





Sunday 4th February 2018

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

Mr David Delaney *Ph*: 9434 4565 *or Email* principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 10th & 11th February

SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers: K. Watson, M. Cusack, J. Bruce, Aminda & Dharshanie

Reader: J. Hoyne. Commentator: B. Ward. Welcoming: M. Roadley Set-Up: P. Thomas

Counters: J. & P. Hoyne Cleaners: U. Federico

<u>ST. PETER'S 7:15pm:</u> Next Mass Saturday 3rd March, 2018 Special Ministers: R. Nicolaisen, H. Edmonds, B. Greaves

Reader: R. Edmonds. Commentator: E. Gittins. Set-Up: M. Frisby.

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

Special Minsters 6:00pm: M. McKenzie, K. Salm, M. Sturmar, J. Bohan, M. Gargan Special Minsters 10:30am: F. Landy, M. tipping, C. O'Brien, E. Sutherland, R. Piccolo.

6:00pm:Reader: J. Bohan.Commentator: E. Sacchetta.Set-Up: K. Salm.10:30am:Reader: L. Hobson.Commentator: M. Kenny.Set-Up: J. Kerr.

Counters: T. Williamson, M. Bates, A. Tomasiello Cleaners: 24th February E. Smooker, M. McKenzie, G. McDonald, L. Stephens.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Senior Moments next meeting Wed 7th Feb. 12pm Parish Centre.

Ash Wednesday 14th February Masses Sacred Heart 9.15am St Thomas 12 noon and 7.30pm

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, Marjana Susec.

Greensborough North: Maureen Elks, Elaine Ledda, Noel Casemore, Rosemary Schneider, Gwen Walsh, Jo,

<u>We Pray for for those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of February that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom</u> Patricia Murphy, Nese Roberts, Leanne Lynch, Ursula Morrissey, Judy Vincent, Fr. Peter Fulton, Mary Crothers, Francesca Serrao, Reginal Chircop, Sanico De Carlo, Brian Kenny, Nick Buttifant, Giuseppe Piccolo, Eddie Scully, Leslie Lowe.

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENIOR MOMENTS: Next meeting Wednesday 7th February 12pm in Parish Centre. BYO light lunch to share.

<u>ST. THOMAS T/G ENVELOPES</u> the next set of envelopes which are due to start in March are available for collection in the Gathering Space.

<u>AFTER SCHOOL FAITH DEVELOPMENT CLASSES</u> (with Sacramental Preparation) for children in Grade Three and over, NOT currently attending the catholic school begin for this year at <u>Sacred Heart Church</u>, 25 Gipson Street Diamond Creek, and also taking enrolments on **Monday February 5th**.

Those who wish to attend the program at <u>St Thomas</u> are asked to contact the Catechetic Office on 94341246 and leave a message. Classes start on Thursday 8th February

THE EUCHARIST IS THE SOURCE AND SUMMIT OF OUR FAITH.

Fr Tao has told us of his joy, whilst he was in hospital, when his daily Holy Communion would arrive and the disappointment on the rare occasion when, for whatever reason it didn't come.

We are able to receive the Blessed Sacrament at our Sunday Mass, even daily, if we wish, from the various services in our Parishes. We get to choose, when, and at what time. We have Parishioners who are house bound or in the care facilities that we minister to, who are unable to choose and so they rely on the volunteers of the Parish to visit. We all have commitments, caring for an elderly relative, minding grand-children, or volunteering in other ways in the community. There are new facilities being built in the Diamond Valley area and we will be asked to minister to these residents. Pleases don't hesitate to volunteer even if you haven't done it before as training and assistance will be provided to you. If you are able to spare a couple of hours approximately once a month please contact our Parish offices. Kaye Salm

Please Note

We are still in need of more volunteers to help with Baptisms, Church Cleaning, Church Set Up and Counting. Please give a think if you would be able to help in any way at either church. Thank you

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>MELBOURNE CATHOLIC</u> the February issue is available in the Gathering Space at \$4 per copy. Again there are many interesting and varied articles for you to read this month.

WORSHIP & PRAYER

SAINTS OF THE WEEK: Tuesday: St. Paul Miki

<u>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</u> will be held at St. Mary's during Lent on Friday nights commencing 16th February and continuing to the 23rd March at 7.30pm. All welcome

<u>LENTEN PROGRAM</u> will be held on a Wednesday morning after 9.15am Mass at Sacred Heart Parish for the six weeks of Lent. Booklets will be provided.

<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.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING. Thursday 8th February 6.30pm Holy Hour 7.30pm Mass St Patrick's Cathedral. Celebrant: Very Rev Joe Caddy, Episcopal Vicar for Social Services and Justice. Inquiries: justice@cam.org.au

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.

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 www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au many thanks Pat and Mary.

THE SEASON OF LENT

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday 14th February. Traditionally, Catholics prepare for the joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection at Easter with this period of personal and communal repentance.

- **1.** Project Compassion has become our communal <u>almsgiving</u>, springing from concern for our neighbour in the global village. The theme this year is, "Love Your Neighbour".
 - 2. Our more personal decision to repent is supported by the traditional practices of **fasting and abstinence** during

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the two notable days of penance each year.

Everyone aged <u>14</u> and above should not eat meat on these two days.

Those aged between 18 and 59 could cut down on the quantity of food consumed on these two days as an expression of fasting.

All, but especially older people, should look after their health.

Lent.

Persons aged <u>60</u> and above are not bound to fast. Eat healthily and thank God!

Children, who are not obliged to either abstinence until age 14 or fasting until age 18, would benefit from the example of their parents and from being led to a simple experience of self-denial.

3. Last, we're encouraged by Jesus himself to be more diligent with our **prayer** at this time. If the practice of grace before meals has gone by the board, this would be a good time to revive it in our homes, especially for the meals at which all the family gather. It could be extended a little bit by using a few moments to pray for one another or for family members to pray about things that concern them.

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

THINKING OF A UNIQUE OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE? Hear about our amazing trip planned to Eastern Europe including Croatia with likeminded parishioners and friends. Hosted by Diamond World Travel, with Jane Hally and Rebecca Tonkin. A meeting will be held on Thursday February 8th from 7.30 at St Francis Xavier Parish House. Please RSVP to: diamondworldtravel@mtatravel.com.au or call 0481321055.

<u>ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC MINISTRY</u> invites you to the screening of "*Sweet Country*" Sunday 11th Feb 2pm at Nova Cinema staring Bryan Brown and Sam Neil. Enquiries and bookings 9878 7939.

<u>THE LOYOLA EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION</u> will be hosting the Loyola Classic Car Show on Friday 16 February in the College grounds from 6pm onwards. Enjoy a BBQ while you look over the Classic Cars from Metro Classic Cruizers Car Club and independent owners.

<u>OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION</u> has a position for a part time Finance/Administration Officer. Further information can be obtained from Selma Bahtiyar on 9443 9070.

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 cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND invest in your most precious asset. Your Marriage! There are four weekends to be held in Melbourne throughout 2018 they are as follows March 16-18; June 1-3; August 17-19; November 9-11, starting at 7pm Friday ending 5pm Sunday. More information at www.wwme.org.au

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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

4 February 2018

First Reading Jb 7:1-4.6-7

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,

his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages.

months of delusion I have assigned to me,

nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'how slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,

and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

- Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. (R.)
- The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. (R.)
- Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the

Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:29-39

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) was sick in bed with a raging fever. When Jesus learned about her distressed state, he 'took her by the hand and helped her up'. He broke the taboo about physical contact with a woman not his relative because he wanted to holistically heal her dis-ease.

Simon's mother-in-law didn't need an aspirin and a cup of tea. She felt quarantined, isolated, and needed a hand reassuring her of sociable relationships. Jesus overcame her fever and her disease with the world.

At every Mass we exchange a physical gesture at the greeting of Peace. This quite often overcomes being ill-at-ease with a family member or just with the neighbour in the pew. We need to take that symbolic action into the world. For somebody, it may be the most touching thing we ever do.

We could pause for a moment to identify that person who needs us to reach out, to take their hand and help them up.

mtate@bigpond.com