

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 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 6th September. Lunch 12pm, Platters Restaurant. Wednesday 20th September Lunch and Games 12pm in Parish Centre. BYO light lunch to share.

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 9th 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.

LEAVING COLLECTION will be taken up today at all Masses for the support of our retired and sick Priests. Envelopes are available on the seats and your donation is very much needed and appreciated.

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

St Thomas 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 (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.

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: Friday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE won the 2017 Bishop Philip Kennedy Memorial Award for Overall Excellence. The September issue is available in the Gathering Space for \$4.

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

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS Youth Group and NET Ministries presents: What If I'm More Than I Think I Am? Sat. 9th of Sept. 7-9pm, 2 Henry St, Eltham Teens and young people Cost:\$5 Enq. & RSVP to Natalie 0400 027 447

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

FATHER'S DAY:

Today we give thanks for our earthly fathers and pray for them. Let's also give thanks for our spiritual fathers who serve the people of our parishes and communities so generously and well. Today let's also remember and pray for two new 'spiritual fathers' who will be ordained as priests on Saturday September 9 at 10am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Please remember in your prayers Deacons Toan Nguyen and Anil Mascarenhas as they prepare for priestly ordination next week. All are welcome to the Cathedral for the Ordination Mass. Please pray for more vocations from our parishes and communities in Melbourne.

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

PARISH YEARLY COLLECTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTER

This collection will once again be held from the weekend of 26th/27th August until 23rd/24th 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

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

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

A STATEMENT from Rev. John Henderson Bishop Lutheran Church of Australia and Archbishop Christopher Prowse from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation is available at https://www.cam.org.au/Portals/66/documents/A_statement_500th_Anniversary_Reformation_Website.pdf there are also copies in the Gathering Space.

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 Many thanks, Sue McMahon

A PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

We bring our dad to you, O God, in prayer.

May the worries of his heart be eased.

May his work be meaningful and give him joy.

May his dad jokes be met with laughter and the love of his family be available to him.

May his support of his family be met with appreciation, gratitude and respect.

May he grow old surrounded by love.

And may he know that as much as he loves his children, he too is loved. AMEN

Happy Father's Day

My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me.

Jim Valvano

I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection.

Sigmund Freud

I don't care how poor a man is; if he has family, he's rich. Colonel Potter, M*A*S*H

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

3 September 2017

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl

and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of

our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our heart,

that we might see how great

is the hope

to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



Reflection

by Michael Tate

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus wanted him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dreadful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get behind me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, follow me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.

mtate@bigpond.com

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Sacred Heart Church Diamond Creek



St Peter's Church Hurstbridge



St Thomas the Apostle Greensborough

Sunday 3rd September 2017

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 9th & 10th September 2017

Diamond Creek. 9 am

Special Ministers:

S. Yeoh, K. Watsom, M. Cusack, J. Bruce, C. Elso

Reader: A. Pieper

Commentator: B. Ward

Welcoming: M. Dunn

Setting up: J. Bruce, A. Pieper

Counters: M. Farrell, L. Mc Crohan

Cleaners: M. Dunn

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

Greensborough North

Special Ministers:

6.00pm: M. Bedford, A. Mc Carthy, W. Watson, M. Sturmar, J. Bohan.

10.30am: D. Nixon, C. O'Brien, M. Elks, J. Millar, B. Iacobucci.

Readers: **6.00pm:** T. Holland. **10.30am:** M. Kenny.

Commentators: **6.00pm:** J. Bohan. **10.30am:** A. Fistic.

Setting Up: **6.00pm:** C. Leahy. **10.30am:** M. Bates.

Cleaners: B. Guldon, G. Kilkenny.

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

DATES FOR THE DIARY

September:

Wed. 6 Senior Moments Lunch 12pm Platters Restaurant

Tues. 12 Combined Liturgy Meeting S/T 7.30pm

Wed. 20 Senior Moments lunch and Games P/C 12pm

Wed 20 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting S/T 7.30pm

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

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: Thelma Gill, Noela Atkinson, Lyn Stark, Novan Nguyen, Kay Christian, Catherine Leonard, Di Galea, Ann Cusack, Les Gale, June Saunders,

and from

Greensborough North: Maureen Ellks, Frankie Leonard, 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.