



Sunday 31st July 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: DiamondCreek@cam.org.au

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 (from July 2022 onwards).

Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. However, parishioners should be encouraged (via signage and bulletin reminders) 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.

Face coverings should also be worn when visiting parishioners.



What really matters is making ourselves rich in the sight of God.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, 31 July 2022

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripture-reflection--there-is-more-to-life-than-wealth-and-riches>

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



Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

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.

When taking photographs or videos, clergy, employees and volunteers are to:

- ◆ At all times respect the parent or carer's decision for the child or young person to not participate. There are valid and compelling reasons why permission may not be granted (e.g. child custody, family violence and/or child protection matters may prevent a child or young person from being photographed to preserve their safety).
- ◆ Give children and young people an opportunity to consent to participating in the photography or video where appropriate.
- ◆ Take photographs and video in the presence of others (i.e. with supervision), not alone or in secret.
- ◆ Ensure that children and young people are appropriately dressed and posed.

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.

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

TO ST. MARYS AND ST. THOMAS - THANK YOU FROM VINNIES!

On behalf of the Greensborough Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, I wish to sincerely thank the parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Thomas for their tremendous support of our recent Winter Appeal. Even though the final figure is still being processed, it is heading towards \$10,000! With the cost of living rising, there has been an upsurge in callers these last few weeks needing our assistance. Therefore your donations will set us up well to continue to look after our local families through the Winter and the rest of the year. When there are many demands on your generosity during the year, we really appreciate that you have once again seen fit to donate to Vinnies at this time. God Bless you all!

Maureen Lonsdale, President – Greensborough SVDP

REAL HUGS v's VIRTUAL HUGS From a Parishioner.

During lockdown I resorted to being a virtual grandparent, virtual Mass goer, virtual student and virtual presenter, all thanks to Zoom, YouTube and WhatsApp.

It was great being able to present CSOE and Prayer Group courses to participants in England, Indonesia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea and across Australia without leaving home. I saved a lot of time and petrol by attending CTC lectures online.

I attended a variety of virtual Masses, particularly St Benedict's Burwood where I benefited from challenging homilies, and they even offered virtual cuppas after Mass. But, there were always 2 things missing, real relationships and especially being able to receive the Real Presence in Holy Communion.

Celebrating no.3 grandson's 1st birthday via WhatsApp left a lot to be desired and when I was finally able to be in Nate's presence it took a while for him to realise that I was friend and not foe. Now, as an almost 3 year old, what joy it is to hear him call out "GranSan!" as he runs with arms outstretched ready to be picked up in a real hug.

Thank God we are now able to attend Mass in person. As we reach out to receive the Real Presence of Jesus in Holy Communion, imagine Jesus' joy and let's be aware of the real hug and real friendship he offers to each of us.

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



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

Senior Moments: Wednesday 3rd August Lunch and Movie at Pat Frisby's house.
Wednesday 17th August Lunch & Games 12pm in the Parish Centre.

St Peter's Hurstbridge 50th Anniversary: An invitation is extended for volunteers to form a planning committee to organize a special Mass and celebration in December. Please contact a Parish Pastoral Council member or the Parish Office.

Parish Pastoral Council: Email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

Rosters for Weekend 6th & 7th August

Saturday 6th August 7.15pm St Peter's

Reader: B. Flynn

Commentator: Amindha

Eucharistic Ministers: R. Nicolaisen

Sunday 7th August 9am Sacred Heart

Reader: A. Pieper

Commentator: F. Ledda

Eucharistic Ministers: T.Sirianni, R. Padget

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, Bernadette Hobbs, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, John Downey,

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

Mary Keenan, Salvatore, Basil, Maria & Fortunato Caccetta, David Phillips, Kevin Jose, Caterina Borgolotto

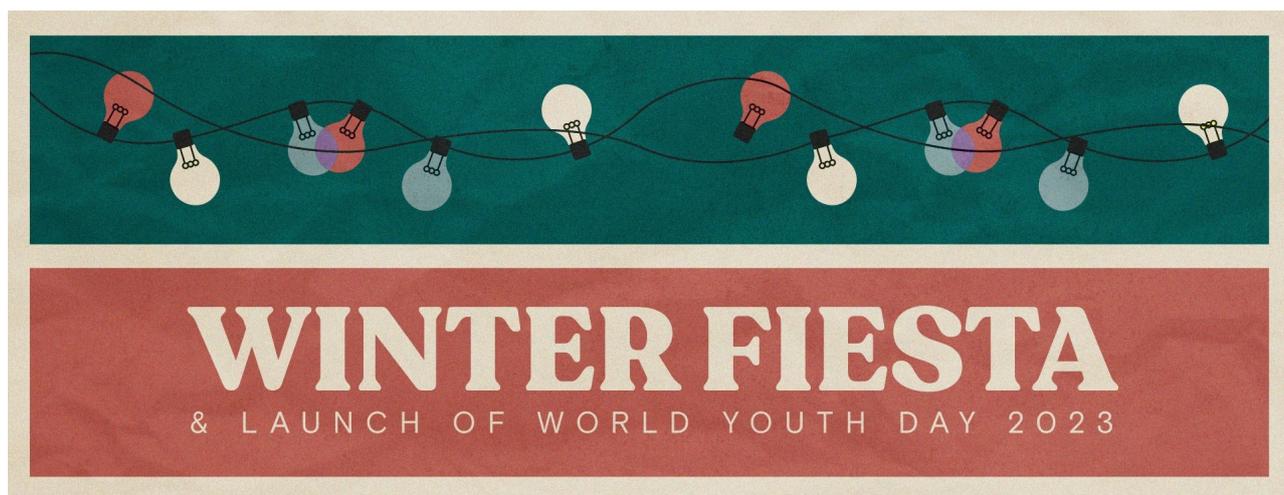
WINTER FIESTA

On Thursday 4th August from 6.30pm-8.30pm, Archbishop Peter will be leading an evening of prayer and celebrations for the young people of Melbourne. The evening will include a time of prayer and reflection in our beautiful Cathedral which this year celebrates its 125th anniversary. Following our time of prayer, there will be a Winter Fiesta, held in the grounds of the cathedral. With live music and great food, it will be a wonderful opportunity for the young people of the Archdiocese to come together and celebrate.

During the event, the Archbishop will launch the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to World Youth Day Lisbon in 2023. At the same time, we also look forward to sharing some of the other exciting activities and initiatives on offer for young people.

More information:

<https://udisciple.melbournecatholic.org/events/winter-fiesta>



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

Contactless Payments: We are now able to allow electronic transfer of funds through the purchase of a Square Tap Machine. Parishioners will be able to 'tap and go' for the Presbytery and Parish collections. There are instruction in the Church or you can ask for help.

 Square



This will enable those who want to have less reliance on cash to be able to keep supporting the Parish and our Priests.

Funeral for Lyn Corcoran will be held on Thursday 4th August, 10.30am at St Thomas Parish

Finance/Thanksgiving Program: Completed pledge forms for our mini Thanksgiving Campaign can be placed in the box in the Church foyer or they can be returned directly to the Parish Office. While internet banking (direct transfer from your bank account to the Church account) is our preferred method of payment, other payment options include credit card, cash or cheque via Thanksgiving envelope or electronically via Square Tap Machine at weekend Masses.

Copies of the handout on Parish finances are also available in the foyer. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

Next meeting of the St Thomas parish Pastoral Council will be on Wednesday 17th August, 7.00pm

St Thomas Parish Pastoral Council: Email address: stthomasppc@gmail.com

ST THOMAS TABERNACLE

Fr Steven extends an invitation to parishioners who are interested in forming a committee to further consider a proposal to place the St Thomas tabernacle closer to the sanctuary. This would involve constructing a wall to enclose its present location in order to create a separate Blessed Sacrament chapel where another tabernacle would be available for those who visit after hours to pray.

If you are interested please contact Sandra Bishop sandraebishop@optusnet.com.au Fr Steven Rigo steven.rigo@cam.org.au before Tuesday 9th August.

A meeting will be held in the parish house meeting room on Wednesday 10th August, 7.00pm. All welcome.

Rosters for Weekend 6th & 7th August

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: S. McMahon

Commentator: E. Sacchetta

Eucharistic Ministers: M. Bedford, L. Carty, D. Haesler

Set Up: M. McKenzie

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: J. Kerr

Commentator: R. Rendina

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Riordan, A. Kerr, R. Piccolo

Set Up: C. Riordan

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,

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

Kevin Jose, Pat Gannon, Anna de Gier, Michael Pham, Hopetoun Chapman, Edwin Ray, Shannon Risson, Nunzuio Napoleone, Mary Kenny, Eileen Mc Inerney, Guido Paciocco, Jack Sutherland, Domenico & Elidia Paliotta,

Jack O'Brien, Salvatore De Bartolo

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 29.

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.

Funeral for Lyn Corcoran will be held on Thursday 4th August, 10.30am at St Thomas Parish

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED :Middle aged lady looking for a room to rent. Non smoker. Contact Pauline for further details: 0415 650 171.



HIRING OF PARISH FACILITIES: 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.



HELP IS NEEDED FOR 10am MASSES One of our two 10am Sacristans, who set up before Mass and tidy up afterwards, is moving from the parish after a number of years and we are looking for a parishioner to replace them. If you are available to share this role with our other Sacristan at 10am Mass, or would like to assist with this role at another Mass please contact the office on 9345 1543.

FUNDRAISER CONCERT: Saturday 20th August at 2pm. Cost \$20.00. Tickets on sale after masses on weekend 6th/7th

August. Bookings Maria 9432 6462 Judy 9435 4506. <https://www.trybooking.com/CBEMH>

FOR SALE: Piano—Petroe, Upright, in very good condition, with a beautiful even tone and pitch. Comes with a Certificate of Service and includes the serial number. As we are downsizing to a smaller home, the price is just \$400. Ring Phyllis Coffey on 0451 937 457. Thank you

NEW SACRIFICIAL GIVING ENVELOPES AND NUMBERS: THANK YOU for your Sacrificial Giving contribution over the last financial year and for your support over the years, without which the work of the parish could not be maintained. New envelopes available in the Gathering Space. In the past, many receipts have not been collected or are not required, so in our continued endeavors to save paper, a printed tax receipt will be supplied upon request. Soft copies are also available. ***PLEASE NOTE: For administration purposes, we are updating our database. As a result some contributors will find that they have been allocated new envelope numbers. Envelopes will be sorted alphabetically, so locating them in the crates will be as normal. We ask you to begin to use the new envelopes from 7th August.*** If your envelopes are missing or you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Help is needed for us to recommence Children's Liturgy of the Word at 10.00 Mass. Education & support will be provided. Working with Children accreditation is a prerequisite to be one of the team. We work in 2s each session. At the moment we only have support for twice a month. If you are interested please contact Geraldine Conroy 0438 148 896.

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

All Welcome.

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

DONATION OF USED HEARING AIDS AND GLASSES: Box available in the Gathering Space.

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



LADIES AUXILIARY : Would like to thank all who supported our Morning Tea last week. Raffle Winners – Emily and Yolanda.

Next meeting 17th August in the Gathering Space.

MANY THANKS and God Bless to Fr. Steven and the Bereavement Group and to those who catered after the funeral and loving support from all the parishioners at St Mary's. The McAleer Family

thank you

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

July Baptisms: Skylah Oatway-Knight, Braylen Oatway-Knight, Pearl Loader, Archie Drake, Rose Graham, Bodhi Coghlan, Maggie Boglis, Grace Johnson, Jacob Kelly

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

Recently Deceased:

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Geoff Willett, Noel Rickard, Rita County, Vera Evans, Josephene Phelan, Allsopp Family; Bella Ngapera, Nepia, Tehan, Rakata; Michael Keegan Snr, Kath Fury, Eva Hanrahan, Brother Michael McMurray, Dannye Hardy, Patrick Hickey, Ron Webb, Herbert May, Agnes Cormick, Flia Galati, Angela Giudice, Pereirav, Oscar Fernandes, Giuseppina Zambara, Robert Eastaway, Beth McLary, Claude Boyle, Kathleen Ellis, Tony McCloskey, Tim Stapleton, Loan Ng, Pat Donnellan, Joyce Hyde, Philomena Harnan, Jacinta Perry, Michael Ryall, Aileen Day, Richard Omant, Sr Mary Justinian RSM, Frank Carr, Anna Villanti, Greg Rudderham, Antonio Paras, Vivienne Rickards, James Booker, Sheila Booker, Allan Corcoran, Lorenzo Favata, Dorothy Dixon, Catherine Fowler, Piotr Goral, Ted Rutter, Neville Davis, Mary McGrath, Bev Gurney, Emily Shaw, Sheila Heaton, Gwyndolyn Wright, Noel Coleman, Maureen Russo, Johanna Cummins, Elizabeth Waugh, William Barker, Theodore Denis Isaacson

MANAGER CALVARY RETIREMENT VILLAGE.

Calvary Retirement Village is looking for a Manager or Management Couple for their village at 1 Odstead rRad Greensborough. The position is for 25 hours per week, Level 2 (Lay Worker Structure)

You would report to the Committee of Management.

For more information go to their website: www.calvaryretirement.com.au

Our Purpose

Calvary Retirement Village consists of 20 Independent Living Units. We aim to provide a safe and caring environment for retired people where friendship and wellbeing are based on a Christian ethos. Calvary provides a community where love comes to life in a very practical sense. Our goal is to ensure our residents enjoy Independence, Care and Support, Safety, a genuine Community, Friendship, Freedom .

Calvary Retirement Village operates in conjunction with the Calvary Lutheran Church to deliver on our vision of an intergenerational place of friendship and community.

Applications in writing

Please forward your resume together with an application addressing Duties and Personal Characteristics as described above, and stating why you believe you would be suitable for this position.

Closing Date: Friday, 5th August, 2022

***Calvary Lutheran Church, Retirement Village-Chair Committee of Management
1 Oldstead Road, Greensborough 3088***

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDELINES 20TH JULY 2022

HOLY COMMUNION WILL ONLY BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FAITHFUL BY THE SACRED HOST IN OUR CHURCHES.

IT IS NOT MANDATORY TO WEAR A FACE MASK IT IS ONLY RECOMMENDED.

All Catholics in Melbourne continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further directed by the Archbishop. We continue to carry the happy obligation to keep Sunday holy, whether we can attend Mass or not, and can do so by any kind of prayer with members of our household and parish, reading holy scripture, and encouraging one another in our faith.

The Chief Health Officer has strongly recommended the use of face coverings in indoor and crowd settings during this winter period (from July 2022 onwards).

Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. However, parishioners should be encouraged (via signage and bulletin reminders) to be sensitive to the well-being of others when in close proximity.

Sanitising hands before distribution of Holy Communion is still recommended.

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

Face coverings should also be worn when visiting parishioners.

It is an essential requirement to isolate for seven days following a COVID-19 diagnosis. Individuals must notify their workplace, in addition to informing their social contacts. Workplaces, however, are not required to individually identify and notify each potentially exposed worker/contact.

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

EXPRESSIONS of INTEREST ST FRANCS OF ASSISI PARISH MILL PARK PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY 2023

THE HOLY LAND: 12th October 2023 for 20 Days OR **FOOTSTEPS of ST PAUL:** 6th of November 2023 for 24 Days.

For further information please contact Elio on 0414 440 812 or Chiara on 0439 612 694.

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION, Saturday 30 Jul 2022, 10am-2pm AEST, online via Zoom. When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. This is a day of prayer in the practice of Mindfulness & Meditation. We invite you to bring an open mind and heart to journey with others and within one self. This day is led by Paola Cheng, a qualified meditation teacher, spiritual director and social worker, who brings an inclusive and gentle approach to her sessions. Cost \$50. Book and pay by 25/7/22 via www.heartoflife.melbourne
Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern VIC, email office@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101

GENTLY INTEGRATING OUR SHADOW-SIDE TOWARD WHOLENESS: Saturday 6 thAug 2022, 1pm-4.30pm AEST, attend via Zoom or in-person. Our shadow-side is not some deep, dark pathology within us to be feared. Although we are unaware of our shadow-side operating within us, it nevertheless shapes our living, in that our shadow-side expresses itself through distorted and unhealthy means. If our shadow-side is unknown to us, how can it be recognised and integrated? Also, how can wholeness and true self be experienced? This reflection event, led by Kaye Twining, BTheol, Grad Dip Spir Dir, MA, will offer an understanding of wholeness, true self and shadow-side and includes a reflective practice for gently integrating our shadow-side toward wholeness. Cost \$50. Book and pay by 29/7/22 via www.heartoflife.melbourne Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern VIC, email office@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101

INVITATION TO DAY RETREAT ON 'GROWING MISSIONARY DISCIPLES': All parishioners and friends are invited to the St Francis of Assisi Parish Retreat to be held on Saturday, 27th August, 8.30 am – 3.30 pm at Loyola College.
The Retreat will be presented by Lorraine McCarthy & the Archdiocesan Proclaim Team.

'Come apart for a day to spend with the Lord'

*Cost: \$5 * Lunch - bring your own lunch * Tea & Coffee provided

*Booking Essential – RSVP: Tuesday, 23rd August. Bookings: Contact: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: *An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.*

This experience gives you the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details.

We have two options: An on-line/virtual weekend: **19 -21 August 2022** in the comfort of your own home or a non-residential parish based weekend: **22- 23 October 2022** in Niddrie. (Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

When Irish Eyes Are Smiling!

Inviting parishioners to join me on the 2023 Maria Forde Winter Wonderland Tour of Ireland (**January 1 to January 14, 2023**).

Enjoy two weeks traversing the spectacular Irish countryside of Northern and Southern Ireland in the comfort of a luxury coach and experience the hospitality of the Irish people whilst learning about their history and story. Enjoy live Celtic music, cuisine and its unique spirituality, beautiful accommodation, and the relaxed atmosphere of a small tour group. (20 people max) If you are concerned about travelling alone, rest assured that you will be supported and made welcome by an Irish driver, fellow guests, and myself. For an itinerary, please click on this link. <http://www.mariaforde.com/2023-tour-of-ireland> To book your seat, or for more information, please call Debbie at Emerald Travel on 03 96902123 or email Debbie at debbie@emeraldtravel.com.au

Tour director Maria Forde has been leading Celtic tours since 2004. Born of Irish parents, Maria is an Education officer in Spirituality at Sandhurst Catholic Education, a chaplain, and a spiritual director. Maria is also a successful singer-songwriter www.mariaforde.com

CAN YOU UNDERTAKE AN OVERSEAS MISSION? Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves.

Please consider these: [Mission opportunities](#) The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. [Palms Australia](#), who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. [Enquire online](#) or Ph: 0422 742 567 to find out about a placement to engage your skills.

You can also [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Monday August 1st at 7:00 pm** to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. Invite your friends. **The stories will inspire**

LECTIONARY ART REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE.

Jesus warns against greed for wealth. If we spend our time hoarding material treasures and neglect the spiritual aspects of life then we are only half persons – two dimensional at best.



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

31 July 2022

First Reading Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication,

impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!**

Gospel Lk 12:13-21

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Conversation is what makes us human: we are word animals. Anyone who has been in hospital for some time knows that it is the lack of conversation which starts to tell. We need mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Did you notice in today's Gospel that the rich landowner is constantly murmuring to himself. He poses questions which *he* answers. He is so bound up with his possessions that there is no room in his life for real conversation with people or with God.

In muttering to himself, the rich man was becoming dehumanised and in danger that at the moment of death, he could find himself monologuing for all eternity, and that is a Hellish existence. He, and we, need to learn the language of Heaven and we begin that on earth.

There are two partners of conversation we need: With God we call it prayer. The Our Father is the conversation of the children of God with their heavenly Father. With other people, real dialogue might reveal something about them such that we need to respond wholeheartedly.

And then, draw closer to Our Lady who was the greatest conversation partner with God: 'Be it done unto me according to Thy word.' She is constantly trying to draw us into her conversation with God.

We could pause for a moment to ask Our Lady to help us to learn and practise the language of Heaven: 'now, and at the hour of our death.' Amen.

mtate@bigpond.com

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