



Sunday 20th November 2022

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

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Sandy Starbuck & 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](mailto:Greensborough@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://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:** 5.45pm-6.15pm before evening Mass

**Parish School Principal**

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**  
[principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacred Heart & St Peter's**

25 Gipson Street,  
Diamond Creek 3089

**Parish:** 9401 6361

**Email:** [DiamondCreek@cam.org.au](mailto:DiamondCreek@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://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](mailto:principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

251 Diamond Creek Road,  
Greensborough Nth 3088

**Parish:** 9434 7373

**Email:** [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://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](mailto:principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au)

**THE CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES**



Intellectually we know God loves us, but we pray for that knowledge to take root in our hearts.

Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
Year C,

20th November 2022.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripture-reflections--lord-jesus-remember-me>

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

*Diamond Valley Deanery*

[www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au](http://www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au)

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

[www.cam.org.au](http://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

### 94TH FESTIVAL OF FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2022

After an absence of two years because of Covid, the Carols are back again at St Mary's on **Sunday, 4 December at 7:30 pm!** St Mary's will sing two songs and practices will take place on **Tuesdays 22/29 November** from 1:30-2:30pm in St Mary's Church. Everyone from our combined parishes are welcome to join us for this festive occasion. Please contact Megan Mitchem via email: [mamitchem@gmail.com](mailto:mamitchem@gmail.com) if you would like to attend practices so that music can be arranged.



### ALPHA COURSE



Alpha participants and leaders would like to express their gratitude to the parishioners of our three partnered parishes, for their prayers, support and wishes during the 10-week Alpha experience which concluded recently. We had a total of 22 participants and leaders all of whom felt it was an enriching and thoroughly engaging experience on their journey of faith. Our next Alpha program will commence in March next year.

### JOIN US ON A JOURNEY THIS ADVENT

Join us as we continue on a contemplative journey on Zoom this Advent.

We are privileged to have these sessions led by Dr Susie Hii who is a doctor, an author of two books, a member of Christian Life Community (a lay Ignatian community) and a member of the Christian Meditation community.

This week 24th November at 7.20pm we will be reflecting on:

Joseph, The man of dreams: Dreams and Desires of the heart All are welcome to participate.



### MATTHEW, HIS GOSPEL & HIS JESUS

Advent begins Year A and the Gospel of Matthew, to prepare, meet Matthew, his Gospel & his Jesus.

3 Wednesday evenings on zoom. Commencing Wednesday 23rd November, 30th November and the 7th of December. 7.30pm-9.30pm. Book at : <https://app.tickets.org.au/CSOE/Matthew> Booking fee \$10.00. Overseas participants use code OVASEA.

For further information contact Sandra Bishop: [sandrabishop@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sandrabishop@optusnet.com.au)

This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.

### ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH GREENSBOROUGH

9 lessons & carol service Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 2:30 p.m. All Saint's Church Choir will sing 7 Carols, Congregation will sing 8 carols, Accompanied by Pipe Organ. Free admittance, \$5.00 donation for afternoon tea.

All Saints Anglican Church Corner. Grimshaw and Church Streets, Greensborough 3088.

### PRESENTATION BY MARY ELLEN DAVIS 9 NOVEMBER 2022

For many years the Catholic Church, along with many other institutions in society, has been forced to face the existence, long-term impacts and coverup of abuse perpetrated by those representing the Church. The abuse created enormous hurt and sorrow to those affected, directly and indirectly. A group of interested parishioners from each of our partnered parishes had the privilege to hear consultant psychologist, Mary Ellen Davis, speak on this topic.

Mary Ellen stressed the importance of facing up to such terrible situations and to draw on the strengths of our local communities to help us respond. She did not speak as "the expert" but rather joined us in understanding the impacts of trauma. She described how different people will respond individually to horrific circumstances, and how constant exposure to information about trauma and abuse and lack of change within institutions may lead some people to feel 'burned out', experience grief and loss, which may result in a struggle to maintain compassion and a sense of personal/community power. She stressed the importance of our communities recognising and owning what has occurred to enable the healing process to have meaning.

Mary Ellen's main focus was on developing a strong and healthy community, the importance of maintaining healthy relationships, and focusing on wellbeing in communities and individuals, so that our future as a vibrant faith community is clearly grounded in our Christian beliefs and our shared commitment to each other.

If you attended this presentation and would like a copy of the PowerPoint slides, please contact Cathy O'Brien via email: [cathy-ob757@gmail.com](mailto:cathy-ob757@gmail.com)

Mary Ellen will continue to support our parishes in our future work.

## PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS continued

*A small number of copies of the letters from Archbishop Peter Comensoli, ( Welcome Home!) also a letter from the Bishops of Victoria regarding the Victorian State Election will be available in our Parishes for you to take home.*

### FLOOD APPEAL-SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St Vincent de Paul's Flood Appeal for those who have been effected by these devastating floods particularly in the north of the State.

Contributions can be made by: Calling 131812. Making a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase:

Visit: <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>

Via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods

Please keep those who have been impacted by the floods as well as the volunteers and emergency workers assisting them in their needs at this challenging time in your prayers.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - GREENSBOROUGH CONFERENCE 2022 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This year's Christmas Appeal will be officially launched at St. Mary's and St. Thomas' Parishes on the weekend of **3rd/4th December**. With the current cost-of-living crisis, the assistance we provide for people in Greensborough and Watsonia experiencing hardship this Christmas will be needed more than ever. If possible we ask Parishioners to please consider donating whatever is affordable to help continue our local Conference's work of helping those who really struggle to pay for the basics of normal living. In the next few months, we also know there will be requests for assistance from families as they prepare for school in 2023. To donate please see below -

1. Appeal envelopes will be provided at the end of the pews and in the Gathering Spaces of both Churches - they can then be placed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection or in the `after Mass` Collection bag.
2. Credit card donations can be arranged by calling 13 18 12 and stating you are donating to the Greensborough Conference **Christmas Appeal**
3. Donations can be made online via [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au) – please make sure you include Greensborough in the 'Comments/Conference Name' section

With our continued gratitude for your ongoing support and incredible generosity!

**Maureen Lonsdale, Greensborough Conference President**  
**St. Vincent De Paul Society**



### POPE FRANCIS' CATECHESIS ON THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Commencing next week, an opportunity is offered to all parishioners to read and ponder Pope Francis' catechesis on the Mass. These talks will be offered during the early weeks of Advent and focus on the Liturgy of the Word. Earlier, the catechesis was delivered to pilgrims in Peter's Square and is an easy read. At Fr Steven's suggestion a few questions have been prepared which may be useful as a reflection guide.

Week 1: Readings & Responsorial Psalm

Week 2: Gospel

Week 3: Homily and Prayers of Intercession

If you would like to enrich your understanding of the Mass and celebrate Christmas meaningfully,

please email :[Margaret.Safsford@cam.org.au](mailto:Margaret.Safsford@cam.org.au) or sign up with your email address on the sheets in the Gathering Space.

Alternatively, printed copies will be available too. Once again please let us know if you would like a printed copy by leaving your name.

Those who are engaged in the ministry of Reader will have the documents emailed weekly commencing early next week. Further, a meeting for all readers from St Peter's and Sacred Heart will be held on Thursday, 15 December at 7.30 pm in Sacred Heart Church where the implications of Pope Francis' talks will be shared and skills practised. New members of the Readers ministry are welcome at this meeting. If you prefer, contact me.

**Margaret Sapsford rsc**  
**Pastoral Associate**

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



**Baptisms:** we pray for Dulcie, Mila, Hunter and Lacey who will be welcomed into the Sacred Heart community in November.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** meeting 10<sup>th</sup> November items discussed included

-Sacred Heart **Safeguarding Committee** needs another **volunteer**.

-Pope Francis' words of explanation about **Liturgy of the Word** to be circulated to Readers and followed by a

**Formation Evening** 7pm 15<sup>th</sup> December in Sacred Heart church.

-Possible **Christmas Eve Mass times**.

-Marg Farrell presented **Certificates of Appreciation** to SH School students who volunteered at the very successful **Craft Market**.

Profit was over \$4000.00.

-**St Peter's working bee** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, gardening and cleaning in preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration 5pm Mass Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

-Introducing **Tap Machines** in church. Sorting out Wi-Fi issues.

-Alison attended the **School Foundation Year Information Evening** to meet 2023 Prep parents. She will also attend their BBQ early next year.

-Tonina will attend the next **School Advisory Board** meeting.

-**Maintenance report:** Brian inspected hall following recent heavy rainfall. He will meet with plumber to discuss repair of roof leaks. Archdiocese representative is following up with contractors for quotes.

-Frank has sent invitations to families for the 27<sup>th</sup> November **Remembrance Mass**.

-Members need to complete **Safeguarding Essentials Online Training module**.

-Ted is researching possibilities and involvement with a **Social Justice Group**.

Email: [ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com)

**Passionist Family Group:** November 22nd is the 37th anniversary of our Passionist Family Group.

Over the 37 years we have had up to six groups at Sacred Heart, and although we currently have only one group, this group is very active, as we support and care for each other. We gather together each month for a meal or other activity. Our next activity is a weekend away at St Leonard's on the 25th, 26th & 27th November. If you would like to know more about the Passionist Family Group please contact Claire or Frank on 0438058619

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27th** has been set aside as a **REMEMBRANCE MASS** FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED THIS YEAR. You are invited to come and remember them, you will also have the opportunity to remember those you have loved and lost. Frank on behalf of the funeral ministry.

**Senior Moments:** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Lunch 12pm in the Parish Centre.

### Rosters

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November** 9am Sacred Heart

**Reader:** A. Pieper **Commentator:** Y. O'Brien **Eucharistic Ministers:** F. Ledda, C. Bell

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 5pm** St Peter's

**Reader:** E. Gittins **Commentator:** P. Keenan **Eucharistic Ministers:** Volunteers

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

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

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

*Ros Thomas, Geraldine Nihill, Bev Camilleri, Kevin Doherty, Vincent Atkinson, James Burke, Lena Finlayson, Grace Jones, Lena Anderson, Haydn Chapman, John Prendergast.*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

**Baptisms:** We pray for Esme and Isla who will be baptised later this month.

**Square Tap Machine:** Now that our property has been connected to the NBN we are now able to process donations on the Square Tap Machine more efficiently.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Email: [stthomasppc@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasppc@gmail.com)

**The new sets of thanksgiving envelopes commencing 6th November are now ready for collection.**

**Could parishioners please have a look and see if there is anyone that lives close to you and you could assist by dropping them in their letterbox.**



### BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

Our coffee catch ups will be held every 4th Thursday of the month. Our next catch up will be 24th November at Phoenix Diamond Creek Rd Plenty at 1.30pm. Could you please email me [stewmarq@bigpond.net.au](mailto:stewmarq@bigpond.net.au) or ring mobile 0408370685 **RSVP on or before 21st November** so I can book numbers. **ALL WELCOME!**

Marg



**COLUMBAN CALENDAR:** The calendar's are now available at St Thomas, \$10.00 each, cash or by the Square tap machine. Pay to Church.

### BLESSING OF OUR CHRISTMAS CRIBS

At Masses on the weekend of Saturday 26th November and Sunday 27th November, our Christmas Crib (or manger) will be blessed.

All parishioners are invited to bring an item from their own cribs at home, or a special decoration from their Christmas trees, to Masses on that weekend so that they can be blessed at the same time.

The children from the school and their families are being invited and this provides us with an opportunity to participate in a very holy and meaningful parish event.



### Rosters for Weekend 26th & 27th November

#### Saturday 6.00pm

**Reader:** D. Haesler

**Commentator:** K. Salm

**Eucharistic Ministers:** K. Salm, M. Mc Kenzie

**Set Up:** M. Mc Kenzie

#### Sunday 10.30am

**Reader:** T. Williamson

**Commentator:** L. Hobson

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

**Set Up:** C. O'Brien

**St Thomas prayers are asked for the following Parishioners:**

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


Miran Kasalo, John Iacobucci, Andelko Korculanin, Robert Kasic

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

Nick Piccolo, Maura Coyle, Lena Brullo, Ray Tipping, Lawrence Meilak, Theresa Meilak, Marcel Bishara, Frank Mercieca, Thomas Iacobucci, Fr Kelvin Kenny, Christopher Kenny, Joan Campbell, Serge Teychency, Joan Chadzynska, Rocco Di Pierro, Haydn Chapman, Francis Mc Mennemin, Carmel McCrorie, Michael Munforte

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**—Tuesdays 9am-5pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10am-4pm. Please send any bulletin contributions to [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) by 2pm Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you

Due to continuing CAM training of the office staff, the office will be unattended some weekdays during November and possibly early December from 10.00am to 1pm. We shall do our best to let you know in advance if we know the dates and times. A note shall also be placed on the office doors to let you know. In the meantime we thank you for your patience. Please call and leave a message or email on those days and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Thank you.

## **LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS:**


As we are unable to have a Parish Fete this year we are planning a number of stalls in the Gathering space after weekend Masses.


**19th/20th November—Raffle Weekend!** There is a wide variety of goods being offered for different raffles. The cost is only \$2.00 per ticket. (There are no items for sale). If anyone is available to sell tickets on this weekend please contact Maureen on 94355906



**26th/27th November Variety stalls** lots of bargains & sale of plants.

If you are available to help in any way please phone Maureen 9435 5906 or Lucy 9435 6990

**Blessing of Plaque** This Saturday 19 November after the 6.30pm Mass and Sunday 20 November after the 10 am Mass, Fr Steven will bless the plaque that has been installed as our prayerful apology to victims of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. This plaque is being installed as a direct result of our parish discussions during the Listening and Discernment phase of the Plenary Council. 

**SILENCE IN LITURGY** God addresses us through the scriptures. But silence is what helps us discover the meaning and power of these words, letting them 'sink in' and be absorbed into our minds and hearts. In addition to the short periods of silence observed by the Reader after the first and second readings, we will again have a period of silent reflection following the Homily. **The first collection** will be taken up after this period of reflection. 

**COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2023** The 2023 edition of the Columban Art Calendar is now available for purchase in the Sacristy or from the Parish Office. Calendars are \$10.00.


## **CALENDARS FOR SALE**

Dom La Ferlita, our talented Saturday night pianist, has printed up a beautiful 2023 calendar with photos he has taken throughout Victoria. Calendars will be available for \$20 at Mass on Saturday night.

## **AFTER 2 YEARS - OUR REMEMBRANCE MASS IS RETURNING TO ST. MARY'S**

When? **7:30pm on Friday 25 November** - light refreshments afterwards. All are welcome, but particularly those whose loved ones have died this year or during the COVID period.

To assist in preparations please let us know if you are coming - Jackie Corcoran 0422 125 321.

**FAREWELL TO ST MARY'S** After almost 35 years living in St Mary's Parish, Susan and Leon and the Kempen family farewell all in St Mary's Parish community. Time has come for us to "downsize" and move into something that will be more suited to the next stage in our lives. St Mary's has been important for us and we hope that we have added just a few stitches to the vibrant and ever evolving tapestry of St Mary's Parish. 

We offer our thanks and best wishes to all we have come to know in St Mary's Parish during these 35 years and our 22 years in St Mary's school; while serving on various parish and school groups and committees; more recently meeting people across our partnered parishes; and especially those at our regular 6.30pm vigil Mass and those we have met during recent COVID times. There is always someone new to meet. Enabled and empowered by our Parish leadership, we have benefitted much from and been inspired by many wonderful people (past and present) and particularly those who serve with generosity, hard work and creativity on parish groups. It will be hard to leave and we will miss St Mary's but we hope to be able to settle into a new community in Ivanhoe Parish.

**Susan and Leon**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

**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. Enquires: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

**WEDDING CEREMONY INVITATION** Kristel Roxas and Andrew Duncanson warmly invite you to their wedding ceremony on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2022 at 10am at St Mary's Church.

St Mary's has been Kristel's second home for as long as she can remember. She has been blessed to have celebrated all of her sacraments at St Mary's, and cannot wait to tick another one off the list.

Andrew, since his first time attending mass at St Mary's, has felt welcomed and at peace, which is one of the reasons why he became Catholic in 2016.

*Choosing to have our wedding at St Mary's was the easiest decision we made, besides saying yes! We have met so many wonderful people who have supported us throughout the years, and we are excited to invite the parishioners of St Mary's to attend our wedding ceremony.*

*If you plan on attending please come 30 minutes before the start of the ceremony (9.30am)*

*We also hope to share some tea/coffee and refreshments after the ceremony with you and our other guests. If you would like to volunteer to assist with setting up and clean up on the day, please reach out to Kristel on 0409 231 648.*

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**November Baptisms:** Lachlan Phillips, Logan Connelly, Mikaela Rae De Vera, Audrina and Elodie Inserra, Emily Tan, Cara Rose D'Alessi, Giulia Medcalf, Elijah Smith

**Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:** Peter Mejak, Michael McAleer, Helen Sinnott, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Noah Thorley, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan, John Mullins, Margaret Bramley, Mark Madio, Sr Estelita Manabo, Dan Quigley

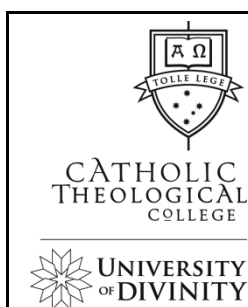
#### **Recently Deceased:**

**We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:** Pietro Paciello, Phuong Tran, Richard King, Paolo Fedrizzi, Austin Carlstrom, Bernard Evans, Darrel Young, Matteo Beller, Thelma Watson, Austin Carlstrom, Frank O'Connor, Bishop Jerramy Coffey, Ann Hill, Veronica Bonner, John F Kennedy, James Lambert, George Spoljar, Michael Sofoulis, Mary Ecker, Sylvia De Zilwa, George Suiter, Mario Giusti, Allan Newman, James Joseph Ryan, Maud Hearn, Ida Chance, John Walsh, Allan Wade, Louise Desmond, Noah Pendry, Bernie Branagan, Josh Koomen, Roland Castillo, Elizabeth Kierce, Dr. & K. Orr, Jean Shannon, Molly Dunne, Robert Chaplin, Rebecca Easton, Albert Pereira

## ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS.

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:** Red Wednesday, 23 November 2022 - You are invited to a Red Wednesday Prayer Vigil at St Patrick's Cathedral on 23 November, 7.30pm. Joining many other cathedrals and churches around the world, St Patrick's will be floodlit in red on this night. Red Wednesday is an international initiative of Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). It is a day to stand up for faith and freedom; to gather and pray for the 200+ million Christians who are persecuted for their faith.

You can also visit [www.aidtochurch.org/RedWednesday](http://www.aidtochurch.org/RedWednesday) to learn more.



#### **Online Information Session**

Join us and learn about your study options at  
Catholic Theological College

**Monday 5 December at 7.30pm (AEDT)**

*Online options available*

Register via our website: [ctc.edu.au/open-days](http://ctc.edu.au/open-days)

For more information contact: [jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au](mailto:jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au)



**Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close** Even in extremis, Jesus and one of the other victims of crucifixion are able to reach out in genuine solidarity to each other. How ironic that it is a condemned thief who testifies to Jesus as Christ the King and how appropriate that we finish the liturgical year with Jesus giving a repentant sinner the assurance of redemption. In this story the powerless are gracious and the powerful are crude and uncaring. When our God is such a compassionate God, it is scandalous that we so frequently lack compassion.

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year C

20 November 2022

### First Reading 2 Sm 5:1-3

*They anointed David king of Israel.*

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel.'" So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 121:1-5. R. see v.2**

*(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
'Let us go to God's house.'  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
2. Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord. (R.)
3. For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of  
judgement  
of the house of David. (R.)

### Second Reading Col 1:12-20

*He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.*

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God  
and the first-born of all creation,  
for in him were created  
all things in heaven and on earth:  
everything visible and everything  
invisible,  
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties,  
Powers –  
all things were created through him and  
for him.

Before anything was created, he existed,  
and he holds all things in unity.  
Now the Church is his body,  
he is its head.  
As he is the Beginning,  
he was first to be born from the dead,  
so that he should be first in every way;  
because God wanted all perfection  
to be found in him  
and all things to be reconciled through  
him and for him,  
everything in heaven and everything on  
earth,  
when he made peace  
by his death on the cross.

### Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9. 10

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Blessed is he who inherits the  
kingdom of David our Father;  
blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.  
Alleluia!*

### Gospel Lk 23:35-43

*Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'



### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

This feast celebrates the power and authority of Christ by creating a collage of images that capture one or more characteristics of Christ's kingship. Each image reinterprets the concept of king, investing it with new meaning. Gathered together they create a kind of litany that extols the kingship of Christ.

Shepherd and commander call to mind the care and protection that Christ lavishes on those who place themselves under his care. King of Israel is a sign of universal rule. Image of the Invisible God acclaims the divine origin of Christ and of the rule that he exercises over all. First born of all Creation places Christ over the entire created world. Source of all Created Things acknowledges both the sovereignty of Christ and his importance as the model after which all things were fashioned. Head of the Body, the Church underscores the intimacy and interrelationship that exist between Christ and all those who are joined to him through faith and baptism. Firstborn of the Dead not only acclaims Christ's resurrection, but it also guarantees the resurrection of those who will follow him into death. Crucified King is clearly the image that reinterprets all other images.

The entire liturgical year is brought to completion in the last words of the gospel: 'Today you will be with me in Paradise.' These are the words that we all long to hear, words that are empty when coming from one who has no authority, but charged with power when spoken by the one who is king over us all.

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