



Sunday 20th September 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 September**
Respect for the Planet's Resources: We pray the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.
- **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, Shirley Bourke, Annette Hyland, Catherine Leonard, Ted Sheenan, Haylie Adams-Vivanxay, Giovanna Ng, Petronilla De Leo, June Cummins, Elaine Chapman, Jim Goodge, John Prendergast

We pray for those who have died and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of September that they 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



2021 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

The 2021 Columban Art Calendar is now available for purchase.

As our Churches are still closed if you would like to purchase a Calendar you can contact Lisa **9434 7373** greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au or Pat **9401 6361** diamondcreek@cam.org.au to reserve your Calendar.

We only have limited stock at \$10.00 each.

SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

On 20th September 2020, we mark [Social Services Sunday](#) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 45 [member organisations](#), the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year.

We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond.

We call to mind the 2020/21 Social Justice Statement brought out recently by the Australian Catholic bishops, [To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today](#), and so draw your attention to a recent event hosted by CSSV, [Counselling and Therapeutic Support in a Time of COVID](#), which provided an opportunity to become more familiar with mental health services, and how to practically reach out for or point to assistance. Parishioners will find the resources in this article helpful.

Prayer for Courage and Compassion



Compassionate God,
Your unconditional love for all
inspires our hearts and empowers our actions
for those who are most vulnerable.
May we boldly and humbly serve one another
and be steadfast in our work for justice for all people.
Keep our hearts open to the joys and the hopes of our world,
and our ears ready to hear your call
to truth, justice and reconciliation.
Let us continue to draw inspiration and strength
from those, like St Mary MacKillop,
on whose shoulders we stand.
We gather in Jesus' name
to be nourished and to move forward together
in hope and joy.

Amen



This prayer was the 2020 National Catholic Social Services Conference prayer held in February 2020 in Melbourne. The Conference was convened by Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia.

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 (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.

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

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,*

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

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.

- * 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.



Our morning teas have already been very successful with 25 parishioners from our Partnered Parishes attending the first week and another seven joined in the second week.

The physical distancing does not keep us from making connections with others and enjoying a good conversation.

It is not too late to join, Jacinta would love to hear from you.

Contact Jacinta at: jacinta.bright@cam.org.au

'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.

All are welcome to join us.

We also have participants zooming in from country Victoria and London.

Enquiries: Rose 0411 650339.





We proclaim a crucified Christ
1Cor1:23

16 September 2020

To the People and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

Dear friends in Christ, As we now welcome the beginnings of easing in COVID-19 Restrictions in Victoria, I would like to take this opportunity to write to you, the Clergy and people of our Archdiocese. It is great news that regional Victoria will, from tonight, move into the Third Step of the Roadmap to reopening, which includes our parishes located outside the metropolitan zone. However, we have a long way to go.

The deprivation in sacramental life has been a profound loss for our people. As well as all the other sufferings of the Pandemic, the sense of estrangement from the Eucharist has been a particular struggle for Catholics. The Mass is our primary means of gathering together in faith; it is the source and summit of our Christian life, and its life-giving nourishment and healing is dearly missed.

In the midst of this loss, I am grateful to our Priests and Deacons for continuing to serve the faithful, for sharing a sacramental ministry even under strict conditions, and for being alongside our people and their loved ones in times of death and grief. Thank you for your faithfulness.

All of us are anxious to open church doors, but I want to emphasise our need to be creative in the ways we do so, especially with the thousands of children who have been waiting for Sacraments of Initiation. Countless Catholic families are awaiting Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation for their children. Adults, too, have longed to be received into the life of the Church. We shall be exploring possibilities such as outdoor liturgies in parish and school settings to facilitate these crucial events of grace and welcome.

Throughout the pandemic, I have been advocating directly with the Government, reminding authorities continually of our respectful compliance with each stage of restrictions, and seeking a fair consideration in what is permitted. The Catholic community throughout the pandemic has been constructive and positive. We have, and continue to act in a mature way, caring for the safety and vulnerability of Victorians facing great risk. Thankfully the signs of driving down COVID numbers are looking good at this moment and Catholics join other people of faith in giving thanks for this outcome and working to ensure the steps ahead do not take us backward.

Now, it is essential that the Government does not treat faith communities as an afterthought to the opening up of other sectors. Our churches are locations for communities of care and essential service, and must be treated fairly and reasonably.

Practically speaking, I have been in discussion with the Premier to thank him for overturning the restriction on spiritual ministry to the sick and the dying, and have assured him that the Catholic Church is able to manage restrictions (including good hygiene, face coverings, social distancing and density requirements). If pubs and restaurants can open, then places of worship should be open under similar conditions and numbers.

If case numbers track well, I expect we will see larger outdoor gatherings in regional Victoria become possible over the next few weeks, and proportionate opportunities for gathering in metropolitan Melbourne. I am hopeful that this may occur sometime in October, which would be a deeply welcomed improvement on the current Roadmap indications. If we can open our churches, even for outdoor gatherings, then we should open them.

The Deputy Premier and the Multicultural Affairs Minister are conducting discussions this month through the Multifaith Leaders Forum. The Archdiocese will be contributing to these meetings. In addition I will continue to engage with the Premier and Ministers directly on the Church's need for opening doors, carefully and safely.

Be assured of my ongoing closeness in prayer and concern. I have heard your cry, and I am working to bring your voice to the authorities. The Lord has promised he will be with us always; let us place our hope in Him.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

MESSAGE BOARD

Fr. Steve - Home Alone

Some parishioners and parish staff have written about what they are doing during this COVID19 Lockdown and have had their brief stories in the Parish newsletters. So, I thought you might be interested in how I spend my days.

Let me begin with Saturday mornings when I celebrate the weekend Mass at one of our 4 churches on a rotational basis with either Trevor DeSouza or Troy Flores filming and a local from the particular church community reading the readings and prayers. I have generally done some gardening or maintenance around the house in the afternoon and on Sundays. I have also embarked upon a process of cleaning out, culling and sorting out files in my filing cabinets and computer. On Sunday afternoons I go to my mother's, have lunch with her and stay overnight through to Monday evenings. I justify this by my claim that I am her sole carer. I like her company and I assist her with some gardening and maintenance around her home. The advantage is for me that she has never really learned how to cook for one, so I gratefully bring back meals to last me the week. She is quite inspirational for an 84 year old.

At the commencement of the first lockdown she was quite anxious as to how she would cope because she is normally quite active and socially connected to many people and drives to meet up with friends and family. So she decided that she has to change her routine - Mondays, I'm with her; Tuesdays, she cooks; Wednesdays, she washes and cleans; Thursdays, she shops; Fridays, she bakes, and she fills the rest of the time gardening, reading, doing crosswords, knitting and communicating with friends, family and parishioners using the phone, emails, social media and even Zoom.

Throughout the rest of the week, Parish and Diocesan meetings still take place through Zoom - sometimes I can be involved in 4 or 5 Zoom meetings daily, often with Jacinta, Tao and Lenin. I have been involved with other parishioners establishing a "Safeguarding of Children and Young People" committee which is developing policies and procedures to ensure our parishes are compliant with Government and Diocesan requirements. I have also been involved with parishioners to develop COVID Safe plan, policies and procedures, as well as processes involved with requirements for parishioners who may be working alone on the parish properties.

I have tried to maintain contact with parishioners by phone, or sometimes when required I will visit and anoint parishioners. I have made a few videos to communicate with various levels of our school children. Each week I also meet up with the principals and school staff of our 3 schools and I try to meet up with Tao and Lenin, and our secretaries. Much of my day also involves communicating through emails. I spend quite a bit of my days on email with people who want to "talk" through issues in their lives. Often this requires of me much reflecting and sensitivity in my responses to them so that I might be able to affirm them and assist them to deal with their struggles and issues.

I do have more time for reading and prayer and I try to ensure that I take a walk each day. In prayer I am trying to make sense of what this period of time means for us all and what positive aspects can we take into the future. The usual line I use when people say that I must be very busy continues even during this time - "I am not busy, but I don't get bored."

Know that I think of you and hold you in my prayers. Take care and keep safe.

Fr. Steven



First Reading Is 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of
compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 1:20-24. 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me
something more; but then again, if living in
this body means doing work which is having
good results – I do not know what I should
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want
to be gone and be with Christ, which would
be very much the better, but for me to stay
alive in this body is a more urgent need for
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom
of heaven is like a landowner going out at
daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard.
He made an agreement with the workers
for one denarius a day, and sent them to
his vineyard. Going out at about the third
hour he saw others standing idle in the
market place and said to them, "You go
to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went
out and did the same. Then at about the
eleventh hour he went out and found more
men standing round, and he said to them,
"Why have you been standing here idle all
day?" "Because no one has hired us" they
answered. He said to them, "You go into
my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner
of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the
workers and pay them their wages, starting
with the last arrivals and ending with the
first." So those who were hired at about the
eleventh hour came forward and received
one denarius each. When the first came,
they expected to get more, but they too
received one denarius each. They took it,
but grumbled at the landowner. "The men
who came last" they said "have done only
one hour, and you have treated them the
same as us, though we have done a heavy
day's work in all the heat." He answered
one of them and said, "My friend, I am not
being unjust to you; did we not agree on
one denarius? Take your earnings and go.
I choose to pay the last-comer as much as
I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like
with my own? Why be envious because I am
generous?" Thus the last will be first, and
the first, last.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

This is a story of the day labourers
of Jesus' time. The 'early birds'
contracted for the just wage of one
denarius and did the hard work
over the course of a long day. They
were outraged when latecomers
also received a denarius.

This little parable circulated in the
Christian community of the first
century because there was great
antagonism between the Jews who
became followers of Jesus and the
non-Jews, the 'Gentiles'. Jewish
Christians looked at their long
history of hardship preparing for
the coming of the Messiah. And,
now, here were these Gentiles who
had done nothing by comparison,
and God appeared to be granting
them whatever it took to enjoy the
'daily bread' of the Kingdom of
God.

Jewish Christians had to be
shocked out of *their* idea that
God's grace could *not* be lavished
on those outside the boundaries of
the Chosen People.

We could pause to pray to be taken
by happy surprise by those billions
of people outside the Church who,
by the grace of God, will share with
us 'the Bread of Life', given for the
salvation of *all* the world.

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