacobucci

**6.00pm:** **Reader:** T. Corcoran **Commentator:** B. Bedford **Set Up:** J. De Carlo  
**10.30am:** **Reader:** J. Kerr **Commentator:** R. Rendina **Set Up:** J. Kerr

**Counters:** RG. Lynch, L. Vecchio, B. Vecchio **Cleaners:** B. Guldon, G.Kilkenny (15th May)

**Mass will still be recorded and uploaded onto our Websites**

**\*\*\*\*\*NO MASSES AT ST PETER'S UNTIL DISTANCE RESTRICTIONS ARE REMOVED\*\*\*\*\***

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

Bridie Burke, Bernice Burke, Miran Kasalo, Martin Leonard, Joan Moran, Catherin Leonard,  
Tony Ledda, Sarah Drummond, Wimal Piyumsiri, Margaret Holland, Jacob Draper

**We pray for those who have died including Elaine Chapman & Shirley Bourke, and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of May that they enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom**

Dorothy Pittle, Alan Bentley, Glenn Hurley, Michael Berriman, Helen McCrohan Steve Molnar, Domenica Picollo, Kath Mumford,  
Theodora Ellul, Maura McGauran, Stephen Ruzic, Marg Watson, Ray Money, Gaetano Palazzolo, Peter Beaumont, Frank Perversi,  
Noela Atkinson, Mary Camilleri

## PARTNERED PARISHES UMBRELLA PASTORAL COUNCIL

### HISTORY LINE

Late in 2019 a session was held at Sacred Heart Parish, and one at St. Thomas' Parish that led us to explore our backgrounds and the characteristics of our parishes. Arising out of the Plenary Listening and Discernment Sessions, there has been an expressed desire by several parishioners to form Parish Pastoral Councils. The next step towards forming Pastoral Councils, is to undergo a process called The History Line in which we clarify our parishes' strengths and vulnerabilities, by reflecting on particular points in our parishes' histories. These sessions will be facilitated by Jacinta Bright,

We have settled on two dates:

- ◆ *St Thomas parishioners will meet on Tuesday 4th of May, in the parish meeting room, from 7.00pm until 9.00pm.*

It would be important to have at these sessions older parishioners who have a knowledge of the history of the parish as well as those who have come in more recent years. Out of this there may be some who would want to go further and become members of newly formed Parish Pastoral Councils.

*With thanks, Fr Steven*

## Invitation

### *All Welcome*

You are invited to join with new, old and prospective parishioners to the  
Sacred Heart & St Thomas History Line event.

Let us share who we are, what we have been through and where we are going and  
build community.

**Tuesday 4th May**

**7.00pm-9.00pm**

**St Thomas Church**

**Supper provided**

**RSVP: Lisa 9434 7373**

**[greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)**

PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE  
LORD, MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS  
FOR HIM. EVERY VALLEY WILL  
BE FILLED, EVERY MOUNTAIN  
MADE LOW. ROADS WILL  
BECOME STRAIGHT, ROUGH  
WAYS SMOOTH. AND ALL  
WILL SEE GOD'S SALVATION.

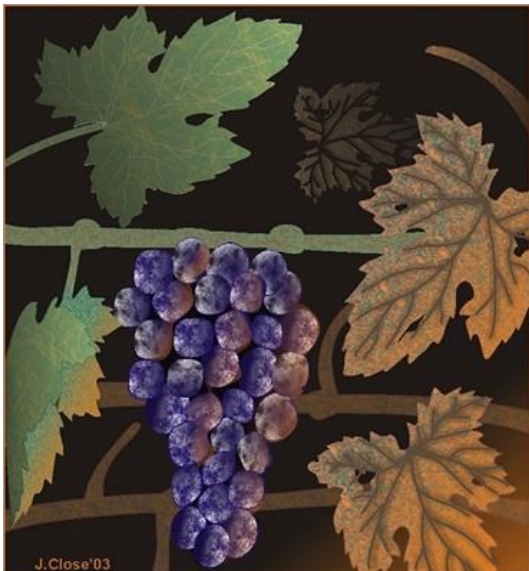
*Luke 3:4-6*

### LECTIONARY ART AND REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE

The metaphor of the vine and branches has a hard message, but also a promise: if you are faithful to Jesus you will flourish, if not you will be rejected. This is one of the tough sayings of Jesus and one that openly declares the consequences of accepting or rejecting the message of Jesus. Fruit and fire are the images of promise and of threat in this message.

### MASK WEARING

Our Archdiocese, guided by expert health consultants in the area, has advised that mask wearing is not required at this stage, however if anyone is concerned about this step, please do feel encouraged to wear a mask. Could you also please sanitise your hands as you enter the Church and before Communion. Thank you



## COMMUNITY LIFE

**SENIOR MOMENTS:** Wednesday 5th May Fish 'n' Chips at 12pm in the Parish Centre.

Wednesday 19th May Lunch & Games in the Parish Centre, 12.00pm

**MORNING TEA VIA ZOOM:** These Zoom catch ups for morning tea for members of our partnered parishes, have been such a great initiative. Now that we are venturing out and about, the need is not so great for us to be finding ways to see and speak with others. However, the group who has been gathering doesn't want it to simply stop, so we have decided to meet on the first Friday of each month at 10.30. This gives people who go to morning mass, time to get back home and settle in for morning tea. This is a great way to get together with old friends and meet new people.

If you are interested please contact Jacinta Bright at [Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au](mailto:Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au) or call the parish office at St Mary's on 9435 1543.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** We wish to advise all community groups that should you wish to have an event listed in our Weekly Newsletter the deadline is the 2.00pm on the Wednesday prior. Should you have any queries please contact Lisa in the Parish Office.



## PLENARY COUNCIL DELEGATES

During Holy Week at the Chrism Mass, Archbishop Comensoli blessed and commissioned the 16 Plenary Council delegates for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. It was the first time the delegates had been able to gather in the presence of the wider Melbourne community since churches reopened. The delegates will join others from around Australia for the first Plenary Council gathering in October. Please continue to pray for the work of the Council.



## TRYBOOKING & QR CODES

On Friday 26th March, Victoria moved to a more relaxed COVIDSafe setting.

As part of these changes, electronic record keeping became mandatory for all venues and facilities, including our Places of Worship.

Importantly, from the 26th March, activities involving ceremonies and religious gatherings, weddings and funerals within a Place of Worship, **must use an electronic record keeping system that is compatible with the Victorian Government's visitation application programming interface (API).**

The API allows non-Government electronic record keeping systems to 'speak' with the Victorian Department of Health (DH) contact tracing system, which is the primary line of defence in keeping our community safe and open.

The 28-day compliance amnesty that began on the 26th March and ends at 6pm on 23rd April 2021.

The previous rule was that electronic record keeping was required for a Place of Worship when applying the one person per two square metres density quotient.

**This density quotient still applies and API compatible electronic record keeping is now mandatory.**

- Everyone entering the Church can scan the QR Code using the camera on their smartphone or tablet device.
- This automatically opens the registration app, which knows that they are registering at your Church.
- They will then be asked to enter their name and phone number, and have the option of providing details of other individuals in their party.
- In exceptional circumstances, due to age, disability etc., the Parish has the ability to manually record their attendance (and maintain records for a period of 28 days). This form of record keeping should only be offered as a backstop solution, as it does not provide 'real time' connectivity to the Department of Health's contact tracing system.
- ***Sacred Heart & St Thomas Parishes will continue to use the Trybooking system to enable parishioners to book in for Mass.***
- ***With restrictions still on numbers in the Churches by using the Trybooking system with many sacraments coming up, this is the only way to know when are Churches are fully booked.***
- ***Due to Government regulations you will still be asked to scan the QR Code on arrival.***

## EXPLANATION OF COLLECTIONS

In every Parish, there are two collections and two separate accounts,  
The Presbytery collection/account (1<sup>st</sup> coll.) provides the pastoral stipend and living costs of the Priest.  
The Church collection/account (2<sup>nd</sup> coll.) provides for the maintenance, office and staff expenses of the Parish.



**First Reading Acts 9:26-31**

*He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26**

**(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

or:

**(R.) Alleluia.**

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24**

*His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.*

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;**

**my branches bear much fruit.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Jn 15:1-8**

*All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'



**Reflection by Fr Michael Tate**

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history.

There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen?

For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. 'Life' and 'blood' became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: 'This is my blood', amongst other things he is saying: 'This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.'

So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly 'full-bodied' as the Divine Vignerone desires.

We could take a moment to pray that we respond to the pruning and the tending and the pressing by our Heavenly Father so as to contribute our distinctive character to the vintage at the end of history, the spiritual drink of the Kingdom of Heaven.

mtate@bigpond.com

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