





#### Sunday 19th November 2017

### 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**

Mrs. Gail Smith *Ph*: 9434 4565 *or Email* principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

#### ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 25th & 26th NOVEMBER 2017

#### SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers: C. Garcia, B. Greaves, J. Pittle, A. Keenan, P. Keenan.

Reader: Y. O'Brien Commentator: A. Pieper Welcoming: M. Dunn Set-Up: M. Farrell, P. Keenan

Counters: P. Guatta, G. Ind Cleaners: P. Leonard

ST. PETER'S 7:15pm: Next Mass Saturday 2nd December, 2017

Special Ministers: H. Edmonds, P. Leonard, R. Nicolaisen.

**Reader:** P. Keenan. **Commentator:** E. Gittins. **Set-Up:** C. Chetcuti .

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

**Special Minsters 6:00pm:** W. Watson, K. McMahon, C. & L. Leahy, M. Bedford. **Special Minsters 10:30am:** A. Kerr, R. Piccolo, J. Millar, J. Jamieson, E. Sutherland.

6:00pm: Reader: B. Bedford. Commentator: S. McMahon.

10:30am: Reader: 1st Eucharist Candidates. Commentator: T. Williamson.

Counters: D. & D. Haesler. Cleaners: 25th November; Karyn. Coen, Kate. Coen.

sson, E. Sutherland.

McMahon.

Set-Up: M. McKenzie.

Set-Up: C. O'Brien.



#### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Wednesday 6th Dec - Seniors Moments Christmas Lunch Sacred Heart Parish Centre, 12pm

Friday 8th Dec. Annual Anointing Mass 11am Sacred Heart followed by light lunch.

**Tuesday** 12th Dec. 7pm St Thomas Reconciliation Service

8pm Liturgy meeting

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

<u>Diamond Creek:</u> Angela Caccetta, Thelma Gill, Noela Atkinson, Lyn Stark, Novan Nguyen, Kay Christian, Catherine Leonard, Di Galea, Les Gale & June Saunders.

<u>Greensborough North:</u> Maureen Elks, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Nathan Fistric, A Young Parishioner.

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of November, that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Jack Ridley, Ros Thomas, Geraldine Nihill, Bev Camilleri, Kevin Doherty, Rebekah Weston, Vincent Atkinson, James Burke, Nick Piccolo, Kathleen Hudson, Maura Coyle, Lena Brullo, Ray Tipping, Lawrence Meilak, Theresa Meilak, Marcel, Bishara,

#### **COMMUNITY LIFE**

**REMEMBRANCE BOOK** will be available during November in the Gathering Space at both churches. You **are invited to write the names of any deceased family or friends in** the book and it will be taken to the Altar at each Mass with the Gifts. November is a time we remember and pray for our loved ones who are no longer here with us.

**SENIORS MOMENTS** Wednesday 6th December 12pm Christmas Lunch in the Sacred Heart Parish Centre.

THANK YOU TO THE GARDNERS AT ST. THOMAS: a big thank you to all the volunteers who work tirelessly to help keep our grounds neat and tidy. A special thanks to those who have undertaken extra work over the past couple of weeks to tame the spring growth. If you would like to spend some time outside on the ride on mower cutting the grass or doing other gardening tasks around the Parish please contact Mary in the Parish Office.

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR THE INTER CHURCH CAROLS ON SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER will be held on Wednesdays: 22, 29 November from 7:30-9 pm at St Mary's Church, Greensborough. We will perform two songs and as many voices as possible from all our Mass Centres would be made very welcome. Contact Megan on 9435 1551 or email: <a href="maintenam@gmail.com">mamitchem@gmail.com</a> if you would like to be part of this event.

<u>THE COLUMBAN CALENDAR</u> is available in the Gathering Space at St. Thomas at <u>\$9 per copy</u>. If we have run out please let the Parish Office know and we will obtain some more.

CHRISTMAS CARDS that depict different scenes of Bethlehem are available in the Gathering Space of both Churches.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** thank you to all who supported the collection for the Deaf Community, we have sent off over \$350. **ST MARY'S MATURE AGE GROUP** the final activity for the year is a trip to Noorlim Estate Homestead with lunch at Nagambie Lakes entertainment Centre on **Dec. 13**. More information and bookings ring Geraldine 0438148896.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL Christmas Stall after the 9am Mass next Sunday 26th November.

#### 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.

#### **MESSAGE FROM FR STEVEN**

16th November ,2017

#### **Dear Parishioners**

It is my pleasure to announce that a panel representing our community of St. Thomas the Apostle has selected our new principal. I can also say that the decision to appoint this person was unanimous and was an expression of our great confidence in the leadership qualities and professional competence of this person.

David Delaney will take up the position at the beginning of 2018. David is an experienced principal who currently leads Holy Name Catholic Primary school in Reservoir.

I welcome David to our community and thank all of you in the way you as parents, as well as staff of the school, have contributed to his selection through the feedback you have given and in particular, I would like to thank those members of the panel who represented you so ably throughout the process.

I would also like to this opportunity to thank Gail for her leadership through this time of transition as well as the way in which she has guided our community to be the vibrant Catholic learning community that we have today. I trust that David will build on the contribution Gail has made in her leadership.

With gratitude for your support of the school,

(Parish Priest)

#### 

If you perform any voluntary work in the parish you are required to obtain a WWCC. Anyone who hasn't obtained one as yet we ask that you do so immediately. To obtain your card go to <a href="https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au">www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au</a> many thanks Pat and Mary.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **WORSHIP & PRAYER**

<u>SAINTS OF THE WEEK:</u> Tuesday: the Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary; Wednesday: St. Cecilia; Friday: Sts. Andrew Düng-Lac, priest and companions.

<u>ADVENT REFLECTIONS</u> - CURRAJEEN RETREAT CENTRE DECEMBER 9 and 16, Sr. Maureen invites you to these two Saturday morning Reflections 10 –11.30am at Currajeen Retreat Centre, 811 Bridge Inn Rd, Doreen (white tyres at the entry). Let us prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas time... See you there!

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

#### ANNUAL ANOINTING/HEALING MASS:

Sacred Heart Church 11.00am on <u>Friday 8th December</u> followed by a light luncheon in the hall. Volunteers to help with hall set-up, transport and serving lunch will be appreciated.

#### 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

<u>ADVENT</u> begins **Year B** and the **Gospel of Mark**, so to prepare come and **Meet Mark**, his **Gospel and his Jesus**. Three Monday evenings: 27 Nov., 4 & 11 Dec. 7.30pm to 9.30pm at St Mary's Church Gathering Space. Donation only. Further information Sandra Bishop 9434 7553. This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.

<u>MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE</u> is available in the Gathering Space at \$4.00 per copy. Articles that may be of interest: Pauline Clayton and her art work. Pauline is the artist who produced the Crucifix in St. Thomas Church. An article by Fr. Tony Herbert writing about time he spent with the Indian people, and the changes to their lifestyle through education.

<u>AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE</u> this free magazine is available in the Gathering Space for you to take today. Main article this edition is looking at "Christmas in the Middle East"

#### PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS AT SACRED HEART

Sacred Heart Family Groups will be serving refreshments after 9am Mass this weekend. Please talk to a member about their activities

On the 22nd November The Passionist Family Group Movement began at Sacred Heart Parish, 32 years ago. (Not a bad innings for our Parish.)

At that time we were the second Parish in Victoria to become involved in this movement, now days there are more than 60 family group parishes across Victoria and over 400 in Australia and overseas.

Of course some of our original groups no longer exist, and leaders and Coordinators have changed, but the values haven't, it's simply to allow people to get to know each other, to accept and love each other and seek to find Christ, through simple hospitality, by sharing our highs and lows, by supporting each other.

Currently we have 3 groups that meet regularly, having functions such as a picnic, a film night, a restaurant meal, a meal in a home, a week end away and much much more.

If you are new in our Parish or not so new and would like to join or would like more information.

Please contact Frank & Claire Ledda on 9438 5171 Coordinators.

#### **EVENTS ELSEWHERE**

<u>MARCELLIN COLLEGE:</u> The annual memorial Mass for deceased Students will be celebrated by Fr. Pat Harvey on Wednesday 22nd November at 7.30pm in the College Chapel. Supper will follow. **Enquiries: Mary Norden 9842 3080**.

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE – Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Interview process will be in Oct/Nov followed by a Training Day early December. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact) www.mercyworks.org.au PH.9326 1895

<u>LOYOLA COLLEGE</u> is holding their *Twilight Market and Carols by Candlelight* on Sunday 3 December in the College grounds. Market starts at 3pm Carols at 7.45pm. Stall enquiries lpfa@loyola.vic.edu.au

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: A GIFT FOR THE WORLD We are offering a two and a half day workshop for women at the Benedictine Abbey, 695 Mountain Road, Jamberoo. April 13-15, 2018 Arrive afternoon of Thursday 12 April, leaving after lunch on the Sunday. Cost of program is \$200. Accommodation fees depend upon type of room selected. Bookings or enquiries 0242360533 or <a href="mailto:cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au">cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au</a>

For any further information on some items in today's newsletter please feel free to go to your Parish Website

# 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.

## 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

19 November 2017

#### First Reading

Prv 31:10-13.19-20.30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life.

She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for.

and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

# **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1 (R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
   By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
   You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
- Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
   May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Thes 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

#### 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 Mt 25:14-30

(or shorter form Mt 25:14-15. 19-21)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant, you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."



#### Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is a very familiar parable and one that is often used with students and young people. It is generally used as an encouragement to make the most of the gifts and skills that the listeners possess. It is rarely, however, placed in its context as part of the full Chapter 25 lesson about the time of waiting and preparation for the coming of the Lord and the Christian life.

Again, the story is presented as a parable of the Kingdom – a glimpse into the right order of things in the realised Kingdom. A very wealthy master entrusts his considerable assets to his servants to manage in his absence. The three servants were allocated money, 'each in proportion to his ability'. The emphasis of the parable is on what each servant did with the funds they were allotted. They were charged with managing the money in the place of their master; acting in their master's place to further develop his wealth.

Like all of Jesus' parables, this one has a sting in the tail. Although the third servant has done nothing illegal or corrupt, he is very harshly dealt with. His crime is laziness! He was given a great opportunity to demonstrate his abilities and yet he shied away and returned to his master exactly what had been entrusted to him. unimproved. The author of Matthew's gospel uses this parable to shock the audience out of complacency. They cannot rely solely on the promised return of the Lord, they must continue to act on Jesus' message and work to bring about the Kingdom in their own lives. Those who fail to act, leaving everything to the work of God, are as bad as the lazy servant who failed to grasp an extraordinary opportunity.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.