

Sunday 23rd June 2024

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** Fr Ananda Maddineni MSFS

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Sandy Starbuck & 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](mailto:Greensborough@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://www.cam1.org.au/greensborough)

**Secretaries:** Lisa & Libby

**Mass Times**

**Tuesday to Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass 6.30pm

**Sunday:** Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

**Reconciliation Times**

**Saturday:** 5.45pm-6.15pm before evening  
Mass

**Parish School Principal**

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**  
[principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacred Heart & St Peter's**

25 Gipson Street,  
Diamond Creek 3089

**Parish:** 9401 6361

**Email:** [DiamondCreek@cam.org.au](mailto:DiamondCreek@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek)

**Secretary:** Pat Guatta

**Mass Times**

**Wednesday & Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**St Peter's: 1st Saturday** 7.15pm

**Sunday:** Mass 9.00am

**Reconciliation Times**

**Friday:** 9.45am to 10.15am

**Acting Parish School Principal**

Mrs Gina Murphy **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**  
[principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

251 Diamond Creek Road,  
Greensborough Nth 3088

**Parish:** 9434 7373

**Email:** [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://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

**Acting Parish School Principal**

Mrs Jo Nolen **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**  
[principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au)

Please send any bulletin contributions to [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend bulletin. Thank you

On the first Friday of every month, at St Thomas Parish at 7.00pm we will have Eucharistic Adoration along with confession, everyone welcome.



**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: Who can this man be?**

*Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love.*

*Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B, 23 June 2024.*

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-12-of-year-b-2024>

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

[www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)

St Mary's Facebook page

[facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/](https://facebook.com/stmarysgreensborough/)



**Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.**

## Fr STEVEN RIGO– Summary of Clergy Conference

Last week I attended the annual Melbourne Clergy Conference held at the RACV resort at Cape Schanck & I thought I'd let you in on some of what we heard from presenters. This is one of few affordable venues that can accommodate 150 priests and deacons who attended.

The first presenter was Dr Claudio Betti, a founder of the Sant'Egidio Community, a lay Catholic association, established in Rome in 1968. Its first members were a group of high school students who joined forces to pray & work together for the poor & marginalised. From these humble beginnings, it has grown into an international lay movement, with some 40,000 members in all five continents. Apart from charitable works, Dr Betti & the Sant'Egidio Community have been involved in efforts to mediate on behalf of victims of civil war & other conflicts in such places as Lebanon & the Middle East, Mozambique; to engage in inter-religious dialogue, including the International Meetings of People & Religions at Assisi; & to carry out rescue operations on behalf of refugees. Dr. Betti is also the Director of the Rome Campus of Australian Catholic University.

Dr. Betti's emphasis was on the need for a new paradigm for a new time for our pastoral mission. He spoke about our living in a time of crisis & in a time of wars – the old world is dying & a new one is emerging, & in this twilight time when it has seeped into society that war, which reinforces hatred between peoples, is the solution for conflicts, there is a desperate need for prophets to instigate change & renewal of the world through prayer, commitment to the poor & peace-making through interreligious dialogue. The Church, as the sacrament of unity of the human race can have much to say in the complex world we live in today. We are called to offer a new language, a new paradigm that the world needs today. He emphasised the need to read the signs of the times. He explored one of them, namely how our society has become more polarised, divided & violent. In this context we need to be creative & courageous & become Church – the Body of Christ for the sake of the world. This begins with prayer on the scriptures, leading to encounter with Jesus & reaching out to the poor & those on the peripheries. He also emphasised that it is not hostility to the Church which is the main obstacle to our mission, but rather religious illiteracy & ignorance. To engage them we need a new language such as respect, courage, peace, unity & love - which is a universal language. My reflection on this is that God is present out there & whatever enhances the human spirit is the spirit of God & whatever crushes the human spirit is of the evil one. An obvious area of engagement is our schools where both the leadership, staff & families desperately need our help to encounter Jesus & open the scriptures to them & the richness of our traditions.

In the afternoon, Joshua Lourensz's workshop gave further examples of where to engage with people who are suffering in the epidemic of loneliness, to the plight of asylum seekers. Justice & charity is the mission of the Church today to make Christ's love known in the areas of housing & homelessness, domestic violence & its prevention; justice & equity for people seeking asylum, for aged care in the prison system; for the promotion of tax reform. The Church needs to be involved in promoting structural change in these areas. Joshua is the Executive Director at Catholic Social Services, Victoria. Where to engage will vary according to the different needs in different Parishes.

Archbishop Simon Poh Hoon Seng of the Archdiocese of Kuching, Malaysia, opened up for us the differences between Asian cultures & spirituality based on family & community to our individualistic culture & how we can respond to our migrants' needs. In Asian culture the individual serves the family. He said that when Asian families move into our parishes, it's important to welcome them & offer a sense of belonging because migrant Catholic families are a gift to our local parish families. He said that Christ invites us out of the doors of the church into the streets, because when we focus on our own image, we have lost the focus being on Christ who calls us to mission. The Catholic Church does not have a mission, but she is the mission of God to the world. The gift of so many in our presbyterate from these countries brings a wonderful richness & strength to our mission in the Archdiocese.

Jonathan & Karen Doyle are the founders & directors of Choicez Media which exists to support teachers & parents in the task of educating young people especially in the area of human sexuality & relationships. They spoke to us about missionary leadership. Karen stressed the importance of Presence & Spiritual Parenthood as the role we should have for our young people by being engaged in their lives & being with them in their pain & need. She said that while change is a given for all of us, growth is a choice, & that the Holy Spirit is the principle agent of the Church's mission who empowers us to make good choices. Karen stressed the importance of beginning with ourselves which involves rest, restoration, connection & creativity. Jonathan emphasised the need for vision & the need to empower others, all of which involves listening to God & to his people to discern where the Spirit is leading us to become the Body of Christ in our local neighbourhoods, which is what the Synodal process is about.

My final reflection would be what the Synod of the Amazon stressed – in our current model of being Church, we have made God too small – we need to seek God everywhere where God is breaking through in the goodness of people's lives & that we should celebrate that presence & action & support it & work to promote it so that the world may know through us, who claim to believe in God, God's love & power to renew the face of the earth.

**Fr. Steven Rigo**

## PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS continued

### PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 15th & 16th June 2024

We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Mongolia and House of Mercy.

Thanks to your kindness, people like Chuluunaatar will have access to the support they need to help them get back on their feet.

Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit [catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia](https://catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia)

Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at [catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia](https://catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia)

Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.



### SAFEGUARDING

Our Partnered Parishes are so incredibly thankful for the amazing work of our Volunteers.

Without your time, talent and commitment, the inner workings of our Parish community would not be the same. As a reminder, to be compliant as a Volunteer there are some vital steps that need to be taken first.

These include obtaining a Working With Children Check or VIT registration for Children and Vulnerable people, registering your place of volunteering on your WWC Check application or on MyCheck page and keeping it active throughout your entire service, completing the Essential Safeguarding training online and signing the Code of Conduct. Once again, thank you for your generous and valuable service to the Parish.

#### **Links:**

\* <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

\* <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>

### MISSION TRANSFORMS LIVES-theirs....and yours

Have you been considering whether an overseas professional placement with Palms is for you? Wanting to share your skills to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions while living authentically in another culture?

If you're happy for the trip, come to Palms' [Discovery information session](#) at Altona on 11 July. Meet Soraya and returned Palms participants to discover more about [Assignments Aboard](#). Alternately, please enquire at [palms.org.au](https://palms.org.au)

**Venue:** Mary Help of Christians Church Hall

**Address:** 97 Railway St N, Altona VIC 3018

**Date:** Thursday 11th July 2024

**Time:** 5:30pm to 6:30pm

**0422 472 567**

[palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



### VOCATIONS: DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN

The Vocations Office invites all men discerning a vocation to a retreat day. This will be on Saturday 6th July, 10..am-4.00pm at the Carmelite Monastery Kew.

The day will include talks on the Priesthood and discernment as well as time for prayerful reflection.

RSVP by Wednesday 3rd July at [vocations@cam.org.au](mailto:vocations@cam.org.au)

### CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Help farmers like Chiquito in Timor-Leste to feed their families

Extreme weather, spiralling food costs and the lasting scars of conflict have left almost one in ten children in neighbouring Timor-Leste suffering from acute malnutrition.

You can help provide farmers like Chiquito in Timor-Leste with training in modern agricultural techniques, as well as provide them with support to protect their crops, improve yields and realise the full potential of every last acre of arable land.

With your generous donation, parents like Chiquito can have enough food to feed their families both today and tomorrow, as well as extra produce to sell at the market – giving them the means to pay for medical care and the basic necessities needed to live a healthy and dignified life.

Your donation this tax time can help farmers like Chiquito to feed their families and make hunger history.

Donate online at: [www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history](https://www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** *Tuesday & Thursday 10.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday & Friday 8.30am-2.30pm.*

Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

**BAPTISMS:** we pray for Flynn, Anderson, Noah & Flynn who are welcomed into our community in June.

**MONTHLY RAFFLE:** tickets are available after 9am Masses. This month's prize is a "Winter Warmers" hamper.

Thank you to our *Senior Moments* Group. Tickets are \$2 or 6 for \$10.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL PIETY STALL:** Clearance Sale this Sunday. Cash offers gratefully accepted.

**DIAMOND CREEK ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL:** There will be a leaving collection after Masses on 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> July.

Envelopes are also available for cash or credit card donations, which can be placed in collection bags or left at the Parish Centre during July. Donations will be distributed locally in our Parish, where assistance is provided with food, paying gas/electricity bills, chemist expenses, delivering firewood etc. Donations of toiletries or cash would be most appreciated. Thank you.

**ANNUAL KEY REGISTER UPDATE:** Please email your current key number to the office. Parishioners who rarely use an allocated key are encouraged to hand in to office. Thank you.

**THANK YOU TO SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUPS FUNDRAISING:** The Parish has received another \$500 thanks to our Family Groups previous volunteering. They have kindly rostered on again at Rotary Tram Café on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Please go for a walk, say hello and purchase some refreshments.

**THANKSGIVING CREDIT CARD DONATIONS:** We still have some Credit Cards being rejected. Please contact the office if you would like to change your card details. Thanks to those who have updated.

**SACRED HEART MEMORIAL GARDEN PLAQUES:** The cost of supply and installation is \$350. Please contact Marg Farrell via email at [ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com) or leave a message with Pat in the Parish Office if you would like a loved one remembered in this way.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Next meeting Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Suggestion box in church or email: [ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com)

**SENIOR MOMENTS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> July 12pm Pastie, Pie and Cake lunch with Loyola College in the Parish Centre.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 12pm Lunch & Scrabble in the Parish Centre.

**HALL HIRE:** Sacred Heart Hall is for hire. For all enquiries regarding cost and terms and conditions contact Alison Pieper on 0417571535 or [alisonpieper52@gmail.com](mailto:alisonpieper52@gmail.com)

### ROSTERS:

**Cleaning: Week 25<sup>th</sup> June** L. Armiento, M. Dunn, A. Ridsdale

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June Sacred Heart 9am**

**Reader:** J. Hoyne **Commentator:** Y. O'Brien **Eucharistic Ministers:** F. Ledda, A. Schellens

**St Peter's Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 7.15pm**

**Reader:** M. Frisby **Commentator:** J. Robinson

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

*Denney Hegarty, Mary O'Dea, Tony Watson, Bernie Bourke, Lucy & Pat Cassin, Mervyn Bourke, Antonietta Nesci, Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Joan Moran, Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard.*

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

*Carmel & Albert Mowlam, Nicola Nesci, Ken Parker, Maureen Parker, Michael Cusack, Saviour Camilleri.*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

Vision Statement "To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday 11am-3pm, Wednesday 8am-12.00pm, Thursday 9am-3pm, Friday 11am-3pm

**SANDY'S OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00am-5.30pm and Friday 9.00am-5.30pm

Please send any bulletin contributions directly to [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) or [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you



**SANDY ON LEAVE:** Sandy will be on leave from Wednesday 13th June and returning on Tuesday 23rd July. If you have any queries for Sandy could you please contact Lisa or Libby in the Parish office.

The office will be close next Tuesday the 25th of June, apologies for any inconvenience.

**BEREAVEMENT MASS:** Will be held on Friday the 28th June at 9.15am. All welcome.

## **ST. MARYS/ST. THOMAS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 WINTER APPEAL**

This year's Appeal will be officially launched on the weekend of 6/7 July. The theme this year is 'Working Homeless', focusing on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Families manage to cope with day to day costs but as soon as something unforeseen crops up, they have no funds to cover the cost of the repair or rent. We have seen working families in this situation increase this year.

We are therefore seeking the kind assistance of you the Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Thomas' to give what you can afford to enable us to support these families -

1. Appeal envelopes will be provided on the ends of the seats and at the back of the Church - they can then be placed in the 2nd Collection of each Mass on the 6/7 July weekend or soon after.

2. Phone/Credit card donations can be arranged by calling 13 18 12 and stating you are donating to the Greensborough Conference

3. A new option this year is donating online directly to our Greensborough Conference Page via - <https://my.fundraiseforvinniesvic.org.au/vinnies-winter-appeal-2024/greensborough-conference>

Thank you for your previous generosity and kind attention to this notice.

**Maureen Lonsdale**

**Greensborough St. Vincent De Paul Conference**



**WORKING WITH CHILDREN'S CHECKS:** It is important that all volunteers have an up to date WWCC, as our parish records are currently being audited.

**THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** The prayer shawl ministry meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enquiries: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326.

## **SAFETY IN THE HOME**

**On Wednesday the 17th of July in the gathering space at St Mary's commencing at 11.00am with a light refreshments followed by Senior Constable Alison Keppel speaking to us on "Safety in the Home."**

*Everyone is welcome.*

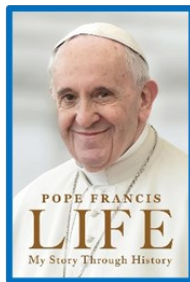
*Please contact Maureen on 9435 5906 or Lucy on 9435 6990, to make a booking for catering purposes.*

*\$10.00per head, payable at the door.*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

*Be informed, inspired and entertained.*



### **Book of the Week**

**Life: My Story Through History** by Pope Francis with Fabio Marchese Ragona

The Pope tells the story of his life organised through major world events, from World War II, the landing on the moon and the fall of the Berlin Wall to the 9/11 attacks and the coronavirus pandemic.

[cloud.collectorz.com/247780](http://cloud.collectorz.com/247780)



### PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan, Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky, Rosie Bray, Peter Miles, Leon Gray, Amparp Sarmiento, Fr Terry Kean, Carlos Manabat, Maureen Carr, Garry York

### **Recently Deceased:**

***We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

*John Hickey, Nell Dowling, Maud & John Peacock, Gerald Carr, Eileen Downey, Percy Cull, Alma Soley & 2 sons, Eileen Gow, George Barber, Carmela Pagliarello, Maurice Scully, Catherine Downey, Marion Phelan, Jim Hower, Patricia Watson, Fr. Michael Clarke OMI, Patrick Luttick, Norah Cheevers, Betty Lucas, Ellen Donahoo, Andrew Williams, Francine Nihill, Caterina Caselin, Didier Bourdet, Len Godwill, Sally Lawler, Frances Borg, Trevor D'Souza, Edward Harrington, Christina White, Vera Darnie, John de Graaff, Lucia Dinoto, Jean Walker, Nell Evans, Romolo Barilaro, Leo Toohey, James Henderson, Jane Soveas, Joan Brown, Fernand Leaudais, Bill Collins, Joyce Hanlon, Ena Petty, Carly Jo Tucker, Don O'Neill, Ronald Duncan, Gerard Hickey, Dan Moore, Stephen Murphy, Bozena Dura, Rizalina Obidos, Fr. Augustine Brennan, Richard Murphy, Gerard Krohn, Theke Drooge, Heinz Mehl, Teofilo Varias, Dermot Spillane, Karl Edwards, Anna Stupnicki, Lucia Gigliotti, Joseph Smyth, Donald Anderson, Kay Williams, Robert McIndoe, Antal Puhalak, Maria Bellinzas, Mario Cimarosti, Eugenie Leaudais, James Clive McPherson, Rose Ann Seymon, Mario Frassetto, Bill Webb, Sophie Papworth, Tom O'Callaghan, Dr Ken Carter, James Rochford, Charles Mizzi, Virginia Brewer, Jack Toohey, Katie Hyde, Peter Mitchell*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** *Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm,-4.00pm*  
Thursdays 8.00am-11.30am (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.00-3.00pm St Mary's**)  
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

**BAPTISMS:** Please keep in your prayers Kate and Autumn who are being baptised later this month.

## **BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCH:**

These light lunches will be held on the 4th Thursday of each month in St Thomas' Parish Meeting Room at 12.30pm.

Please come along and join us for some friendly chatter while we enjoy our light lunch together.

Donation \$10 To assist with catering, it is helpful to know how many will be coming.

For our June lunch on the 27th June, please RSVP to Edith Sutherland [suthe4841@bigpond.com](mailto:suthe4841@bigpond.com)

## **ST. MARYS/ST. THOMAS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2024 WINTER APPEAL**

This year's Appeal will be officially launched on the weekend of 6/7 July. The theme this year is 'Working Homeless', focusing on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Families manage to cope with day to day costs but as soon as something unforeseen crops up, they have no funds to cover the cost of the repair or rent. We have seen working families in this situation increase this year.

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via - <https://my.fundraiseforvinniesvic.org.au/vinnies-winter-appeal-2024/greensborough-conference>

Thank you for your previous generosity and kind attention to this notice.



**Maureen Lonsdale**

**Greensborough St. Vincent De Paul Conference**

## **25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH**

Following the Mass on Sunday the 18th of August we will be finishing off with a morning tea.

I am looking for a team of volunteers to help me with the planning and setting up for this special occasion.

If you wish to be involved can you please contact me directly in the office by phone **9434 7373**.or  
email [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au) so we can organise a time to meet.

*Thank you Lisa*



## **Roster for Weekend 29th & 30th June**

### **Saturday 6.00pm**

**Reader:** S. McMahon    **Commentator:** H. Fernando    **Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Bedford, K. Salm    **Set Up:** K. Salm

### **Sunday 10.30am**

**Reader:** M. Bates    **Commentator:** B. Iacobucci    **Eucharistic Ministers:** A. Letzia, R. Piccolo    **Set Up:** M. Bates

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

*Miran Kasalo, Peter Kernjak, John Geretschlager, Dominic Cambareri, Fr Terry Kean*

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

*Pauline Georgiades, Joanne Tubb, Antonio Napoleone, Eric Rosario, Leo Campbell, Des Price, Bert Smooker.*

*Gordon Shannon, Saverio Posterino, Domenico Di Giandomenico, David Wong, John Iacobucci*



**Reflection by Jenny Close** Jesus' ability to control the raging sea proves his stature as the Christ of creation: all the forces of nature have their origin in Christ. The calming of the waters is a fine metaphor for Jesus' mission of redemption, that is, overcoming the destructive forces of sin and death in the whole of creation. In this gospel narrative, Jesus is showing that he has the power and authority to do just that.

## Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

23 June 2024

### First Reading Jb 38:1, 8-11

*Here I have set the boundaries of the sea.*

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors  
when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb,  
when I wrapped it in a robe of mist  
and made black clouds its swaddling bands;  
when I marked the bounds it was not to cross  
and made it fast with a bolted gate?  
Come thus far, I said, and no farther:  
here your proud waves shall break.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 106:23-26. 28-31. R. v.1**

*(R.) Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting.*

or

*(R.) Alleluia!*

- Some sailed to the sea in ships  
to trade on the mighty waters.  
These men have seen the Lord's  
deeds,  
the wonders he does in the deep. (R.)
- For he spoke; he summoned the gale,  
tossing the waves of the sea  
up to heaven and back into the deep;  
their soul melted away in their distress.  
(R.)
- Then they cried to the Lord in their  
need  
and he rescued them from their  
distress.  
He stilled the storm to a whisper:  
all the waves of the sea were hushed.  
(R.)
- They rejoiced because of the calm  
and he led them to the haven they  
desired.  
Let them thank the Lord for his love,  
the wonders he does for men. (R.)

### Second Reading 2 Cor 5:14-17

*All things are made new.*

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

### Gospel Acclamation Lk 7:16

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people.*

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel Mk 4:35-41

*Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.*

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'



### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Every element of the universe, even the most destructive, is listening for the voice of Our Lord, "Quiet, be still." In this Gospel story, the waters of chaos respond to the voice of the Lord of all creation, allowing Jesus to accompany his disciples to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

We all know of times when chaos storms into our life, when we feel we are being swamped whether from outside or from some part of our own personality. Some part of our life is facing death. We may cry out to Jesus "Don't you care?"

He *will* come to accompany us but always to "the other side". Our Lord does not indulge the fantasy of "turning back the clock". We have to keep rowing in a new direction. There is no nostalgic return to the old situation. We may well feel displaced, disoriented, but Our Lord is our companion in the unfamiliar situation we have reached.

We could take a moment to pray for Our Lord to help us in all life-threatening situations, especially in the final transit through the wrenching chaos of death. May we hear him rebuke the Prince of Darkness and Death: "Quiet, be still" as he accompanies us to the other side, to the promised land of Heaven.

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