



Sunday 29th August 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Dixon George

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.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
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 4th & 5th September

SACRED HEART 9.00am

Special Minister:

Reader: **MASS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

ST THOMAS VIGIL 6.00pm & 10.30am

Special Minister 6.00pm:

Special Minister 10.30am:

6.00pm: Reader: Commentator: Set Up:

10.30am: Reader: Commentator: Set Up:

Counters: Cleaners:

Mass will still be recorded and uploaded onto our Websites

*******NO MASSES AT ST PETER'S UNTIL DISTANCE RESTRICTIONS ARE REMOVED*******

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

Bridie Burke, Bernice Burke, Miran Kasalo, Martin Leonard, Joan Moran, Catherin Leonard,
Tony Ledda, Sarah Drummond, Margaret Holland, Jacob Draper, Peg Wilcox, Dawn Ellis

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

Jim Beattie, Maurie Dalwood, Fr Gerard Loughnan, Kevin Nihill, Win Atkinson, Mary Burke, Arthur Walker, Jane de Carlo, Rachael Casale, Frank McMahan, 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 Micaí, Anne Honeywell, Giusseppe Minutolo, Paul Silverwood, Jim Lysaght, Salvatore Scala, Margaret Hardwick, Ted Tremayne, Giselle Caliste, Nadia Mefflin, Alan Corcoran, Margaret Howse, Wayne Robinson, Alan McCarthy, Salvador Catalogna, Rose Masabni

WORSHIP & PRAYER

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK WITHIN OUR PARISHES: If you wish to have someone added or removed from the sick or Anniversaries list for our newsletter could you please notify **Pat 9401 6361** or **Lisa 9434 7373**.

PRAYING WITH POPE FRANCIS IN AUGUST: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel. See www.vaticannews.va for the associated video.

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RECORDED MASSES—HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED.

Every week since March last year, St Mary's parishioners Troy and Trevor have shared the recording and uploading of the Saturday evening Mass from one of our partnered parishes and Masses during lockdowns. We thank them for their faithful commitment to our communities. However, to continue to offer recorded Masses on a regular basis, help is urgently needed. Troy was married recently and will soon be moving from the parish, and Trevor has an ongoing commitment as projectionist at a Sunday Mass. An invitation is extended to St Mary's, St Thomas' and Sacred Heart parishioners to assist with this valued ministry.

Training will be provided. For more information, please contact **Marian 0409 591 527**.



PLENARY COUNCIL

Fan the Flame Prayer Initiative:

Together we continue to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit for the Australian church.

'Listening to What the Spirit is Saying

FAN THE FLAME

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

'The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.'

John 6:60-69

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A 10 WEEK MEDITATION PROGRAM

A local lady, Marie Lee-Conway, has approached Jacinta Bright, after completing a qualification in Meditation at Catholic Theological College, seeking to run a 10 week centering prayer experience as part of her study.

If you are interested please email jacinta.bright@cam.org.au.

Here are Marie's reflections on Centering Prayer: a method designed to locate a sacred inner space for personal thoughts and feelings held and expressed in deep relationship with the living Christ through the soul's intention to be present before God. Centering Prayer is for anyone and everyone who desires greater intimacy with God. It is a prayer posture that opens one's heart to God without words, images, or expectations. One lovingly and solicitously presents oneself before God and trusts that God will reveal himself in his own way and time. Further information around Centering Prayer can be found at <http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/>

The program is due to begin the first week in September and will run until the last week in October. Participants will meet for one hour per week. A venue will be identified as the lock down restrictions dictate. EG St Mary's Gathering Space, environmentally friendly Outdoor Garden setting, Zoom.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit: caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan

or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

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.

COMMUNITY LIFE



SACRED HEART INTERIM LEADERSHIP TEAM: The other week at Mass Fr. Steven spoke about the importance of forming a Parish Pastoral Council. About how the Archbishop intends to form Mission Parishes, he also asked us to nominate someone or nominate yourself to be part of the PPC. The Interim team are asking you again to nominate a person you think will represent you and the rest of the Sacred Heart Community. Remember we need to form a strong PPC one that represents you.



YOUR VOICE, MY VOICE, OUR VOICE

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED -Emergency Aid for Haiti.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN International) has expressed its solidarity in prayer with Haiti and immediately approved an emergency aid package of half a million Euros (\$800,000 AUD) for the Haitian people. In response to this, ACN Australia has set up an emergency appeal to provide help for our brothers and sisters in Haiti who are going through a very hard time.

To donate visit www.aidtochurch.org/haiti

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 29th August

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

The Social Justice Statement 2021-22 provides theological foundations to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life.

In the Statement, the Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action.

The Statement especially encourages Catholic families, communities and organisations to: listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor; and plan their next steps towards the Laudato Si' Goals.

Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor will be a useful resource throughout our seven-year journey to total sustainability.

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Social-Justice-Statement-2021-22.pdf>

Prayer: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor

*Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:
the bush grown more silent,
the birdsong less vibrant,
the stream's sluggish ripple.
Have mercy and open our ears.*

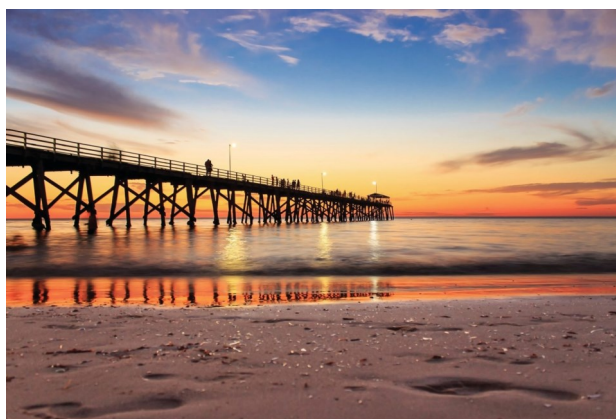
*Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the soil depleted, the sky smudged,
the oceans rubbished and the great currents slowed.
Have mercy and help us to see.*

*Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the workers who struggle to get by,
the women subjected to violence,
the people who are excluded.
Have mercy and help us to see.*

*Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:
the sound of hungry children,
the distress of the mentally ill,
the silent pain of homeless women and men.
Have mercy and open our ears.*

*Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew our sight,
to restore our hearing,
and to reclaim your reign of justice for all people
and peace for creation.*

AMEN



First Reading Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the
innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoil religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation Jas 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living. The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite.

Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment.

When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves.

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