





Sunday 28th August 2022

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo Assistant Priests: Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Martin Tanti

Parish Pastoral Associates: Jacinta Bright & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

The Partnered Parishes of:

St. Mary's

204 Grimshaw St., Greensborough, 3088

Parish: 9435 1543 **Presbytery:** 7036 9329

Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam1.org.au/greensborough

Secretaries: Francesca Olofsson & Sharon

Prosser

Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.00am-10.00am & 5.45pm-6.15pm

before evening Mass

Parish School Principal

Mrs. Marisa Matthys *Ph:* 9433 4000 *or Email* principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart & St Peter's

25 Gipson Street, Diamond Creek 3089

Parish: 9401 6361

Email: <u>DiamondCreek@cam.org.au</u>

Website: www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek

Secretary: Pat Guatta

Mass Times

Wednesday & Friday: Mass 9.15am St Peter's: 1st & 3rd Saturday 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

Secretary: Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass 10.30am

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.30am to 10.00am

Parish School Principal

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

THE CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES

The Chief Health Officer has strongly recommended the use of face coverings in indoor and crowd settings during this winter period Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. However, parishioners should be encouraged to be sensitive to the well-being of others when in close proximity.

Clergy and Extraordinary Ministers are asked to wear face coverings for the distribution of communion.



Jesus teaches us how to live according to his vision of a good society where everyone is invited and welcomed equally. Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C,

28th August 2022.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripturereflection--shoulder-my-yoke-and-learn-from-me--for-i-amgentle-and-humble-in-heart

Sacred Heart, St Mary's & St Thomas the Apostle are all members of the Diamond Valley Deanery.



www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

www.cam.org.au



PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Today is Social Justice Sunday - In their Social Justice Statement for 2022-2023, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse,

the Australian Bishops add their voice to global campaigns to confront and call out destructive attitudes and behaviours that lead to life-limiting and long-lasting impacts on many vulnerable members of our families, churches, and society.

The bishops invite us to investigate the scope, drivers, and enablers of abuse. They invite us to familiarise ourselves with programmes that promote the transformation of individuals and structures and to 'take responsibility for changing the cultural factors in our Church and society that have allowed violence against women and children to flourish.' (p10)

The voices of victims and survivors of violence and abuse are woven together with scripture, social research, and our rich Catholic social justice teachings. This theological reflection also invites us to contemplate the ways. In which themes within our Christia tradition can be misused to justify, legitimise, or normalise violence, such as forgiveness, submission, and leadership.

Catholic families, communities and organisations are encouraged to engage with the challenging material in the Social Justice Statement.

The Statement needs to be read slowly and reflectively, individually, and collectively for its potential to be maximised. We pray that possibilities for response and action will become apparent when the Statement is considered in an open and supportive context. We invite you to practice self-compassion and awareness of the needs of those in our midst who are struggling as the implications of the Statement flow from your prayerful and purposeful deliberations. (Australian Catholic Bishops Conference)

(Copies of the Social Justice Statement & Prayer are available in the foyer of our Churches.

The Statement can also be downloaded at: https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/08/02/sjs2022-23/

St Thomas the Apostle & Sacred Heart Parishes Food Drive for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre will once again (after a 2 year break due to COVID) be held from the weekend of 27th/28th of August until 1st/2nd of October.

Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women.

Some of the urgent items are: Tuna in oil,400g;Tinned tomatoes, 400g; Honey small bottles; Raw unsalted nuts, almonds, walnuts, cashews; Spices, small packs cumin, turmeric, chilli; Coconut cream; Sweet and savoury biscuits; Dried fruit, apricots, dates; Peanut butter; Jam; Full cream UHT milk, 1 litre.

Deodorant; Disposable razors; Shampoo & conditioner; Laundry powder, max 1kg; Dishwashing liquid, 1 litre.

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive these items; there will also be a basket available at Sacred Heart. There will also be list of items needed available to take home.

ASRC Foodbank currently provides free groceries to around 1000 people, including children, every week, most of whom have no income and no work rights. Every donation makes a difference. https://asrc.org.au



PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS continued

The Partnered Parishes THINK AND BREATHE Child Safety – KEEP CHILDREN SAFE.

With the return of families at our Masses and as our toilets are out of view, parental supervision of your children is required while using the facilities. Parents/guardians are to supervise children at all times when at our parishes.

Clergy, employees and volunteers are committed to upholding a duty of care to all children and young people and taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from all forms of abuse and harm. The Partnered Parishes' clergy, employees and volunteers commit to safeguard the health and wellbeing of children and young people by:

Keeping children and young people safe from abuse and harm.

MAJELLAN MEDIA

Majellan Media has provided several copies of *The Majellan Magazine free* for parishioners to take home.

There is no obligation, but should you enjoy reading it please consider subscribing.

You can subscribe on their website: www.majellan.media

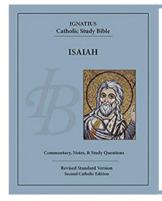
MASS BY CANDLELIGHT

Hundreds of candles and quiet, meditative music await you from 7.30pm before Mass at 8.00pm If you accept Jesus' invitation to "Come away...and rest a while" (Mk 6:31).

Join us for the final 2022 Mass by Candlelight on Thursday 15th September at St Thomas Church, 251 Diamond Creek Road Greensborough North.

Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 339 or Emilia 0418 120 902.





The Monday Zoom Bible Study Group will soon commence the book of Isaiah, drawing from the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible. It is not necessary to have a copy of the Isaiah book, however most participants find it quite beneficial to do so.

The sessions are 7.30 - 9.30 pm Mondays, beginning August 22.

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/79611838040

Further information contact Sandra Bishop: sandraebishop@optusnet.com.au

JACINTA BRIGHT'S FARWELL

Following Jacinta Bright's sad news last week that she is retiring in October as our Pastoral Associate, it is appropriate that we farewell her with her family present so as to express our gratitude and well-wishes to her.

All parishioners from our Partnered Parishes are warmly welcome to farewell Jacinta at the 10.00 am Mass at St. Mary's on Sunday October 2nd.

This will be followed by refreshments in the Gathering Space of the church. If you are coming, you might consider bringing a plate to share.

Fr Steven Rigo.

Dear parishioners,

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that I am retiring from my Pastoral Associate role at the end of September (or the first week in October.) I have been here at St Marys' for over 17 years now and 32 years in total in Pastoral Associate Ministry in Melbourne.

 $oldsymbol{i}$ I am older and tired and a recent spell of illness sharpened my appreciation of the need to slow down.

The parish will advertise for a new Pastoral Associate and I am sure you will welcome and support that person, as you have for me.

Thank you for everything you have given me over my time here and I look forward to seeing you over the next couple of months.

Jacinta

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



<u>Baptisms</u>: we pray for Ella, Harrison, Pia and Bella who will be welcomed into the Sacred Heart community in August.

Parish Fundraiser <u>Craft Market</u> after Mass on Sunday 23rd October in the Hall. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to assist with organisation or to book a table.

Save the date: St Peter's Hurstbridge 50th Anniversary Saturday 3rd December 5 pm Mass.

Senior Moments: Wednesday 7th September 12pm Lunch at Diamond Creek Tavern. All welcome.

Contact Margaret Jose for bookings.

Wednesday 21st September 12pm Lunch and Games in the Parish Centre.

Parish Pastoral Council: Email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com Suggestion box at back of Church.

Rosters for Weekend 3rd/4th September

Saturday 3rd September 7.15pm St Peter's

Reader: P. Keenan Commentator: E. Gittins Eucharistic Ministers: volunteer

Sunday 4th September 9am Sacred Heart

Reader: J. Hoyne Commentator: T. Jenkins Eucharistic Ministers: A. Schellens, T. Sirianni

St Thomas the Apostle & Sacred Heart Parishes Food Drive for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre will once again (after a 2 year break due to COVID) be held from the weekend of 27th/28th of August until 1st/2nd of October.

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Some of the urgent items are: Tuna in oil,400g; Tinned tomatoes, 400g; Honey small bottles; Raw unsalted nuts, almonds, walnuts, cashews; Spices, small packs cumin, turmeric, chilli; Coconut cream; Sweet and savoury biscuits; Dried fruit, apricots, dates; Peanut butter; Jam; Full cream UHT milk, 1 litre.

Deodorant; Disposable razors; Shampoo & conditioner; Laundry powder, max 1kg; Dishwashing liquid, 1 litre.

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive these items; there will also be a basket available at Sacred Heart.

There will also be list of items needed available to take home.

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

Mario Molinaro, Lina Molinaro, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Margaret Holland, Bridie Burke, Mary Rafferty, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper,

We pray for those who have died including and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of August that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Jim Beattie, Fr Gerard Loughnan, Kevin Nihill, Win Atkinson, Mary Burke, Wayne Robinson, John O'Connor

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

INNER HEALING RETREAT: A retreat on the Meditation on Jesus will be held on the 16th & 17th September, at 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, 3155. The retreat begins at 5.30pm on Friday 16th September and concludes at 4.30pm on Saturday 17th of September. (Prayer & Meditation through gentle postures and breathing in the Holy Spirit, heals body, mind and soul.)

Guided by Fr. Gilbert Carlo SVD RSVP Tel: 0424202191 or Email: gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

<u>WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY EVENING:</u> Celebrating Women's Strengths Guest Speaker - Sr Nicole Rotaru RSM St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall. 290 Childs Rd, Mill Park Friday 16th September 6 pm - 9 pm \$25 per head includes two course meal RSVP 08/09/2022 To book please go to the following link: https://www.trybooking.com/CBOSD or call the parish office on 9407 6700

HEART OF LIFE CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL FORMATION: Assertiveness, Trusting Your Own Inner Voice (via Zoom), Tuesday evening 30th Aug 2022, 7pm-9.30pm (AEST). This reflection event will explore: assertiveness - what it is and what it is not; why being assertive is adult behaviour that builds up everyone's strength and capacity to love; finding within ourselves that voice of God that echoes who I am as good in the eyes of God; what is it that distorts this perspection and how that influences my judgement and behaviour; being assertive with God; being with an assertive God. Led by Chris Chaplin msc (MSCX, Dip Transpersonal & Experiential Psychotherapy, BTheol, Cert Spir Dir (Siloam)). Cost \$35. Book and pay by 26/8/22 via www.heartoflife.melbourne Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Malvern VIC, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



Baptisms: We welcome into our community Noah, Charlotte, Joey and Charlotte who are being Baptised this weekend.

<u>Mass by Candlelight:</u> Hundreds of candles and quiet, meditative music await you from 7.30pm before Mass at 8pm if you accept Jesus' invitation to "*Come away...and rest a while*" (Mk 6:31). Join us for the final 2022 Mass by Candlelight on Thursday, 15th September at St Thomas' Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, Greensborough Nth. Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 339 or Emilia 0418 120 902.

UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL TABERNACLE

Dear parishioners,

This week in the newsletter we have provided a visual depiction of the *possible addition* of a Tabernacle in the body of the Church. These temporary measures have been implemented until the 1st of October. An existing extra tabernacle has been placed in the Seasonal Chapel. A makeshift temporary "wall" has been erected to block off the Adoration Chapel from the body of the Church, thus retaining the ability to pray after hours in the Adoration Chapel or to collect hosts for the sick.



Following a PPC meeting held on Wednesday night a proposal was put forth which will go to the

working committee that we have 2 tabernacles in the church, but the Sacred Host of the Eucharist is only kept in the Adoration Chapel.

When a Mass or other liturgies are celebrated, the Eucharist is moved into the Church before Mass and returned to the Adoration chapel after Mass concludes.

Under Church law 'Cannon Law" we are not permitted to have 2 active tabernacles under the same roof.

This proposal would firstly, allow the parishioners who long for the presence of the Eucharist in a tabernacle in the body of the Church during a Mass to be fulfilled. Secondly the need for any structural alterations to the Church would be obsolete as the Eucharist is securely kept in the Adoration chapel at other times.

Could you please submit any feedback by the 2nd of October by email directly to Fr Martin: Martin. Tanti@cam.org.au

The next meeting will be Wednesday 5th October, 7.00pm in the Parish House Meeting Room.

ST THOMAS SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

This weekend as we observe Social Justice Sunday, the St Thomas the Apostle Social Justice Group would like to provide information on how the St Thomas the Apostle Parish is supporting both local and overseas causes.

In 1992, following an article in ACR regarding a Townsville Parish's initiative, the Social Justice Group formulated an idea of putting aside a percentage of the Parish Thanksgiving Offering to help the disadvantaged in world and local communities. This was presented to the Parish Assembly in 1993 and has been ongoing since then.

3% of Thanksgiving Income from St Thomas the Apostle, Greensborough North Parish (the second collection at Mass) is set aside for both overseas and local development aid projects as follows:

- 0.5% for an Ecumenical International Aid Project.
- 1.0% for an Aboriginal Aid Project: as chosen by the Social Justice Group
- 1.0% for an Overseas Aid Project: as chosen by the Social Justice Group
- 0.5% for a Local Parish Need: as chosen by the Parish Priest or through St Vincent de Paul.

The Ecumenical International Aid Project for 2022 is the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) Act for Peace. For further details please visit: actforpeace.org.au

The Aboriginal Aid Project for 2022 is Djiraa, an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation providing practical support to all Aboriginal women, and particularly to Aboriginal people who are currently experiencing family violence or have in the past.

For further details please visit: djirra.org.au

The Overseas Aid Project for 2022 is Caritas Australia's Ukraine Crisis Appeal.

For further details please visit: https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS continued



Rosters for Weekend 3rd & 4th September

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: J. Bohan Commentator: K. McMahon Eucharistic Ministers: L. Carty, D. Haesler, M. Bedford

Set Up: M. Mc Kenzie

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: Volunteer Commentator: M. Bates Eucharistic Ministers: C. O'Brien, F. Landy, M. Tipping

Set Up: M. Bates

Report from the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 17th August.

The following matters were discussed at this meeting:

- Audio Visual system in the church the current screens will be replaced by two large televisions and the system upgraded. We await a start date for installation.
- The Council expressed deep appreciation of the work of Tony Rendina who installed the marble casing for the St Thomas statue's plinth. A plaque has been ordered to complete the work.
- Plans to establish an early learning centre on parish land are progressing. Members of the Council attended a recent meeting with representatives of the Archdiocese, the parish priests, Parish Finance Committee, the developer, parishioners, the school, and St Thomas Village. Information was presented on the contract including lease arrangements, a possible design for the centre and how the rights and interests of all stakeholders would be taken into account as planning proceeds.

 Various questions were raised and detailed answers provided. Further information will be provided to the parish in coming weeks.
- Liturgy matters included holding some candlelight Masses next year and playing quiet music for a short time before Mass begins each time as a way of transitioning from our everyday lives to the sacred space of the Eucharistic celebration.
- A questionnaire is being developed to gather information from our school families about their involvement with the parish, their needs and how we may work together.
- Parish finances were discussed. The recent thanksgiving campaign has not increased our finances significantly. The Finance Committee will present an update to the Council in the next quarter.
- The Partnered Parishes Plenary Council Facilitators Group continues to finalise plans for a plaque in each parish which recognises and expresses sorrow for the hurt caused by the abuse of children and others by members of the Church.
- Some members of the PPC attended a meeting on parish renewal. The Council will consider issues raised.
- Discussion regarding the possible addition of another tabernacle. A committee was formed recently to look at the placement of the tabernacle and recommended moving it from its current position. Various thoughts and opinions were presented at the Council meeting including taking our time to reflect and gather further input before making any changes about such an important matter. To provide a visual depiction for parishioners of having a tabernacle in a different place, as a temporary measure the Adoration Chapel will be screened and a tabernacle placed in the Seasonal Chapel. This will remain until the first week in October. Parishioners may submit their feedback to Father Martin by 2 October. A meeting to consider the feedback will occur on 5 October. An explanation of this process to be placed in the parish newsletter.

Next meeting: 21 September Email address: stthomasppc@gmail.com

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

Peg Wilcox, Dawn Ellis, Miran Kasalo, John Iacobucci

We pray for those who have died including Matt Riordan (Basil & Chris Riordan's Son) and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of August that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

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 Micai, Anne Honeywell, Giusepa Minutolo, Paul Silverwood, Jim Lysaght, Salvatore Scala, Margaret Hardwick, Ted Tremayne, Giselle Caliste, Nadia Mefflin, Alan Corcoran, Margaret Howse, Alan McCarthy, Salvador Catalogna, Rose Masabni, Antun Sich, Dragan Zilic

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

Vision Statement" To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"



PLEASE NOTE TEMPORARY NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS

St Marys' secretarial team will only be present in the office on Tuesdays until August 29th.

For assistance other days please call 9435 1543. Jacinta will generally be around on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. A phone call to make sure she is on if you need to access the office, would be best.

During this time, please send any bulletin contributions to Lisa at greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au
by 2pm Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin.

Thank you.

<u>THANK YOU</u> Our thanks to everyone who supported our concert on **Saturday 20th August.** A very social day. Thank you also to all who assisted with catering. Raffle winners: Coles Myer Voucher – Jackie Corcoran, Village Cinema Vouchers – Michelle Goral.



RIVERSIDE CRICKET CLUB: Are now accepting players for Juniors teams. Available for Girls & Boys teams, new and returning. Contact Juniors co-ordinator, Kirsty Doyle on 0412 888 296. or email **Juniors@riversidecricketclub.com.au**

FRIENDSHIP GROUP: Wednesday 14th September at 12.00pm, in the Gathering Space, BYO Lunch. Tea/coffee provided Cost \$5 for 10 games. Please call Angela on 94446298 or Geraldine 94354306 / 0438148896 to book.



<u>HIRING OF PARISH FACILITIES:</u> Unfortunately due to a number of various circumstances, the James Kierce Centre and the Parish Hall are no longer available to hiring for social functions.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT : First Friday of month, after 9.15am Mass to 3pm. Spend whatever time you can. All Welcome.

<u>St MARY'S PRAYER SHAWL GROUP:</u> Meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enq: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326.

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY: If there is no-one in attendance in the Library, it can be opened and you can record which books you take on the sheet. The Library catalogue can be accessed at home on: **cloud.collectorz.com/247780**

<u>SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS:</u> At the end of August we start a year with the new Social Justice theme for the Church for 2022/2023 - "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse". We pray that all Church and civic leaders model respectful relationships, challenge structures that perpetuate control over others, and compassionately attend the vulnerable.

For information, counselling and support if you are impacted by violence and abuse: - 1800 RESPECT or 1800 737 732 St Mary's Social Justice Group

PLEASE PRAY FOR

August Baptisms: Layla Giannakopoulos, Ellie Paulka, Noah Paulka, Lewis Stephen, Caden Chilcott, Bailey Chilcott, Ryder Golland, Ryan Denier, Indiana Villanti

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

Peter Mejak, Michael Mc Aleer, Helen Sinnott, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Judy Malamaci, Noah Thorley, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan

Recently Deceased:

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom: John County, Paul O'Shea, Francis Moore, Stelio Leboeuf, Trevor Anderson, James Fitzpatrick, William Ryan Snr., Monica Krohn, Giuseppe Caruso, Fausto Giuliano, Filippo Cannizzo, Mary Terese Hyland, Rita O'Toole, Margarita A. Péna, Ella Salazar, Patrick James Fleming, John Kierce, Winifred Ryan, Gemma Parricali, Leo Lomas, Warwick White, Mariangela Galati, Ron Pitts, Nick Antons, Pam Zeplin, Maureen Reeves, Ern Edwards, Thomas Cullis, John Monagle, Jack Hoy, Beryl Brown, John Desmond, Jim Bradley, Charles Sargeant, Daniel Loughnanen John Mash, Frank Malia, Charles Ware, George Hansen, Mary Gertrude McNamara, Miguel Vicente Pena, Kathleen Maskell, Bertram Van Hoff, Kevin O'Reilly, Mary Dietrich, Annette Monteleone, Thomas Staveley, Dulcie Hower, Matt Cashin, Giuseppe Di Benedetto, Allan Ash, Patrick Monagle, Rose Devlin, Jose Fabien, Alice Henry, John Parmansche, Dolores Said, Max Jean-Francois, Thomas & Margery O'Connell, Michael O'Hehir, Giovanni Cirillo, Antonio Dinoto, Steven Banhidi, Giuseppina Zambara, Mons Francis Lyons.



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Jesus challenges his disciples to replace their self-interest with a more generous and outgoing desire to serve others. Openhearted response to 'the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind' has more value and requires more courage than building social status or staying cosily within strictly reciprocal relationships.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

28 August 2022

First Reading Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,

and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.

The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,

and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,

an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

- (R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.
- 1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God.

they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name:

rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)

- 2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow.
 - such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)
- 3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life.
 - It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (*R*.)

Second Reading Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'firstborn son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;

learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:1, 7-14

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes. he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Hearing Our Lord's command: 'Invite the poor, the crippled, to the feast,' how do we respond as citizens of a nation which, in comparative global terms, is having a great feast? Jesus demands that we go well beyond an immigration policy which favours skilled and entrepreneurial people. They more than 'repay our courtesy' in terms of economic activity and social stability.

The majority of the poor and the crippled live in the subsistence villages, the refugee camps, and the squalor of the megacities of the Third World.

Heaven embossed invitations must be extended to such as those so that they may join in our national feast. Only then can we become the sort of people who, in the great Feast of Heaven, can join with those poor who are certain to be there.

We could pause for a moment to pray to put today's Gospel into effect so that we might hear Our Lord: 'Friend, join in the Feast. Be close to me.'

mtate@bigpond.com