

**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 those whose anniversaries occur in the month of August, that they may enter joyfully into God's kingdom.*

*Jim Beattie, Maurie Dalwood, Fr Gerard Loughnan, Kevin Nihill, Win Atkinson, Mary Burke, Arthur Walker, Jane De Carlo, Rachael Casale, Frank McMahon, Frank Ventura, Tony Chirico, Marie Lewis, Michael, De Popolo, Maris Sacchetta, Guido Micheluzzi, Orazio Palazzoto, Giovanna Formosa, Robert Capocchi, Denis McCarthy, James McCarthy, Bill Ahern, Marina Micali, Anne Honeywell, Giuseppa Minutolo, Paul Silverwood, Jim Lysaght, Salvatore Scalia, Margaret Hardwick, Ted Tremayne, Giselle Caliste.*

#### COMMUNITY LIFE

**SENIORS MOMENTS:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Lunch 12pm. Venue TBC.

**DIAMOND CREEK TOWN FAIR** Combined Churches of Diamond Creek will be operating a Hospitality Tent, offering free tea/coffee, biscuits/slices and children's activities at the Diamond Creek Town Fair Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Please consider volunteering to serve in the tent and/or to provide food that can be served through the day. Rosters in Sacred Heart church, or contact Pat.

#### WEBSITE FOR SACRED HEART AND ST THOMAS

Over recent weeks there has been changes made to the parishes' websites including new web addresses;

**New addresses are:**

**Sacred Heart [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek)**

**St Thomas [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth)**

These websites are being updated every week now and on the St. Thomas site you will also find the latest rosters. Please go on the sites and have a look.

#### 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: Monday:** St. Augustin; **Tuesday:** The Passion of St John the Baptist;

**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

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE** this FREE magazine is available in the Gathering Space. An interesting article on "The Parish of the Highway"

**RCIA Enquiry Night at St Mary's Greensborough** Are you curious about the Catholic Faith and would like to learn about it? Or perhaps you're a Catholic who is a bit rusty and would like to brush up. Please come along Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 7.30pm to the St Mary's parish house (door off the car park opposite the tennis courts). Just turn up on the night or contact Tim on 0412 070 511 or Jo on 0411 045 572. We are a friendly group and we would love to meet you

#### 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)

#### 103<sup>RD</sup> MIGRANT & REFUGEE SUNDAY

This year's theme is "Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless". A message from His Holiness Pope Francis ..... For this reason, on the occasion of the annual World Day of Migrants and Refugees, I feel compelled to draw attention to the reality of child migrants, especially the ones who are alone. In doing so I ask everyone to take care of the young, who in a threefold way are defenceless: they are children, they are foreigners, and they have no means to protect themselves. I ask everyone to help those who, for various reasons, are forced to live far from their homeland and are separated from their families.

**Diamond Valley Deanery Refugee Support for the Lentara Asylum Seeker Project** continues. A number of St Thomas & Sacred Heart & St Mary's parishioners are continuing to support the Deanery's initiative. If you wish to participate, contact Lilian on 0402 823 679 or e-mail [alhobson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alhobson@optusnet.com.au)

#### 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. 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

**ANNUAL MASS OF ALL NATIONS** which will be celebrated on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August Migrant & Refugee Sunday at St. Patrick's Cathedral by Archbishop Denis Hart DD. Rosary at 2pm Mass at 3pm. Everyone is most welcome.

**CALL OF GUADALUPE** is a Theatre Group that stages Christian musicals. Our upcoming musical 'MAGDALENE - A WANTON SAINT' which will be staged from 4th to 7th October, 2017 at the Renaissance Theatre, 826 High Street, East Kew. Tickets can be purchased either directly from Try Booking at [TryBooking.com/qzmg](http://TryBooking.com/qzmg)

**KIMBERLEY CATHOLIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE WANTED: VOLUNTEER WORKERS** The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church in the Kimberley. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months. We are currently seeking volunteers for the Balgo, Bidyadanga and Warmun for the wet season. Accommodation and food is provided. For further details on how to be a part of this unique experience, and an application form, please contact: Volunteer Coordinator: Anneliese Rohr 08 9192 1060 Email: [volunteers@broomedioocese.org](mailto:volunteers@broomedioocese.org) Web: [www.broomedioocese.org](http://www.broomedioocese.org)

**ST JOHN'S PARISH 2017 SEMINAR.** Thursdays 19 and 26 October and 2 November. Rev Dr Elio Capra, a Salesian priest, speaks about Amoris Laetitia—the Joy of Love, by Pope Francis. Topics: 7:30pm to 9:00pm at the Francis Xavier meeting rooms (St John's parish house) 52 Yarra Street Heidelberg. Entrance through the meeting room doors at the back of the parish house. All Welcome. Entrance Free. RSVP 94571066 / [heidelberg@cam.org.au](mailto:heidelberg@cam.org.au)

**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.

#### INDIA VISIT by Kevin & Sue McMahon

Kevin and I will be leaving for India on the 16th September to do some more voluntary work in Kolkota and Shillong in India. We will be taking with us 3 teachers and 3 students from Parade College. In the past, a number of parishioners have been very generous and keen to make donations towards the schools we visit, so if anyone would like to make a donation this time, we would be most grateful. You can be sure that every dollar you entrust us with goes directly to the running of these schools which are run by the Christian Brothers and the Loreto Sisters. Kevin has been doing this sort of work in India since 2005 and this will be his 8th visit. It will be my 3rd visit. Over that time, it has been very pleasing to see the progress made by the students at Providence School in Shillong and Loretto Sealdah and St. George's in Kolkota. Their enthusiasm for learning is inspiring. If any of you are on Facebook, you can learn lots about Providence School and follow the achievements of the students. If you wish to make a donation, please contact us for banking details or see us personally. Contact details: 94350184 or [sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com](mailto:sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com) Many thanks, Sue McMahon

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As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison.

Nelson Mandela

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**27 August 2017**

**First Reading** Is 22:19-23  
*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*  
 I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:  
 I dismiss you from your office,  
 I remove you from your post,  
 and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.  
 I invest him with your robe,  
 gird him with your sash,  
 entrust him with your authority;  
 and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.  
 I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;  
 should he open, no one shall close,  
 should he close, no one shall open.  
 I drive him like a peg into a firm place;  
 he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

**Responsorial Psalm**  
 Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

*(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;  
 do not forsake the work  
 of your hands.*

- I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
 you have heard the words of my mouth.  
 Before the angels I will bless you.  
 I will adore before your holy temple.  
 (R.)
- I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
 which excel all we ever knew of you.  
 On the day I called, you answered;  
 you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
- The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
 and the haughty he knows from afar.  
 Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
 discard not the work of your hands.  
 (R.)

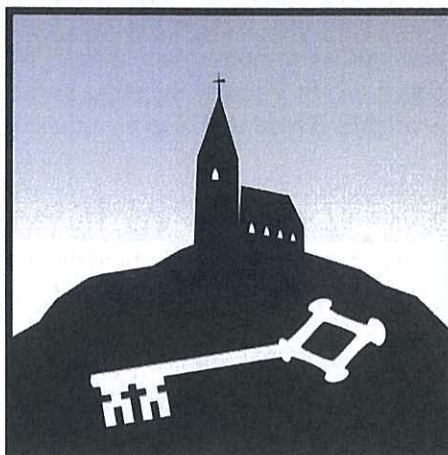
**Second Reading** Rom 11:33-36  
*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*  
 From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 16:18  
*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
*You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;  
 the gates of hell will not hold out against it.*  
*Alleluia!*

**Gospel** Mt 16:13-20  
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*  
 You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



**Reflection**  
 by Michael Tate

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our Risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, 'Rebuild my church'.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

mtate@bigpond.com



**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:** taohautrach@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:** Noela Atkinson, Lyn Stark, Novan Nguyen, Kay Christian, Catherine Leonard, Di Galea, Ann Cusack, Les Gale, John Ralston, June Saunders, and from  
**Greensborough North:** Mardi Bowers, William Harvey, Jackson Leahy, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Peter Mejak, Nathan Fistic, Emily Selar, A young parishioner, Denis Gardiner, Marajna Susec, Luka Kasalo.

**Sunday 27th August 2017**

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 2nd & 3rd September 2017**  
**Diamond Creek. 9 am**  
**Special Ministers:**

R. Belli, A. Schellins, G. Beeby, M. Beeby, J. Pittle  
**Reader:** M. Hardy  
**Commentator:** G. Hardy  
**Welcoming:** A. Pieper  
**Setting up:** P. Thomas  
**Counters:** J. Hoyne, P. Hoyne  
**Cleaners:** L. Mc Crohan

**Next Mass at St. Peter's Hurstbridge - Sat 2nd September @ 7.15pm.**  
**Special Minister:** E. Gittins, R. Nicolaisen, P. Keenan.  
**Reader:** C. Elso  
**Commentator:** P. Leonard  
**Setting Up:** P. Frisby

**Greensborough North**  
**Special Ministers:**  
**6.00pm:** R. Garner, C. & L. Leahy, K. Salm, M. McKenzie  
**10.30am:** B. Riordan, E. Sutherland, A. Letizia, F. Landy, B. Watts  
**Readers:** 6.00pm: P. Carty 10.30am: E. Rainsbury  
**Commentators:** 6.00pm: B. Bedford 10.30am: T. Williamson  
**Setting Up:** 6.00pm: M. McKenzie. 10.30am: C. O'Brien.  
**Cleaners:** K. Coen, K. D'Angelis, J. D'Angelis.  
**Counters:** J. Bohan, B. Riordan, A. McCarthy.

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**September:**  
 Wed. 6 Senior Moments Lunch 12pm Platters Restaurant  
 Wed 12 Combined Liturgy Meeting S/T 7.30pm  
 Wed 20 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting S/T 7.30pm

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

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