



**Sunday 5th September 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 September that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom**

Terry Moran, Michael Holland, Ann Cusack, Andrew O'Dea, George Ind, Peter Thomas, Francis Goodge, Margaret Fitzgerald, Alexander Libertino, Jean Watson, Maria Scordo, Gennaro Mascia, Bernadette Richardson, Norah Moylan, Jane Tremayne, Tess Natoli, Barry Williamson, Mollie Kerr, Rocco Crea, Bernadette Linehan, Vincent Mascia, Jim Hardwick Snr, Kevin Power, Antonio Lunardello, Ines Lunardello, Vincenzina Varalla John Ryan, Fr Jim Feenan, John Muscat

## 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**.

**AFGHANISTAN:** Speaking at the Angelus last Sunday Pope Francis called upon Christians to show solidarity with people of Afghanistan especially the women and children. "In historical moments like this, Christians cannot remain indifferent," he said. "I appeal to everyone to intensify prayer and practice fasting: prayer and fasting, prayer and penance. Now is the time to do it." vaticannews.VA 29.8.2021

## 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

Together we continue to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit for the Australian church. 'Listen to What the Spirit is Saying .....

### *Fan the Flame*

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

'He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Mark 7:31-37



The Church hears the cries of the poor and the groans of the earth. It seeks to stand in solidarity with the poor and the marginalised, and to exercise good stewardship of the fragile ecosystems that support life on earth.

(Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, "A New Earth: The Environmental Challenge. Social Justice Statement 2002", accessed 23 April 2021, <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Social-Justice-Statement-2002.pdf>, 10.)

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/](http://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](mailto: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.

## NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

Between the 5–11 September, the focus of the Australian community turns to safeguarding children and young people. This year we're invited to reflect on "Every child, in every community, needs a fair go."

We remember Pope Francis' words addressed to us, the People of God in 2018, 'If one member suffers, all suffer together with it.' (1Cor 12:26)

"These words of St Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by the many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike .....The pain of victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults."

**Letter of Pope Francis to the People of God 20.8.2018**

THE ARCHBISHOP'S  
**FATHER'S DAY**  
COLLECTION FOR RETIRED & SICK PRIESTS

*Please Give Generously*

(All donations of \$2 and more are fully tax deductible)

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis recently spoke of all the hardworking priests who have tirelessly and honourably given their lives in service of God's people. He compared them to incense "which silently rises up to heaven. Their weariness goes straight to the heart of the Father."

In the short time since I have come to Melbourne, I have already met these same priests among you. On your behalf, I want to thank these humble stewards of God's grace for us.

It has been a wonderful custom in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to allow the faithful of the Archdiocese to show something of their own appreciation through an annual Fathers' Day Appeal. The appeal goes to the care of retired and sick priests by providing suitable accommodation, medical assistance and a comfortable standard of living for them. May I commend the Appeal to you.

Please pray for your priests, as they pray for you!

+ *Peter A Comensoli*

**ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE**

*Due to the continuing COVID-19 restrictions and Masses not being able to be said at Parishes, donations to the Father's Day appeal can be made through the Priests Retirement Foundation website.*

*Donations can be made by your Parishioners through the Priests Retirement Foundation website via debit, credit card or Paypal where the donor's details are loaded and receipts can be issued.*

The site is: [www.cam.org.au/foundation](http://www.cam.org.au/foundation)

*Sincere thanks for your support of the Priests Retirement Foundation.*

*Kind regards*

*Fr Mark Reynolds PP EV*

*Chairman, Priests Retirement Foundation*



God our Father,  
we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.  
We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;  
may they find courage and perseverance  
to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.  
We pray for fathers around the world  
whose children are lost or suffering;  
may they know that the God of compassion  
walks with them in their sorrow.  
We pray for men who are not fathers  
but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.  
We remember fathers, grandfather, and great grandfathers  
who are no longer with us  
but who live forever in our memory  
and nourish us with their love. Amen

**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.

**First Reading Is 35:4-7**

*Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.*

Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1**

*(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!*

*or:*

*(R.) Alleluia!*

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. *(R.)*
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the  
blind,  
who raises up those who are  
bound down,  
the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. *(R.)*
3. The Lord upholds the widow and  
orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. *(R.)*

**Second Reading Jas 2:1-5**

*Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes,

and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom**

**and healed all who were sick.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mk 7:31-37**

*He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.*

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'



**Reflection by Greg Sunter**

Strangely, this week's gospel about the healing of a man who was deaf and dumb is less about healing than it is about Jesus being the Messiah. The theme is set up in the first reading when the prophet, Isaiah, describes the signs by which the coming of the Messiah will be recognised: the blind will see; the deaf will hear; the lame will leap; and the dumb will speak. When Jesus healed the man in the gospel story the crowd were admiring of what he had done. They even exclaimed, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.' These words are a direct echo of the Isaiah text – they were recognising Jesus as fulfilling the prophecies of the promised Messiah.

However, the passage also demonstrates to us that Jesus was trying to show the people that he was not exactly the Messiah that many of them were anticipating. This healing story takes place in the region of The Decapolis – south-east of the Galilee region and populated mostly by Gentiles. By travelling in this area and working miraculous healings, Jesus is making the point that his mission is to all people, not just 'the Chosen People' of Israel. He commands the crowd who witnessed the healing to tell no one about it but, filled with the idea that Jesus was the Messiah they had been waiting for, they broadcast the news. Jesus wanted their silence because he knew that they did not fully understand the sort of Messiah that he was. Only when they understood that this Messiah must suffer and die would he have allowed them to speak of his deeds.

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.