



Sunday 17th May 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Lenin Thenamirtham

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Pastoral Associate: Sr. Margaret Sapsford

Pastoral Worker: Christina O'Connor

The Partnered Parishes of:

St. Mary's

204 Grimshaw St.,
Greensborough, 3088
Parish: 9435 1543
Presbytery: 9432 2515
Email: Greensborough@cam.org.au
Website: www.cam.org.au/greensborough
Secretaries: Frances Olofsson & Sharon Prosser
Communications Officer: Denise Chang-Faux

Mass Times

Monday: Liturgy of the word 9.15am
Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am
Saturday: Mass 8.30am & Vigil Mass 6.30pm
Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.00am & 5.45pm

Parish School Principal

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

Sacred Heart

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
1st & 3rd Saturday of the month: Vigil Mass at
St. Peter's Hurstbridge 7.15pm
Sunday: Mass 9.00am

Reconciliation Times

Friday: 9.45am to 10.15am

Parish School Principal

Mr. Jim O'Sullivan **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**
principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

St. Thomas the Apostle

251 Diamond Creek Road,
Greensborough Nth 3088
Parish: 9434 7373
Email: greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au
Website: www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth
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

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

SACRED HEART 9:00am:

Special Ministers:

Reader: Commentator: Welcoming:
Set-Up: Counters: Cleaners:

ST. PETER'S 7:15pm: Next Mass Saturday 2020

Special Ministers:

Reader: Commentator: Set-Up:

ST. THOMAS the APOSTLE Vigil 6.00pm & 10:30am:

Special Minsters 6.00pm:

Special Minsters 10:30am:

6.00pm: Reader: Commentator: Set-Up:

10.30am: Reader: Commentator: Set-up:

Counters: Cleaners: 11th April:

MASSES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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

Martin Leonard, Bridie Burke, Rose Hegarty, Nicole Bisticic, Bernice Burke, Linda Bisticic, Joan Moran, Marilyn Manison,
Alan McCarthy, Shirley Bourke, Annette Hyland, Catherine Leonard, Ted Sheenan, Haylie Adams-Vivanxay, Mark Quipp,
Giovanna Ng, Petronilla De Leo

We pray for those who have died including Liam O'Sullivan (Loyola Teacher) and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of May that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom

Dorothy Pittle, Alan Bentley, Glenn Hurley, Michael Berriman, Helen McCrohan Steve Molnar, Domenica Picollo, Kath Mumford,
Theodora Ellul, Maura McGauran, Stephen Ruzic, Marg Money, Gaetano Palazzolo, Peter Beaumont, Frank Perversi,
Noela Atkinson

WORSHIP & PRAYER

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS: With the suspension of all Religious Services at this time there are a number of opportunities for you to Live Stream daily mass. These are:

- **St. Patrick's Cathedral:** Monday - Friday, 1:00pm, Saturday 8:00am & Sunday 11:00am, you can access these by the following Link <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or on Channel 31, 44 on Digital TV, for Sunday Mass
- **St. Mary's Greensborough:** Mass is uploaded to all of our Websites for viewing late Saturday or Sunday., access via following Link <http://www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth> or <http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek>

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES & SUPPORT FOR OUR PRIESTS

If you would like to continue to support the Parishes financially, you can drop Thanksgiving envelopes or money to support the Priests (in an envelope clearly marked)to either Parish offices or alternatively placed in the letter box beside the front door of the Presbytery at St Thomas. **(Not the Front Gate) Diamond Valley Deanery Refugee envelopes may be also left in the Parish Offices.** Alternatively if you would like to change to Direct Debit or Credit Card please contact Pat or Lisa to make these arrangements. Thankyou to everyone who have already taken it upon themselves to continue to support our Parishes and Priests. We thank you all for your continued support through these trying times.

Fr Steven, Fr Tao & Fr Lenin

Lisa & Pat.



ENROLMENT

Limited places available for Year 7 2021.
Enrolment applications for Year 7 2022
closing 21 August 2020.

For information please contact our College Registrar:
03 9433 0203 or registrar@loyola.vic.edu.au

VIRTUAL TOURS

Visit our website and explore our campus through a virtual tour, then meet our Principal live online to answer all your questions.

Friday 22 May
Tuesday 26 May

Monday 01 June
Wednesday 10 June

TO REGISTER FOR A VIRTUAL TOUR VISIT

loyola.vic.edu.au/bookatour



LOYOLA COLLEGE

A Catholic Co-Educational College in the Ignatian Tradition

A: 325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia P: 9434 4466 W: www.loyola.vic.edu.au

EXPLANATION OF COLLECTIONS

In every Parish, there are two collections and two separate accounts,
The Presbytery collection/account (1st coll.) provides the pastoral stipend and living costs of the Priest.
The Church collection/account (2nd coll.) provides for the maintenance, office and staff expenses of the Parish.



Wednesday 13 May 2020

Members of the Catholic community in Victoria, The Catholic Dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sale and Sandhurst

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Throughout this situation of the Coronavirus pandemic our prayers and solidarity have been with you all, and will continue to guide the challenging decisions we have been called to make.

Despite the many weeks of worry and social restrictions, we are delighted that as of 11.59pm Tuesday 12 May 2020, churches in Victoria may now be open in certain circumstances. This opportunity for small gatherings and for some quiet moments of prayer in the sacramental presence of Our Lord is a gentle first step in the right direction, and rightly a moment of rejoicing for God's people. We are pleased to work constructively with our communities to make appropriate adjustments. Strict restrictions still govern our actions due to the risks of COVID-19 and we are all being asked to show patience and fortitude.

Each Diocese is communicating with their parishes about how various ministries, including sacramental care, will be conducted in this first stage of the easing of social restrictions. We wish to be fully compliant with the directives that apply across Victoria, so that we ensure the protection of elderly and vulnerable people, and work together for the common good of our communities.

The conditions under which a church can be open include a collection of contact details (for the purposes of contact-tracing if it becomes necessary), strict monitoring of numbers, ongoing hygiene requirements, publicising the scheduled times for private worship, and public worship limited to ten people at a time.

Arrangements for liturgies and access to churches while ensuring these conditions are met will vary, depending on the facilities and resources that are available in each particular community. We recognise that deciding on these arrangements and putting them in place is not straightforward, and we ask for patience and understanding during this time.

This new stage of restrictions is subject to changing guidance that we receive from the State Government authorities, and we are advised this will be reviewed at the end of May.

After a difficult time for all of us, including many new pressures on families and great challenges for healthcare and emergency workers, we share in the disappointment that social restrictions are likely to continue for some time. Nevertheless, we act with one accord in doing what is most prudent and loving for the sake of those most susceptible to the virus. We rejoice that Christ is with us and will walk with us as we begin the long journey out of the current stage of restrictions.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Most Rev Paul Bernard Bird CSSR MA, DD
BISHOP OF BALLARAT

Most Rev Shane Mackinlay
BISHOP OF SANDHURST

Rev Peter Slater
DELEGATE OF DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR, SALE

The Message Board

Dear the Parishioners of Sacred Heart, St. Peter's and St Thomas and St Mary's Parishes,
Dear sisters and brothers, in biblical tradition Sunday is the first day, the day of creation, the day of light. For Christian believers it is the day of the Lord, the day of resurrection, the day of new creation, and the day of the Church. We believe that, when we gather to celebrate the Lord's Supper, Mass, faith is brought to life and work of redemption carried on.

Not going to church to celebrate Mass you are hungry and thirsty for the Eucharist because the Eucharist is what Christians do in obedience to Jesus' command at the Last Supper: "Do this in memory of me." We go to church to meet together, share the good news, give thanks and praise, receive the gifts, and go forth. In so doing we

celebrate and enter into the saving mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Our Archbishop advised us that, priests are, to celebrate Mass daily to pray for all parishioners and pray for their needs in the parish. Therefore, I must celebrate daily Mass without parishioners attending, however, I pray for every single one and your family in our parishes. Celebrating Mass alone makes me the most unfamiliar and I feel lonely. We are not used to celebrating Mass alone or not going to our church to celebrate Mass every weekend. We miss our church. We miss our sisters and brothers. We miss all parishioners in our parish. We miss our community's spirit. We miss our Risen Lord, Jesus. We are hungry and thirsty for the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Every weekend, you can watch Mass through live-streamed Masses. I think you have experienced this, it is not enough, there is still a vast gulf between going to Mass at our church and simply watching Mass on TV online. One is a foretaste of heaven; the other is, well, not. Watching Mass online, you cannot receive Body and Blood of Jesus physically in Eucharist like attending Mass at church. Watching Mass online, you must receive Holy Communion in spiritually. You feel it is not enough, however the teaching attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas goes that there are two ways to receive Communion: spiritually and physically.

As you know, the early Christians did not have churches to go to; they gathered in their homes for communal worship, which Catholics living with their families or roommates during the coronavirus lockdown can do. What we need to remember in this changing time is that whenever two or three people are gathered in his name, Jesus is in our midst and we begin to experience his presence. In this time we can pray by reading and reflecting on Scripture; pray the Rosary in May or pray the Divine Mercy together at home.

For me, in the time of trial, I was invited to join two different prayer groups: a national one and international one. There are more than 500 people in the international group and 40 people in the national group. We pray with each other every day online by Zoom and by Cisco Webex Meetings. It goes very well.

Dear sisters and brothers, like the people in the two groups which I mentioned above, we can pray at home. We can gather together at home (depend on the number in our family) we can pray by reading and reflecting on Scripture together at home. We pray the Rosary in May or pray the Divine Mercy together. Our family is a small church. In this changing time, we can worship God at our home, we can praise our God at home, and we can give thanks to God at home every time we want to do. I hope all of you have good health and a strong spirit. We try our best to pray and ask for God's help to stop the pandemic as soon as possible in our world. I hope to see you face to face at our church soon.

Have a good week and take care! God bless all of you and your family always. Fr. Tao Pham



A Big Thank You to everyone who has contributed to our Message Board so far.

If you would like to post a message next week or even share some news or a joke, please feel free to email

greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au before 12.00pm each Wednesday.

First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and
we will come to them.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 14:15-21

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: 'paraclete'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you another Paraclete to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a Paraclete, and he would send another.

What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, parallel. They run alongside each other. A paraclete is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor *par excellence*.

Our Lord promises another Paraclete dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This Paraclete particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two Paracletes, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

mtate@bigpond.com

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