

**PLEASE NOTE:** When ringing either Parish Office or Parish House please let it ring for about 12 rings. This is due to an unusual set up of our phones.

We pray for Ann Cusack who died this week and for those whose anniversaries occur in the month of September, that they may enter joyfully into God's kingdom.

Terry Moran, Lucy Rotin, Michael Holland, Andrew O'Dea, George Ind, Peter Thomas, Francis Goodge, Margaret Fitzgerald, 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.

### **COMMUNITY LIFE**

**SENIORS MOMENTS:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September Lunch and Games 12pm in Parish Centre. BYO light lunch to share. Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October Lunch at Wallan. Ring Margaret Jose for details.

**PARISH PYX COUNT:** it would be much appreciated if all Sacred Heart Parish Communion to the Sick Ministers in possession of a parish pyx contacts Pat. Thank you

**ST. MARY'S MATURE AGE GROUP:** next outing to Myriad Glass Design Kilmore, 11 October with lunch at MacNamara's Irish Pub, cost for members is \$44.00 and non members \$49.00. Bus will be leaving William Street entrance at 9.15am returning home 4.00pm. Final outing for the year is at Noorlim Estate Homestead with a 2 course lunch at Nagambie Lakes Entertainment Centre, cost \$59.00 for members, non members \$61.00 Bookings contact Geraldine on 9435 4306 or Angela on 9444 6298. All welcome.

**FORMATION NIGHT FOR READERS AND MINISTERS** will be held at St. Mary's Greensborough on Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 7.30pm. Parishioners from both Sacred Heart and St. Thomas are invited to take part in this evening.

### **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.

### **YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED**

At both Sacred Heart and St. Thomas there has been some gaps left in our roster due to people moving on for many different reasons. We are in need of people to fill in these gaps and would like to hear from you. If you could assist the parishes in any of the following please ring Pat on 9438 1159 or Mary on 9434 7373.

**Over head projection at Mass, Cleaners, Readers, Communion Ministers, Counters, Singers, Musicians.**  
Have a think and see how you may be able to help!!!!!!

### **WORSHIP AND PRAYER**

**SAINTS OF THE WEEK:** Wednesday: St. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn St Paul Chŏng Ha-sang; Thursday: St. Matthew  
**MASS BY CANDLELIGHT** Come and join us in celebrating the final Mass by Candlelight for 2017 at Our Lady Help of Christians, Henry Street, Eltham on Thursday, 21st September. Celebrated in the spirit of Taizé, Mass will commence at 8pm, following a time of quiet reflection. Prayer ministry and supper will be available after Mass. For all enquiries, please contact Emilia on 9435 7475.

**GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION HOSTS** Gluten Free, Wheat Free, Dairy Free, Corn Free communion hosts are available for those with allergies. Please see Father before Mass if you require these hosts.

### **FORMATION IN FAITH**

**RCIA:** a small group has begun meeting weekly, with some inquirers, who are keen to join the Catholic Church. If you would like to join in learning more about the Catholic faith e-mail Mandy at greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au

### **YOUTH**

**YEAR OF YOUTH IN YOUR PARISH** workshop day on October 21 9.30am to 3.30pm at the Catholic Leadership Centre East Melbourne. Cost is \$20 or \$60 for groups of four. To register for this event go to [www.cam.org.au/youth/yearofyouth](http://www.cam.org.au/youth/yearofyouth)

### **2017-18 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT**

**EVERYONE'S BUSINESS** is the topic for this year's statement. You are invited to the launch by Susan Pascoe AM on Mon. 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 3pm at Mackillop Room, St. Francis' Pastoral Centre. RSVP/Inq. [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) 9926 5727. The Social Justice Statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will be available for sale at \$1 per copy in the Gathering Space next weekend.

### **HIGH IMPORTANCE**

It is now required under **state law** that anyone who does either paid or voluntary work in the Parish or for the Parish is required to obtain a Working With Children Check. We ask that everyone please for fill this requirement. WWCC for volunteers does not cost anything and can be applied for on line and finalised at an Australian Post Office outlet. If you are having problems please contact the Parish Office.

The detailed WWCC protocol is available at: <http://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements>

**Thank you for your assistance in this matter Pat and Mary**

### **PARISH YEARLY COLLECTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTER**

This collection will once again be held from the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> August until 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> September. **Please note that next weekend is the final weekend for donation of goods.** This year we will also be collecting items for the **Mercy Cottage at Sacred Heart Parish**, which houses 2 refugee women and a 4 year old child. Parishioners from St Thomas and Sacred Heart are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women over the month of September. Some of the urgent items are: healthy breakfast cereals, dried fruit, nuts & seeds, flour, long life (UHT) milk, healthy snack foods, tomato paste, tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, corn and peas, tinned beans and lentils (without sauce), tinned fruit shaving items, shampoo & conditioner, baby shampoo, washing powder, toilet paper. At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive the items; at Sacred Heart there will also be a basket available. There will also be a more comprehensive list of items needed.

### **EVENTS ELSEWHERE**

**A BIG THANK YOU** As we head off on our trip to India (departing Sat. 16th), we would like to thank the parishioners of St. Thomas' and Sacred Heart for your overwhelming support.

Your generosity is both humbling and heartening and you can be sure your donations will be well used helping the most needy. We will report back on our return. Please keep our team of 8 pilgrims in your prayers. With thanks, Sue and Kevin McMahon

**MEDITATION ON JESUS** Day Retreat 9.30am-4pm Sat. 30 Sept. or 3 Day Retreat Oct. 2-4 9.30am - 4pm. Both at the Janssen Spirituality Centre Boronia RSVP 9762 6625 or [enquiries@janssencentre.org](mailto:enquiries@janssencentre.org)

**MAGDALENE: A WANTON SAINT** Renaissance Theatre. 826 High Street, Kew East4 - 7 October - 7pm Daily Matinee Saturday 1pm. Enq. Florence D'Costa: 0433 851 662 or Geraldine: 0413 398 528 or Email:

[cogtheatregroup@gmail.com](mailto:cogtheatregroup@gmail.com) or [geraldine343@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine343@gmail.com) Tickets from Try Booking at [TryBooking.com/qzmg](http://TryBooking.com/qzmg)

**INVITATION TO ECONFERENCE AT ST MARY'S.** In the past year alone, communities around the world have been grappling with momentous socio-political change and uncertainty. Examples include the rise of fundamentalism, the growing violence and displacement of peoples in the Middle East, the election of numerous populist leaders such as Presidents Trump in the USA and Duterte in the Philippines, Britain's historic vote to leave the European Union, whilst Nationalist parties across the EU achieve electoral success through promoting xenophobic policies of division. Pope Francis represents the hope of many people in these times of uncertainty: his message talks about belonging, dialogue, social justice, and mercy in a way that is both a challenge and inspiration for the world and the church. At this year's eConference, prominent international and national speakers and panellists: Professor Massimo Faggioli, Mr Paul Kelly, Professor The Hon Bob Carr, St Clare Condon SGS, Rev Dr Gerald Arbuckle SM, Ms Elizabeth Proust, St Ruth Durick OSU, facilitated by Mr Noel Debien - reflected upon these turbulent times and discussed them in the context of Pope Francis' unique style of leadership. This eConference will be shown at St Mary's parish in the Gathering Space of the church, on Wednesday September 27 starting at 10.30 and concluding at 3.00. All are welcome. Bring a small plate of lunch to share. RSVP St Mary's parish Office 9435 1543.

**VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL** University of the third age together with the Nillumbik Shire Council has arranged for two low-cost activities for the Victorian Seniors Festival during October 2017 celebrating the valuable contribution older people make to our community. The two activities are Sunday 8 Oct. *The D V Open Door Choir* 2.30pm-4pm at Diamond Creek Community Centre and Sunday 15 Oct. *Dinner Dance* at Diamond Creek Community Centre 6.30pm-9.30pm. Further information on Notice board and also on Website.



It doesn't take much--it can be just giving a smile.  
The world would be a much better place if everyone smiled more.

Saint Mother Teresa

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

17 September 2017

**First Reading** Sir 27:30-28:7

*A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus*

*Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.*

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 102:1-4, 9-12. R. v.8

*(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

**Second Reading** Rom 14:7-9

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

*Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 13:34

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mt 18:21-35

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

*I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'



**Reflection**

by Michael Tate

*I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime'. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others.*

*When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life.*

*It is easy to talk 'Big Picture' forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.*

*We could pause for a moment to pray: 'Our Father who art in Heaven . . . forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'*

mtate@bigpond.com

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Sacred Heart Church Diamond Creek



St Peter's Church Hurstbridge



St Thomas the Apostle Greensborough

**Sunday 17th September 2017**

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 23rd & 24th September 2017**

**Diamond Creek. 9 am**

**Special Ministers:**

**Reader:** M. Farrell  
**Commentator:** F. Ledda  
**Welcoming:** M. O'Dea  
**Setting up:** P. Keenan, M. Farrell  
**Counters:** G. Ind, P. Guatta  
**Cleaners:** P. Guatta

**Next Mass at St. Peter's Hurstbridge - Sat 7th October @ 7.15pm.**

**Greensborough North**

**Special Ministers:**

**6.00pm:** C. & L. Leahy, K. Coen, L. Carty, M. Bedford.  
**10.30am:** J. Millar, R. Rendina, F. Landy, B. Watts, B. Iacobucci.  
**Readers:** 6.00pm: D. Haesler. 10.30am: F. Mascia.  
**Commentators:** 6.00pm: M. Gargan. 10.30am: A. Fistic.  
**Setting Up:** 6.00pm: J. De Carlo. 10.30am: C. O'Brien.  
**Cleaners:** L. Carty, J. De Carlo.  
**Counters:** G. Lynch, L. Vecchio, B. Vecchio.

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**September:**

Wed. 20 Senior Moments lunch and Games P/C 12pm  
Wed 20 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting S/T 7.30pm

**Sacred Heart Parish:**

25 Gipson Street Diamond Creek 3089  
**Phone:** 94381159  
**Fax:** 9438 5368  
**Email:** DiamondCreek@cam.org.au  
**Website:** www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek  
**Secretary:** Pat Guatta

**St. Thomas the Apostle Parish:**

251 Diamond Creek Rd. G/borough Nth. 3088  
**Phone:** 9434 7373  
**Fax:** 94327457  
**Email:** greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au  
**Website:** www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth  
**Secretary:** Mary Gargan

**Parish Priest:**

Fr. Steven Rigo  
**Email:** Steven.Rigo@cam.org.au  
**Mobile:** 0409 198 724  
**After hours and in Emergencies please ring 0409 198 724**

**Assistant Priest:**

Fr. Tao Pham  
**Email:** taohatrach@gmail.com

**School Principals:**

Diamond Creek: Jim O'Sullivan 9438 1590  
Greensborough North: Gail Smith 9434 4565

**Mass Times:**

**Weekend Masses:**

**Saturday:**  
6pm Greensborough North  
7.15pm Hurstbridge  
First Sat. of Month  
**Sunday:**  
9.00am Diamond Creek  
10.30am Greensborough North

**Weekday Masses:**

Mon. Eucharistic Service 9.30am Sacred Heart  
Tues. & Thurs. 9.15am Greensborough North  
Wed. & Fri. 9.15am Diamond Creek

**Reconciliation:**

Friday 9.30-10.00am Sacred Heart  
Saturday 9.30-10.00am St. Thomas

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioner and friends from

**Diamond Creek:** Thelma Gill, Noela Atkinson, Lyn Stark, Novan Nguyen, Kay Christian, Catherine Leonard, Di Galea, Les Gale, June Saunders, and from

**Greensborough North:** Maureen Ellks, Frankie Leonard, Mardi Bowers, William Harvey, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Peter Mejak, Nathan Fistic, Emily Selar, A young parishioner, Denis Gardiner, Marajna Susec, Luka Kasalo.

**Sacred Heart and St. Thomas are member parishes of Diamond Valley Deanery**