



**Sunday 21st March 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  
**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 20th & 21st March**

**SACRED HEART 9.00am**

**Special Minister:** Aminda, Dharshanie

**Reader:** F. Ledda

**ST THOMAS VIGIL 6.00pm & 10.30am**

**Special Minister 6.00pm:** R. Garner, M. Sturmar, L. Leahy

**Special Minister 10.30am:** A. Kerr, J. Millar, M. Tipping

**6.00pm: Reader:** T. Holland **Commentator:** **Set Up:** M. McKenzie

**10.30am: Reader:** M. Kenny **Commentator:** J. Kerr **Set Up:** J. Kerr

**Counters:** B. Bedford, L. Hobson **Cleaners:** N. Mefflin, B. Murray (10th April)

**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, Elaine Chapman, Miran Kasalo, Martin Leonard, Joan Moran, Catherin Leonard,  
Tony Ledda, Sarah Drummond, Wimal Piyumsiri,

**We pray for those who have died including Kellie Stuckey and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of March that they enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom**

Les Ginnivan, Madeleine Blake, Laurence Dunn, John McGauran, Kath Glennen, Sydney Raymond, Michael Pase, Carl Troiano, Rollo Jackson, Elizabeth Salm, Antonio Gallo, Kathleen Sheehan, Lina Bertuna, Bernadette O'Brien, Bonnie Dickson, Ian Stephens

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**SENIOR MOMENTS:** Next meeting 7th April at 12.00pm at the Diamond Creek Hotel. Contact Margaret.

**MORNING TEA VIA ZOOM:** These Zoom catch ups for morning tea for members of our partnered parishes, have been such a great initiative. Now that we are venturing out and about, the need is not so great for us to be finding ways to see and speak with others. However, the group who has been gathering doesn't want it to simply stop, so we have decided to meet on the first Friday of each month at 10.30. This gives people who go to morning mass, time to get back home and settle in for morning tea. This is a great way to get together with old friends and meet new people.

If you are interested please contact Jacinta Bright at [Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au](mailto:Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au) or call the parish office at St Mary's on 9435 1543.



**MORING TEA DATE FOR APRIL WILL BE ON FRIDAY THE 9TH APRIL.**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** We wish to advise all community groups that should you wish to have an event listed in our Weekly Newsletter the deadline is the 2.00pm on the Wednesday prior. Should you have any queries please contact Lisa in the Parish Office.

### **St VINCENT de PAUL DIAMOND CREEK CONFERENCE**

The Diamond Creek Conference requires someone to take on the treasurer's position, as our current member has retired from the role. The person will be supported by the group and is not entitled to attend visitation if they choose not too. All the information will be provided of what is required in the role. If anyone is interested can they please contact myself - Ray Belli on 0413 185 722.



## **WORSHIP & PRAYER**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK WITHIN OUR PARISHES:** It is time again to update those who we have been praying for within our Parishes. If you wish to have anyone added to the prayer list could you please notify Pat **9401 6361** or Lisa **9434 7373** or email [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**RCIA:** A small group, for adults, is commencing for those interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith. We warmly welcome anyone who is interested in joining this group to contact either the Sacred Heart or St Thomas parish office.

**REMEMBERING HOLY SATURDAY:** This retreat will be made available during the Holy Week. It explores the mystery of Holy Saturday, on what it means to live in "in-between" times, liminal times. There will be video talk everyday starting from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. This retreat will be given by an oblate of Jamberoo Abbey, Rev Catherine Eaton.

For more information, go to our website: <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats/holy-week-retreat/>  
<https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats/holy-week-retreat/>

**POPE FRANCIS' WORLDWIDE PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH: The Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

Pope Francis asks, 'Let us pray that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the forgiveness and infinite mercy of God.' He continues: 'Let us pray that God may give his Church merciful priests and not torturers.'

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** We wish to advise all community groups that should you wish to have an event listed in our Newsletter the deadline is 2.00pm on the Wednesday prior. Should you have any queries please contact Lisa in the Parish Office.



Jamila, 22, is a Rohingya woman living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. She was forced to flee the armed conflict in Myanmar to save herself, her elderly mother and her eight-month-old baby.

With the support of Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila was able to access emergency food and shelter.

She also received counselling, emotional support, and learnt sewing skills to help her earn an income.

Jamila now feels less alone, with a sense of community around her. She is able to 'Be More' to her little family. "Thank you, and thanks Caritas Australia," Jamila says.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### **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.

## LENTEN THEME 2021– ‘God has come near’

Lent is the liturgical season for prayer, reflection and contrition for any wrongdoing we have made in our lives as we prepare for the joyous season of Easter. The theme for Lent 2021 has been taken from the Gospel of Mark. In chapter 1, Jesus came into Galilee after spending 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by Satan, and there He uttered His first words in public ministry:

***“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is near; repent and believe in the gospel.”***

The world has experienced a great upheaval because of the coronavirus which has shaken our sense of certainty and expectations of the future; all of our lives have been disrupted and changed; our livelihoods may have been adversely affected, our health and those we love may have been compromised; we may have suffered loss and grief, periods of time filled with fear, anxiety and uncertainty; we may have been challenged to find hope and peace in our lives. This theme reaches out of each of us, to remind us that God is always with us, offering us a way back from the wilderness into God’s love and care and a way to live, through the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel. Let us embrace God and each other and allow the love and peace of God to fill our hearts.

### LENTEN WEEKLY REFLECTION.

#### Week 5 Beauty in His Glory

Today is the fifth weekend of Lent and we pause to reflect.

The Old and New Testaments and our prayers often refer to the glory of God – for example, Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:15); Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory (Mark 13: 26); Glory to God in the highest ... (Gloria); Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit ... We acknowledge that we are made for God and in God’s image. We give glory to God by living a life of faith, by drawing close to God, praising and giving thanks and giving witness to the teachings of Jesus. Let us use this period of Lent to reflect on our lives and the place God has within them.

### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

Attend in the comfort of your own home or experience a residential weekend.

Our on-line weekend gives couples the chance to sleep in their own beds and check-in on kids or animals during meal times.

Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing!

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Couples from regional areas may find the virtual Weekend option ideal.

**Next On-line weekend is on 30 April – 2 May 2021. Next Residential weekend is on 21 -23 May 2021.**

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

### EASTER SERVICES

#### INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION.

**Sacred Heart:** Friday 26th March 9.45am-10.30am

**St Thomas:** Saturday 20/03 & 27/03 9.30am-10.15am

**St Mary’s:** Tuesday 23rd March 7.00pm-8.30pm

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**St Mary’s:** 11.00am

#### HOLY THURSDAY

**Sacred Heart:** 7.30pm

**St Mary’s:** 7.30pm

#### GOOD FRIDAY

**Sacred Heart, St Thomas, St Mary’s:** 3.00pm

#### VIGIL MASS

**St Thomas:** 7.30pm

**St Mary’s:** 6.30pm

#### EASTER SUNDAY

**Sacred Heart:** 9.00am

**St Thomas:** 10.30am

**St Mary’s:** 8.00am & 10.00am **NO 5.00PM MASS**



## **ST MARY'S PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Members of our Partnered Parishes are invited to attend St Mary's Parish Annual General Meeting on Sunday 28 March in St Mary's Church from 11.30am-1.00pm.

We look forward to a great meeting to understand what is happening across St Mary's Parish hearing key Parish leaders speaking briefly to their reports and address questions. Booking to attend is needed on <https://www.trybooking.com/BPQIH> or from the front page of St Mary's Parish website.

There will also be an important presentation about Safeguarding of Children and Young People across the Partnered Parishes updating us on this vital area of responsibility and the implications for all parishioners and Parish groups.

Reports submitted for the AGM are available on the front page of St Mary's website ([www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://www.cam1.org.au/greensborough)) under the heading "PARISH LINKS" and some printed copies are available in the Church Gathering Space. Please consider the environment and read online.

You are invited to submit any questions you have via [ppcstmgreensborough@gmail.com](mailto:ppcstmgreensborough@gmail.com), the St Mary's Parish Office or in the box in the St Mary's Church Gathering Space by next Wednesday 24 March.

We hope to be able to have a Covid compliant cuppa and cake on the day and we look forward to getting together as a Parish community.

Susan Kempen

Chair

St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council

**ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT:** A lovely caring Christian woman and her daughter (aged 30) came to Australia from Cairo after the death of the husband/father, in January 2020. This was to be a time of healing for them. They were to stay with family for three months and then return, but COVID meant that they could not return. In order to be allowed to stay the daughter had to study so she could be on a student visa. So the daughter is studying and working 20 hours and the mother is working two half days a week in a \$2 shop. Wanting to have some independence, after relying on family for over 12 months, they are looking for some accommodation, a room, or two rooms, or a bungalow. They cannot afford to pay rent but would willingly contribute to the household by providing cleaning, ironing, cooking and driving people to appointments of shopping. The woman's sister and a friend are trying to assist them financially, including finding a car for them to use whilst here. Would you be interested in such an arrangement? The two women come with high recommendation as wonderful caring women, who would be very competent in whatever they provide for the household, as mentioned. Of course, this would need to be an arrangement where goodwill and generosity prevail from all involved. If you are interested please contact Jacinta Bright at [Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au](mailto:Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au) or 9435 1543.

### **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020**

It is now 205 days to the commencement of Assembly One of the Plenary Council.

The Working Document (Instrumentum Laboris) which 'draws heavily on the voices heard during the Listening and Dialogue and the Listening and Discernment phases and other key sources.' It is available to download at [www.plenarycouncil.org.au/Instrumentum-Laboris/](http://www.plenarycouncil.org.au/Instrumentum-Laboris/). Two podcasts are available also.

Mary MacKillop Today would like to offer you and your parishioners a FREE copy of a very special Mary MacKillop Prayer Book. This commemorative Prayer Book celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop.

**Registrations for our April mailing close on 7 April.** If you would like to receive your own copy of the Prayer Book please register your details on our Website:

[www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book](http://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book)

**Thank you for your support and help in carrying on the good works of Saint Mary MacKillop.**



In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to

***“Take fresh courage.”***

This year is the ten year anniversary of Mary's canonisation. During the challenging times we all face, please pray and support Mary MacKillop Today, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vital works and carry on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

For more information please call 02 8912 2777 or visit [marymackilloptoday.org.au](http://marymackilloptoday.org.au)

**MARY MACKILLOP**  
*today*

**First Reading Jer 31:31-34**

*The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.*

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12**

*(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

1. Have mercy on my, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt.  
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
3. Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

**Second Reading Heb 5:7-9**

*He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel Jn 12:20-33**

*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

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