



Monday 25th December 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 30th & 31st December 2017

SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers: C. Ledda, M. Cusack, C. Bell, A. Schellens, Sr. Margaret.

Reader: A. Pieper

Commentator: F. Ledda

Welcoming: P. Leonard

Set-Up: M. Roadley

Counters: A. Pieper

Cleaners: J. Hiser

ST. PETER'S 7:15pm: Next Mass Saturday 6th January, 2018

Special Ministers: Volunteers

Reader: Volunteer

Commentator: Volunteer

Set-Up: P. Frisby

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

Special Minsters 6:00pm: K. McMahon, R. Garner, K. Salm, A. McCarthy, M. Gargan

Special Minsters 10:30am: M. Tipping, B. Riordan, A. Kerr, R. Piccolo, R. Rendina

6:00pm: Reader: D. Haesler.

Commentator: S. McMahon.

Set-Up: K. Salm.

10:30am: Reader: J. Kerr.

Commentator: M. Bates.

Set-Up: M. Bates.

Counters: Volunteers.

Cleaners: 13th January: B. Iacobucci, V. Vella.



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

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

Greensborough North: Maureen Elks, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Rosemary Schneider, A Young Parishioner.

We Pray for Pauline Nihill who died this week those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of December that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom

Frank Orders, Kevin Hewitt, Adam Hibbert, Des Vincent, Martin Padgett, Eileen Dunn, Gwen Dalwood, Russell Eames, Adrian DeGier, Arthur Eames, Cass Sheehan, Doris Morfea, Frank Jordan, John Winter.

COMMUNITY LIFE

THANK YOU

Sacred Heart Parish is very appreciative of the long term contributions of Sandra Yeoh, Liz McCrohan and Claire Elso and wish them well as the families move from our district. We would be grateful for new volunteers to be Eucharistic Ministers, or join a cleaning or counters team. Please contact Parish Centre.

YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED

Due to family illness we have lost a member of our team that visits Leith Park each Tuesday with Communion. If you are able to give some time on a Tuesday to visit the residents on a roster basis could you please contact Mary in the Parish Office.

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

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE December issue is available in the Gathering Space at \$4 per copy. In this edition there are articles on the way Christmas is or has been celebrated and who Christmas impacts on us in many different ways.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

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

FAMILY CATECHETICS PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN:

ST. THOMAS PARISH

St. Thomas' provides a Family Catechetics Program for children who are unable attend a Catholic Primary School. This is a four year Sacrament Program commencing with Reconciliation for Grade 2 children and older, followed by First Eucharist with Confirmation, during the final two years. The program sessions are held on Thursday in the St. Thomas Parish House. Your child will be made to feel most welcome and will be instructed by a qualified primary school teacher. The children will also celebrate their sacraments each year with the children of St. Thomas Primary School were possible.

Please be assured that all our teachers meet the Archdiocese's Child Safety requirements and hold a current and valid Working with Children Check. For any additional information regarding next year's sessions please feel free to call our Parish Office, or check our website at: <http://www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth> or email: cagbn@vic.chariot.net.au

SACRED HEART PARISH

After school Faith Development classes (with Sacramental Preparation) for children in Grade Three and over, NOT currently attending the catholic school are held in the Sacred Heart Church, at 25 Gipson Street Diamond Creek, on Mondays 4.00pm-5.00pm beginning, on **Monday February 5th 2018**. There are more details on parish website, <http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek> For further information please telephone Parish office 9438 1159 or e-mail: diamondcreek@cam.org.au

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

STUDY AT YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION IN 2018 A welcoming community for theological education offering undergraduate and postgraduate awards. **NEW Students welcome** Morning classes and/or Evening classes offered 98 Albion Road, Box Hill Ring Nicole or Katherine to make an appointment 9890 3771 #9 **Fee Help** available **Free Parking** Classes start 26th February 2018 www.ytu.edu.au

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: Study Tour of the Biblical Lands: 17 November – 14 December 2018 Jordan, Israel & Palestinian Territories, Turkey and Greece, and option for 3 days in Rome Tour Leaders: Dr Rosemary Canavan & Rev. Anthony Dean **CM Information Session: Saturday 20 January 2018: 2.00pm to 4.00pm** RSVP & further information: Jenny Delahunt T: 9412 3314 E: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

NEW YEARS EVE Family Dinner Dance at St Francis of Assisi Hall Childs Rd Mill Park 7pm to 1am Carvery Meal and Dessert BYO Drinks. Adults \$40 Child (12& under) \$20 Enquiries Ruth 9407 6704 Carmen 9404 3032

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

EXPLANATION OF COLLECTIONS

In every Parish, there are two collections and two separate accounts,

The Presbytery collection/account (1st coll.) provides the pastoral stipend and living costs of the Priest.

The Church collection/account (2nd coll.) provides for the maintenance, office and staff expenses of the Parish.

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.

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Dawn

25 December 2017

First Reading Is 62:11-12

Your Saviour is born.

This the Lord proclaims
to the ends of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Look,
your saviour comes,
the prize of his victory with him,
his trophies before him'.
They shall be called 'The Holy
People',
'The Lord's Redeemed'.
And you shall be called
'The-sought-after',
'City-not-forsaken.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96:1. 6. 11-12

**(R.) A light will shine on us this day:
the Lord is born for us.**

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
the many coastlands be glad.
The skies proclaim his justice;
all the peoples see his glory. (R.)
2. Light shines forth for the just
and joy for the upright of heart.
Rejoice, you just, in the Lord;
give glory to his holy name. (R.)

Second Reading Ti 3:4-7

His own compassion saved us.

When the kindness and love of God
our saviour for mankind were revealed,
it was not because he was concerned
with any righteous actions we might
have done ourselves; it was for no
reason except his own compassion that
he saved us, by means of the cleansing
water of rebirth and by renewing us
with the Holy Spirit which he has so
generously poured over us through
Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so
that we should be justified by his grace,
to become heirs looking forward to
inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:14

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Lk 2:15-20

The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.

Now when the angels had gone from
them into heaven, the shepherds said
to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem
and see this thing that has happened
which the Lord has made known to us.'
So they hurried away and found Mary
and Joseph, and the baby lying in the
manger. When they saw the child they
repeated what they had been told
about him, and everyone who heard it
was astonished at what the shepherds
had to say. As for Mary, she treasured
all these things and pondered them
in her heart. And the shepherds went
back glorifying and praising God for all
they had heard and seen; it was exactly
as they had been told.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The glory of God and profound
peace reaching out to embrace the
whole of humanity are dynamically
related in the baby in the manger.
This is the song of the angels, and
it is our privilege to join in that
song at this Christmas Mass.

Every baby is a promise of a new
future which fills one with hope.
But *this* baby is unique. *This* Jewish
boy baby is the body language of
God. *This* baby is the sonburst of
God entering our dark world. *This*
baby shows us that God is not
impossibly remote but, rather, God
is as intimately close as a
vulnerable infant.

And *this* baby fulfils all the yearning
of the human heart. We want to
love to the utmost. We want to be
loved to the utmost. *This* baby
enables both because he is without
any finite boundaries or restraints:
He is in-finite love reaching out to
us.

Can we grasp all this? Probably
not. So, like the little lambs
nuzzling up to the manger, we just
follow some deep intuition which
says: 'I must kneel in adoration, it
is good to be here.' We could
pause for a moment to pray for the
resolve to do our bit to echo the
angel's message: 'I bring you good
news of great joy to be shared by
all peoples.'

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