



**Sunday 30th August 2020**

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

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Jacinta Bright & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

**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**

**MASSES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**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](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>
- **Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for August**  
The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fisherman and their families.
- **Please look for the link on the home page of our Websites for the weekly reflection from Fr Lenin Thenamirtham.**

**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, Shirley Bourke, Annette Hyland, Catherine Leonard, Ted Sheenan, Haylie Adams-Vivanxay, Giovanna Ng, Petronilla De Leo, June Cummins, a sick Parishioner.

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

Wayne Robinson Maurie Dalwood, Fr Gerard Loughnan, Kevin Nihill, Win Atkinson, Mary Burke, 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,

## 'THE WAY' CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The Way is still meeting each Thursday evening via zoom.

At 7.30pm a group "enter a room" to pray the Rosary. At 8.00pm when everyone comes together we participate in various spiritual formation activities, currently it is Ignatian Spirituality.

All are welcome to join us. We also have participants zooming in from country Victoria and London.

**Enquiries: Rose 0411 650339.**



## DIAMOND VALLEY COVID-19 HOME STORIES

**Stories from the Partnered Parishes of Diamond Creek, Greensborough and Greensborough North about a time of pandemic.**

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we live in the short term and we are yet to see the changes that will occur in the future. We would love to hear your stories and anecdotes about staying home to stay safe to col-late into a book. Think of what story you would like to pass on; perhaps something you want others to know, or perhaps your children, your grandchildren or even those who will walk the paths we walk now. Say a prayer, muster your courage, & write! Your piece does not need to be long, a paragraph or two or three. Email your story to [Diamondcreek@cam.org.au](mailto:Diamondcreek@cam.org.au) or [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) or [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) with your name, your age (if you are game enough) and a note giving us permission to publish your work.

***New Dates for Submissions close is the 18 th September 2020. The collection of stories will be published in an e-book at a later date.***

## THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE

WIN A NEW CAR VALUED AT \$20,682 Tickets still available for purchase at only \$2 each!

Given the current climate with Covid 19, we understand that you may not feel comfortable coming to collect your tickets from the Parish office – if this is the case please let the Parish Office know & we will organize to deliver to your doorstep.

All proceeds go to our Parish Community.

**Sale Closing Date:** 11th September 2020; **Draw Date:** 26th September 2020 at 7.15 pm;

**Publication of Winners Date:** 30th September 2020.

Please find the link below for the google form to request tickets form the Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle:

***Click on the link <https://forms.gle/JZ8HCPTxdtS82db39>***

## 3 CARS TO BE WON

***1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes:*** Suzuki Baleno GL 1.4 ltr Auto. Each Valued at \$20,682

***4th & 5th Prize:*** \$1000 Coles Myer Gift Card.

***6th-14th Prize:*** \$500 Coles Myer Gift Card



***If you would like to purchase a book of tickets you can contact Lisa or Pat so we can get them delivered to your home.***

## 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.**

## EXPLANATION OF COLLECTIONS

In every Parish, there are two collections and two separate accounts,

The Presbytery collection/account (1<sup>st</sup> coll.) provides the pastoral stipend and living costs of the Priest.

The Church collection/account (2<sup>nd</sup> coll.) provides for the maintenance, office and staff expenses of the Parish.

## SACRED HEART & ST THOMAS PARISH OFFICE.

*With the introduction of Stage 4 restrictions Pat and I will be working from home.*

*We have diverted the phones to our mobiles or please send us an email.*

*If you wish to leave anything for us please drop it in the letterbox at Sacred Heart or the letterbox at the Presbytery at St Thomas.*

*We are still here for you all and the Message Board will continue so please send in your messages or Jokes. Missing seeing everyone.*

*Lisa & Pat*

## RETREAT CONNECTING WITH THE SPIRIT

This seven day retreat will begin on August 30th and ending on the 6th September. It is a very simple retreat in which we can participate, in the comfort of our own homes. There is no face to face conversation during the retreat, but if you would like to speak with Fr Steven or Jacinta Bright during the week, please make contact via the parish office or email, [steven.rigo@cam.org.au](mailto:steven.rigo@cam.org.au) or [Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au](mailto:Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au). The last day of the retreat, September 6th, is a Sunday and so, we thought that participants could gather over Zoom for a cup of tea and sharing between 10.00am and 11.00am. If you don't have access to Zoom, or you don't really want to participate in the gathering on the Sunday, you don't need to. The reason why we chose to finish on the Sunday, is that it gives people the opportunity to finish the retreat with our regular Sunday Mass, at which Fr Steven will make mention of our retreat, drawing it to a close.

The retreat has been designed by Fr Steven's friend, Fr Michael Moody, Parish Priest at Catholic Parish Melton. The people of his parish participated in this retreat earlier this month. We are grateful that Fr Michael has shared this retreat with us.

***If you, or someone you know would like to take part, and you or they don't have access to the internet, or to email, please let the office know and we will post the retreat to you.***

## TIME TO BREAK OUT THE BEST CHINA.

***Join us for Morning Tea with Fr Steven & Jacinta Bright & parishioners & friends, over Zoom\* every Friday from 10.00am until 11.00am, from the 21st of August.***

We will make sure the conversation flows well and if we have a big enough number we can break up into small groups to allow you to have quieter conversations.

If you are interested, please contact Jacinta via the parish office on 9435 1543 or email [jacinta.bright@cam.org.au](mailto:jacinta.bright@cam.org.au)

If you don't yet know how to use Zoom you might consider asking a family member or friend to help you. It pretty simple once you know how.

If you need help otherwise, please let Jacinta know and we will try to assist you. If you can use Zoom and you are happy to help others connect, please let Jacinta know. This is a way we can reach out and stay connected at the moment.

If who haven't used Zoom before, here is what it looks like. You can see and hear all the participants on your screen.



### Steps to access Zoom and join us for morning tea:

- \* Download the Zoom app on to your phone, iPad or computer
- \* Let Jacinta know you would like to participate and give her your phone number and email address. The email address enables you to access Zoom and provides security.
- \* When the email invitation comes from Jacinta's gmail address, all you need to do is click on the link provided in the email and you will connect.
- \* If you have trouble at the time **call Jacinta on 9435 1543** and she will help you through it.
- \*

***Come and join in. It will be lovely for us to each to see and hear, whether you are long term parishioners, or new to the community.***

***All are welcome!***

***Fr Steven & Jacinta***



## SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST

From 2020 forward, Social Justice Sunday will be celebrated on the last Sunday of August. Previously it was celebrated on the last Sunday in September.

The celebration of Social Justice Sunday is a long tradition in the Catholic Church in Australia. For almost every year since 1940, our bishops have joined together to issue a major social justice statement at this time.

The 2020–2021 Statement, ***To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today***, encourages faith communities, governments and each one of us, to make mental health a priority. It is a timely message in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is affecting many members of our parishes, schools and communities.

Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Statement encourages us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community.

### **Prayer for Social Justice Sunday**

*Jesus, you invite us all into the fullness of life. May we support one another to flourish in body, mind and spirit.*

*Strengthen our commitment to ensure that nobody falls through gaps in our systems of care.*

*People called you mad. Help us to recognise you in those who suffer mental ill-health today.*

*Show us how to eliminate stigmatisation of mental ill-health from our parishes, schools, communities and organisations.*

*You drew near to those who were suffering in body or mind.*

*May we too feel your nearness when we struggle with mental health challenges.*

*May we be one as members of Your Body.*

*You invite us to share in your ministry of love and true compassion.*

*May we be empowered by your Spirit to reach out to all people in need.*

*May we build communities of welcome and inclusion.*

**Amen**



You can download Statement and accompanying prayer card on <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2020/07/03/social-justice-statement-2020-21/> of our website and via the ACBC Online Shop.

### **Fr TAO'S MESSAGE 26/08/2020**

#### **HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!**

As you know, we have a tradition to celebrate the Wedding Anniversaries of our parishioners who were married during that month at our churches on the last weekend of the month. As your priests, we would love to do something especially for you on these special occasions. If coronavirus pandemic doesn't happen and we don't have to quarantine the entire state and curfew time like it is now, there's nothing to stop the way of celebrating Wedding Anniversary in our churches on this weekend. We just go to church for Mass and then we congratulate the couple who were married during this month, the month of August and pray and ask God to bless them. However, coronavirus pandemic has turned all our normal activities upside down: due to this pandemic, everything is different and we cannot do anything. We understand and feel sympathy for our parishioners who are suffering such upheavals. What we can do this time is to think of each person, remember each person, and pray silently for each person and every family in our Parishes through our prayers and through the Masses which we celebrate every day.

As mentioned above, as we cannot gather physically in our churches to celebrate on behalf of Fr Steven and Fr Lenin, I would like to send this message to you with prayers, blessings and best wishes.

***May the almighty God who has kept you together for these number of years, of his infinite goodness and mercy continue to keep you together and bless your union.***

***I pray that the Father who created you, Christ the son who redeemed you, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you daily, keep and preserve you all your days.***

***May the Lord look upon you with favour and fill you with every spiritual benediction and grace.***

***May you continue to live a full and joyous life for many more years to come.***

***May your companionship grow stronger each day and may truth, passion, love and happiness stay deep inside your hearts.***

***May the almighty God bless and enlighten you through the teachings of Jesus Christ and strengthen you as you walk in his light.***

***So that you will be able to please him in this life and that you may have life everlasting in the world to come. Amen.***

***Happy Wedding Anniversary.***

***Fr Tao Pham.***





Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

**Media Release 06.08.2020**

**ACN Australia Launches National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon**

The Australian office of the international Catholic charity *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN) has launched a national emergency appeal for Lebanon, requesting prayers for victims and their families, and raising funds in the wake of the deadly explosion in Beirut on the 4th of August, which has killed at least 135 people, injured 5000 and decimated the capital city.

The funds that are raised will be used to support the most urgent needs in Lebanon (such as emergency food packages) but they will also respond to the physical and spiritual needs that arise in the coming weeks, months and years.

ACN is grateful that the appeal has been given the endorsement and support of Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay of the Maronite Catholic Diocese of Australia and Bishop Robert Rabbat of the Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Australia and New Zealand.

In launching the appeal, the National Director of ACN Australia, Mr Bernard Toutounji, is asking the Catholic people - and all people of goodwill - to offer a prayer and a donation for the Lebanese people. "Australians love the Lebanese people, who have been an integral part of this nation since the 19<sup>th</sup> century; indeed almost 250,000 Australians claim some Lebanese ancestry. Lebanese Australians have, and continue to, contribute significantly to our civic, religious and business fabric. The explosion in Beirut has devastated the lives of our Lebanese brothers and sisters, and we feel their pain today. I appeal to the Catholic and wider community to support the people of Lebanon with their prayers and financial resources. The sort of carnage we have witnessed cannot be fixed overnight, this will take years, and even though all of us are currently living through the stress of the coronavirus pandemic, we must put ourselves in solidarity with Lebanon and her sons and daughters."

Bishop Tarabay, the spiritual leader of 160,000 Maronites in Australia, expressed his gratitude for the appeal. "I give my blessing to this national appeal. ACN has been on the ground in Lebanon for many, many years working with the priests, religious and the people to keep the faith alive. Our people have suffered so much for so long, but I know Australians will be carrying them in their prayers and I thank them for anything they can do to help us."

Bishop Rabbat leads the 50,000 Melkite Catholics of Australia, many of whom are themselves Lebanese. "This is a shocking situation, this is the land of my own birth, and I mourn with the people of Lebanon. I am conscious though that in this month we will commemorate the Dormition (Assumption) of the Mother of God, so we must pray that the Theotokos will bring hope and healing in the lives of all those who have been affected. For those who have died, memory eternal! I thank everyone for supporting this appeal."

Founded in 1947, *Aid to the Church in Need* has long-term and trusted project partners on the ground in Lebanon, and around the world. These project partners are already providing 2 vital information as to where resources are most needed and how they can be most effectively used. ACN supports more than 5000 projects annually around the world and all are undertaken with strict processes of accountability and transparency in place.

**To donate to ACN's National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon)**

or call ACN on **1800 101 201** during business hours, 8am-5pm, AEST.

# MESSAGE BOARD

**Alan McCarthy was a true gentleman and a founding Parishioner of St. Thomas and he was extremely active in the life of our Parish. For many years Alan was both the School's and Parish Accountant a role he performed voluntarily. He also assisted with many of the Parish's activities such as the Parish Fete, A Special Minister & Reader at Mass, was on the Counting Roster and assisted with many other roles in private.**

**He is a great loss to our community and will be sadly missed.**

**Born into Eternal Life 21st August 2020, RIP Alan**

**Dear Shirley, and the McCarthy Family,**

Since I have been living in St Thomas the Apostle Parish (2014), I am very grateful and pleased seeing you and Alan going to Mass every weekend. I have heard a lot of good things which Alan has done for this Community. I know that, Alan has been involved in many activities at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and St. Thomas the Apostle Primary School since the beginning. He has also played many important roles in the development of this parish and community. On behalf of the parishioners of St Thomas the Apostle Parish, I would like to thank him very much for his contributions.

**May Almighty God bless him and open the gate of heaven to welcome him into and receive the Eternal reward!**

I am so sorry for your loss. From now on I will not be able to see Alan in our church anymore.

Your husband, Alan was such a loving person, an amazing father, a wonderful grandfather and a great friend for all of us. I will miss him so much.

The loss of a spouse is one of the most painful events that can happen to an individual. I understand that, to lose a true love and partner in life is something that no one is ready for. Nothing quite compares to the love of a spouse. I want you to know that I am thinking about you and am here for you always.

I cannot fully express the sorrow I feel for you and for your family at this time. I am thinking about you always and I am praying for the soul of Alan and asking God to open the gate of heaven to welcome him in to receive eternal life and eternal happiness.

My condolences for the loss of your husband and best friend. He was such an amazing parishioner and loving person. We, the parishioners of St Thomas the Apostle Parish will all miss him and we join with you in keeping his wonderful memories alive.

**On behalf of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and everyone in our Community, and on my own behalf, I would like to extend our sincere sympathy to all members of the McCarthy Family.**

**You will all be in our thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks ahead. Amen.**

**Fr Tao Pham**

Alan McCarthy was a huge contributor and a valued member of our parish. He was particularly active in the early growth of our parish when we were in the building and developmental stage, and his contribution as parish and school accountant was enormous. He and Shirley have constantly contributed to the life of the parish through social and liturgical occasions. Alan was always the first to respond when I put out the call for extra readers and ministers at the special times such as Christmas and Easter. Our local St Vincent de Paul Conference is very grateful for his generous support of all Vinnies appeals.

We would like to express our sympathies to Shirley and her family at this time of great loss and assure her that she is in our prayers. May Alan rest in peace and enjoy the rewards of his labour.

**Sue and Kevin McMahon**



# MESSAGE BOARD

**Dear Shirley,**

*We are thinking of you and praying for you at this sad time. We have so many fond memories of Alan, a very special person whom we all admired. We are grateful for his presence among us.*

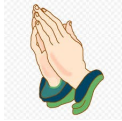
*With warmest thoughts.*

**Wil and David**

**Our condolences to the family our thoughts and prayers are with you.**

**May Alan RIP**

**The Di Pietro family**



Doris and I would like to pass our deepest condolences to Shirley and all her family. He will be sadly missed and may he rest in peace.

**Doris and Vic Vella**

**Dear Shirley**

*Please accept my condolences. Alan is finally able to enjoy his eternal reward.*

*I am sorry that the present circumstances will make it very difficult for you to be surrounded by loved ones. But please be assured of my prayers.*

**Blessings**

**Sandra Bishop**

**Dear Shirley,**

*Thinking of you, and praying especially for you and your family at this time.*

*May the memories you shared with Alan comfort you, and may you draw strength and peace from God's loving presence.*

*Blessings,*

**Emilia Sacchetta**

**Dear Shirley and family.**

**We are saddened by the loss of Alan a popular and hard working parishioner. We grieve today but the good memories that you and we have will carry us through. Ann and I send to you our sincere condolences and prayers at this sad time.**

**Sincerely John & Ann Kerr.**



*Many years ago when I was trying to find a parish that I thought may help me to be a better Christian, I met Alan McCarthy at St Thomas'. This quiet gentle man offered me words of encouragement and welcome.*

*As time went on I was to learn that Alan was a committed Christian and his work for the Church was up lifting.*

*I was sorry to learn of Alan's death.*

*To Shirley and his family I extend my deepest sympathies.*

**Brian Smiddy**

*Would you please send my sincere sympathy to Shirley and her family on this sad occasion, with my thoughts and prayers.*

*Thank you*

**Edith Sutherland**

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May Alan's Soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*Amen.*

# MESSAGE BOARD

*My condolences to you Shirley and to your family. I am deeply saddened by the news of your loss. I pray that God will grant you and your family strength.*  
*Love Tina*



It is hard to imagine the Parish of St. Thomas without Alan McCarthy. His presence at Mass on Saturday night, parish functions, social events, meetings of all kinds, the parish fete, and of course, his service on the Ministries of the Word and the Eucharist. A quiet, selfless man who served and helped wherever and whenever needed.

A great example for others to follow and take up a role in the life of the Parish.

He will be sorely missed by all our family.

We send our deepest sympathy to Shirley and family.

**Mary, Brian and family Bedford**

*Dear Shirley,*

*Both Lyn and I were saddened to hear of Alan's passing. Fond memory's of Saturday night mass Please accept our condolences.*

*George and Lyn Bull*

*Dear Shirley and family*

*My very sincere condolences on this sad occasion and I wish to share with you that Alan and I worked together at PANCH from 1984 to 1986 and I was always struck by his calm manner and diligence to his work. Like all busy hospitals, PANCH could be a stressful environment but Alan never lost his cool and was such a steady presence for me at this hospital. Also, seeing him at Mass every week was a constant reminder of those times and our connected working lives which gave an added dimension to my connection with Alan.*

*Kay Bonello*



*In 2013, Alan McCarthy (from left), Kevin McIntosh and Kath Mumford visited the students on St Thomas' Feast Day celebrations to tell them a little about themselves and their connection to the school and parish. It was a chance for the students to put a face to a name on the plaques that adorn our school buildings and to discover why their dedication would be cherished and remembered. Alan McCarthy said that he didn't think of himself as being special or unique, just hard working. He was a very humble man.*

*Rest in peace Alan.*

*From the Staff and Students of St Thomas the Apostle Primary School*

*Stage 8 of the construction of St Thomas the Apostle school saw the portable classrooms connected with a veranda and named the McCarthy Wing after the parish and school accountant, Alan McCarthy.*

*Alan was the school accountant from 1988 to 2006.*

*He was the parish accountant from 1988 to 2012.*

*David Delaney*

*St. Thomas School Principal*





# MESSAGE BOARD

Dear Shirley and family,

We wish to offer you our deepest sympathy at the passing of Alan. We shall miss seeing you and he side by side at Sunday mass. He was a gentle man who worked quietly and unobtrusively for the community. We are sure he was greeted with the words welcome, "well done thou good and faithful servant". Our thoughts and prayers are with you all and a big hug for you Shirley.

**Therese and Bruce Parry**

*My sympathies to Shirley & Family on the passing of Alan.*

*He was a man of faith a quiet and unassuming man who did so much for our Parish.*

*I have a lovely memory of Alan it was when he had finished Chemo and the beanies were pitched and he came to Mass with this thick wavy hair and I said "Who is this handsome guy with all that hair and he smiled from ear to ear.*

*God Bless you Alan your work is now done so rest in peace.*

**Marg McKenzie**

**Condolences to Shirley and Family**

**Estelle Smooker**



*Our thoughts and prayers are with Shirley and the McCarthy family on the sad passing of Alan. His support and guidance updating the Sacred Heart Presbytery account system during the transition of our Parish Partnership was much appreciated. We also enjoyed his company at our annual Anointing Mass and lunch.*

*Sincere condolences from Pat Guatta and the Sacred Heart community.*

**Regards**

**Pat Guatta**

*Dear Shirley,*

*My condolences to you and your family, and may the beautiful memories of Alan give you comfort at this time.*

**Love from Joy Ginnivan**



Dear Shirley and Family,

My deepest condolences on the passing of Alan, a beautiful, generous, gentle man.

Alan will be sadly missed by all at St Thomas.

My prayers and thoughts are with you all at this saddest of times.

Warm regards,

**Lilian Hobson**



Shirley & the family have decided to have a private prayer service this Friday for Alan as they would like to have a Celebration of Alan's life at a later date at which I am sure you will be all most welcome to attend.

They have a number of family and friends spread widely across Australia who would like to attend this service at St Thomas in remembrance of Alan.

On behalf of Shirley & the McCarthy Family I would like to thank you all for your contribution to the remembrance of Alan.

**First Reading Jer 20:7-9**

*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;  
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,  
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2**

**(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,  
O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

**Second Reading Rom 12:1-2**

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled

by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

**Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus  
Christ**

**enlighten the eyes of our heart,  
that we might see how great  
is the hope**

**to which we are called.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mt 16:21-27**

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



**Reflection by Fr Michael Tate**

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus *wanted* him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dreadful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get *behind* me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, *follow* me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.

mtate@bigpond.com

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the **Lectionary for the Mass** ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from **The Psalms, A New Translation**, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the **Jerusalem Bible**, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.  
© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd  
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.