



Sunday 3rd 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 9th & 10th December 2017

SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers: S. Yeoh, K. Watson, M. Cusack, J. Bruce, E. Elso

Reader: Sr. Margaret **Commentator:** B. Ward **Welcoming:** M. Dunn **Set-Up:** J. Bruce, A. Pieper

Counters: L. McCrohan, M. Farrell **Cleaners:** P. Guatta

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: M. McKenzie, S. Bishop, M. Sturmar, W. Watson, K. Salm.

Special Minsters 10:30am: R. Rendina, J. Millar, D. Nixon, A. Letzia,

6:00pm: **Reader:** M. Gargan. **Commentator:** T. Holland.

Set-Up: T. Butera.

10:30am: **Reader:** M. Bates. **Commentator:** B. Watts.

Set-Up: M. Bates.

Counters: T. Quinlan, B. Murray, M. Cullinan.

Cleaners: 9th December: A. & L. Hobson, M. Manison.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday	8th Dec.	Annual Anointing Mass 11am Sacred Heart followed by light lunch.
Tuesday	12th dec.	7pm St Thomas Reconciliation Service
Tuesday	12th Dec.	8pm Liturgy meeting

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.

Greensborough North: Brian Bedford, Maureen Elks, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Nathan Fistic, A Young Parishioner.

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

Adam Hibbert, Des Vincent, Martin Padget, Eileen Dunn, Gwen Dalwood, Russell Eames, Adrian DeGier, Arthur Eames, Cass Sheehan,

COMMUNITY LIFE

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

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

ST MARY'S MATURE AGE GROUP Please come and join us for our last outing for the year to the Noorlim Estate Homestead, on the 13 December 2017, with a 2 course lunch at Nagambie Lakes Entertainment Centre, cost members TBA Non Members \$59.00. Seats still available. Bus will be leaving William Street entrance at 9.15am returning home 4.00pm. Please contact Geraldine 9435 4306, Angela 9444 6298 Kay 9435 736

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION Special leaving collection next weekend. Money raised from this collection will help the disadvantaged communities through out Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Peru, Jerusalem and West Africa.

FUNERAL of Peter Kenny will be held at St. Mary's on Tuesday 5th December at 2pm. Peter was a regular at the 9am Mass at St. Thomas before the Mass changes took place. He was also the electrician around the parish for a long time and did a lot of work in helping make the Parish Fete a success in the early years. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lou and her family at this time.

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.

ADVENT PANITENTIAL SERVICE

St. Thomas /Sacred Heart Tuesday 12th December 7pm at St. Thomas

St. Mary's Wednesday 13th December at 7pm

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

ADVENT 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.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

SAINTS OF THE WEEK: **Thursday:** St. Ambrose; **Friday:** Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS - 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!

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.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The season of Advent begins this weekend, which is also the beginning of Year B in the liturgical calendar. In light of recent Royal Commission findings, our Liturgy Team has chosen the theme of Rebuilding Our Church to carry us through this season of Advent. We acknowledge that there has been much pain and we pray continually for the victims of abuse and their families. We are a church in crisis and we need to find ways to restore our church and its people through true sorrow, forgiveness and healing. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us work towards restoring the values of trust, honesty and compassion.

The symbol to be placed on our Advent Tree for this week is an alarm clock which helps us to be alert and ready for the coming of the Messiah, but also to be alert to the pain and suffering of many. The Gospel this week tells us to "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come." *Mk 13:33*



E-Conference Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: The Hope of Pope Francis

St Mary's will be showing the DVD of the recent E-Conference "Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: The Hope of Pope Francis" on **Wednesday the 13th of December from 10.00 until 3.00**. Speakers and panellists are Professor Massimo Faggioli, Mr Paul Kelly, Professor, the Hon Bob Carr, Sr Clare Condon SGS, Rev Dr Gerald Arbuckle SM, Ms Elizabeth Proust and Sr Ruth Durick OSU. The presenter is Mr Noel Debien. There will be time to view each presentation and discuss. Venue: St Mary's Gathering Space. Bring a small plate of lunch to share. In order to assist our planning for the day please **contact St Mary's parish Office on 9435 1543 or email Jacinta Bright on Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au** to let us know you will be coming. This E-Conference is presented by The Broken Bay Institute: The Australian Institute of Theological Education and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

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.

First Sunday of Advent, Year B

3 December 2017

First Reading Is 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)

3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:3-9

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:33-37

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is *our* situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his servants in charge, giving to each his work.'

You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment.

We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and *faithful* servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'

mtate@bigpond.com

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