



Sunday 21st June 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Lenin Thenamirtham

Pastoral Associate: Jacinta Bright

Pastoral Associate: Sr. Margaret Sapsford

Pastoral Worker: Christina O'Connor

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>
- **To view the Sacred Heart Liturgy by Fr Lenin Thenamirtham please follow the link:** <https://youtu.be/AjO1lqk2HZE>

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 Bistrivic, Bernice Burke, Linda Bistrivic, Joan Moran, Marilyn Manison, Alan McCarthy, Shirley Bourke, Annette Hyland, Catherine Leonard, Ted Sheenan, Haylie Adams-Vivanxay, Mark Quipp, Giovanna Ng, Petronilla De Leo

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, Pauline Georgiades, Ken Parker, Maureen Parker, Michael Cusack, Saviour Camilleri, Joanne Tubb, Antonio Napoleone, Eric Rosario, Leo Campbell, Des Price, Bert Smoker.

DIAMOND VALLEY COVID-19 HOME STORIES

Stories from the Partnered Parishes of Diamond Creek, Greensborough and Greensborough North about a time of pandemic.

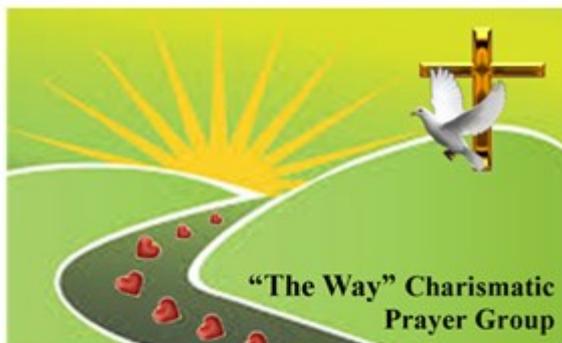
Good stories capture our imaginations, inspire us to be better, teach us, define us and help us bear witness to our own humanity and those of our neighbours. We weave our stories with other people's stories on a common loom. Let's weave together and see our tapestry. Jesus was not only a healer, a teacher and prophet—he was a storyteller. He used his stories to illuminate the minds and souls of those who heard his voice. His voice can still be heard in the written form through the scripture, through the Mass, through the art and music that artists across the world are inspired to create and our very own voices (if we allow it to be). The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we live in the short term and we are yet to see the changes that will occur in the future.

We would love to hear your stories and anecdotes about staying home to stay safe to collate into a book. Think of what story you would like to pass on; perhaps something you want others to know, or perhaps your children, your grandchildren or even those who will walk the paths we walk now. Say a prayer, muster your courage, get planning & write! Your piece does not need to be long, a paragraph or two or three. If you do complete this task, email it to Diamondcreek@cam.org.au or greensborough@cam.org.au or greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au with your name, your age (if you are game enough) and a note giving us permission to publish your work. New Dates for Submissions close is 18 September 2020. The collection of stories will be published in an e-book at a later date.

FEAST OF SACRED HEART

The Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (*Latin: Sollemnitatis Sacratissimi Cordis Iesu*) is a solemnity in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. It falls 19 days after Pentecost, on a Friday. The earliest possible date is May 29th, as in 1818 and 2285. The latest possible date is July 2nd, as in 1943 and 2038. The devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practiced and well known Catholic devotions, taking Jesus Christ's physical heart as the representation of his divine love for humanity.

This year the Feast is celebrated on Friday 19th June.



The Way's 30th Birthday

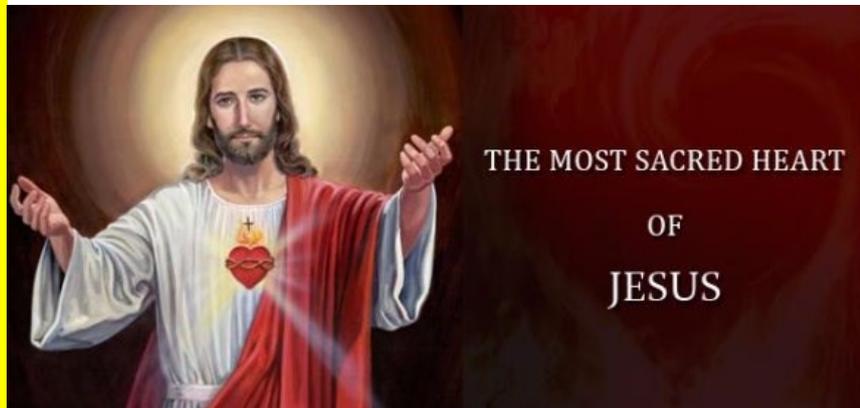
*You are invited to
a Zoom Celebration*

at 8pm on Sunday 28th June 2020

click on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86362771641>

Rose 0411 650 339 or Sandra: 9434 7553



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.

DIAMOND VALLEY REFUGEE SUPPORT

Diamond Valley Refugee Support – Thanks to all parishioners for continuing to support the project even though we have been in isolation. Please ensure all donation envelopes are handed in by As soon as possible. Please drop in your envelopes to the St Thomas or Sacred Heart parish offices or alternatively place them in the letter box beside the front door of the Presbytery at St Thomas (Not the Front Gate). This will be the last collection for banking before the end of the financial year 2019/2020. The Brigidines' Asylum Seeker Project will be issuing receipts sometime in July. For queries, please ring Lilian Hobson (0402 823 679). Our Parishes will continue to support the Asylum Seeker/Refugee Support project; new envelopes for 2020/2021 will issued in July/August.

MEMORIAL WALL GARDEN

Please contact Diamond Creek Parish Office if you are interested in purchasing a bronze plaque to be placed on the Sacred Heart Memorial Garden Wall.

The Parish is not fundraising from plaque sales. To cover costs and installation we need to charge \$295.00 per plaque, which are the same as those already on the wall. Flyers can be emailed or collected from office. Phone 9401 6361 or diamondcreek@cam.org.au

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 2020

Despite the restrictions we have all been facing, Vinnies have managed to continue to assist those in need, but our income has been drastically affected due to the necessary closing of our stores and to the closing of our churches and schools.

The effects of COVID-19 will remain with us for some time and we expect that, as the Government financial assistance comes to an end, the calls for assistance will increase greatly. There are likely to be many new people who find themselves unemployed and needing help.

Last week you watched Kevin McMahon's video encouraging everyone to donate online at vinnies.org.au or by calling 13 18 12.

This note details how to direct your contribution to the Greensborough Conference, to support people in need in our Greensborough/Watsonia area.

If you donate on line at vinnies.org.au go to "Comments" and type in that you want your contribution to go to Greensborough Conference (or any other conference you might prefer).

If you donate by phone on 13 18 12 make sure you tell the person taking your call that you want your contribution to go to Greensborough Conference (or any other conference you might prefer).



PLENARY UPDATE

The Plenary writing groups have been working with the submissions from Parishes and have published Discernment Papers on each of the six themes for all to view and read at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. These are the sum of Australians' discernment into what the Holy Spirit is telling us, as the Church in Australia today. Ways to get familiar with these and to reflect and pray will be offered in our combined parish in due course.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES ST THOMAS

Thanksgiving envelopes dated the 5th of July are now available for collection from the StThomas school office foyer.

If you are unable to pick them up and would like me to post your envelopes out could you please contact me by phone: 9434 7373 or email; greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au Hoping to see everyone again very soon. Lisa

YARRA THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Study at Yarra Theological College in Semester 2.

We are offering undergraduate and postgraduate awards of the University of Divinity.

This equips people for various ministries in the church, parishes, school, hospitals and church agents.

Classes commence 27th July 2020.

Options for enrolments.

Current students wanting to add for Semester 2, [email registrar@ytu.edu.au](mailto:email_registrar@ytu.edu.au)

For students who need to discuss their enrolment please call or email, to make an appointment.

Email: registrar@ytu.edu.au or Phone; 9890 3771.

Check the YTU website for the Semester 2 timetable and fees.

Yarra Theological College, 98 Albion Road Box Hill 3128. admin@ytu.edu or www.ytu.edu.au



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

The Message Board

BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE!

Dear Parishioners of Sacred Heart, St. Peter's and St Thomas and St Mary's Parishes, Yesterday, the 17th of June, was a special day for me - my 50th Birthday. I have received many best wishes and prayers from you. Many of you have called me by phone and sent me best wishes on my birthday. Some of you sent best wishes and prayers by email. Many of you sent me messages of best wishes and support by phone, some of you sent me letters, cards with lovely writing with lovely wishes. Another family came to my door and brought a valuable gift for me on my birthday. I have also received many valuable gifts, presents from the Parishioners of our Parishes and even some people who are outside the Parishes.

Thank you very much for your attention, your care, your love, your kindness, your generosity and your support. May almighty God help me to bless you, protect you and keep you and your family safe always. I would like to take this opportunity to share something relating to my Birthday to thank God, thank my Parents, thank everyone who has been involved in my stages of growth, and thank all of you. To do this work, I went to the internet and Mr Google to help me know that the unborn baby spends around 38 weeks in the womb, but the average length of pregnancy is counted as 40 weeks. This is because pregnancy is counted from the first day of the woman's last period, not the date of conception, which generally occurs two weeks later. Following the Vietnamese style, we do not count how many weeks the unborn baby spends in the womb of the mother. Instead, we count by month, how many months. According to the experience of Vietnamese people they tell me that the unborn baby normally spends 9 months and 10 days in the womb of the mother. I tried to find out the time which an unborn baby spent in the womb because the situation of my birthday was unusual - I was born after spending only 7 months in my mother's womb, not 9 months and 10 days like others.

My Mum told me the real story about me. At that time my family was very poor. Everyone in the family worked very hard to fight for life because there was not enough food to eat. Although my Mum was 7 months pregnant with me, she still had to work on the rice farm. The temperature was 38-40 degrees in the summer time. The 17th of June 1970 was the hottest day in that month. My Mum collected rice from the early morning up to 11:30 am. On the road home, she felt too hot and so she went down into the stream to take a swim to help relieve the heat. She and another lady swam to a deep place and dived. When she floated out of the water and looked around, the surrounding water was all red. She was very worried and asked her friend to come close to her and check why the water around her was red. That lady came and helped my Mum to go up onto the bank of the stream. I was born there, on the bank of the stream. My Mum thought that she was having a miscarriage because she was only seven months pregnant. The friend went to the village to get help and the people came and used a hammock to carry my Mum and me home.

At that time the war in my country between the North and the South was still very terrible. Many troops built a camp and dug caves to live in my village. Fortunately, the military unit stationed in our garden contained military doctors. They set up a very simple clinic there to serve the troops and the people in the area. With my circumstance, the doctors looked after me very well. At this time also, most of the people were poor. We did not have enough food, not enough clean water to drink, no milk, no sugar, no medication. My Mum did not have enough breast-milk for me to breastfeed. Thanks to the military doctors who lived in my garden for they had milk, sugar and medication to help me and so I grew up slowly through the care of my Mum and the doctors. My Mum told me that at birth I weighted 0.7 kilogram. Everyone thought I could not survive. However, I did survive with the help of the military doctors and with my Mum's care. After one year I was normal size. On my journey of life, stage by stage I have grown up and am now living among you. I have done alright for half of my life. I think and I hope that I will live well another half of my journey of life - 50 or more than 50 years ahead.

Celebrating my birthday this year I would like to thank my parents, especially my Mum very much for her sacrifice in giving me life. I thank the military doctors who saved my life by their care and medication when they fed me with their milk, sugar.., Thank God and thank everyone who has been involved in building up my life - both my physical and spiritual life. May God bless all! My dear parishioners living with you in Australia, I have learnt many good things and recognize that the Vietnamese and Australian Catholics practice of celebrating Birthdays and Feast Days is very different. For example, the Catholic Vietnamese people do not celebrate or organize the birthday of their priests. However, they celebrate and organize a big party for their priests on their Feast Day (Baptismal Day - Patron Day). Every year on the Patron Day of the parish priest there is a day off for everyone in the parish. The parishioners choose some fat buffalos, some fat bulls, some big pig, or some fat goats to kill them for celebrating the feast day of their parish priest. I wonder if I were a priest in Vietnam if there would be some buffalos, some bulls, pigs and many goats killed to celebrate my feast day of the 13th of June (my Patron Day). However, I had nothing on my feast day here! On the Birthday of the parish priest the parishioners do not celebrate with him on that day. Up to this century, the 21st century, the people in my homeland in rural areas and the countryside do not know how to celebrate Birthdays for anyone. Therefore, the Vietnamese people's birthday is not important. Here in Australia it is the opposite, Australian Catholics do not celebrate the Feast Day (the Patron Day) for their priests, however, they organize and celebrate a big party for their priests and they give their priests many gifts both spiritual and physical presents on their birthday. Anyway, thanks be to God! Because I am a priest in Australia, my dear parishioners in these parishes have given me many precious gifts on my birthday. Once again, I would like to thank you all for your love, your generosity and your support!

God bless you and your family always! Fr Tao Pham

The Message Board



We would like to wish Fr Tao a very Happy Birthday as he turned 50 on Wednesday the 17th of June.

From everyone at Sacred Heart, St Peter's, St Thomas and St Mary's we miss seeing you, are all looking forward to celebrating Mass again with you very soon.

Life changes so quickly

We can be happy one day, empty and broken the next. If we learn anything from this pandemic, I hope it is to value the moments, treasure the memories and hold onto what counts. Make time each day to realize how fleeting life is and to thank God for each blessing. Maybe this pandemic will teach us to slow down, appreciate what we have and how quickly it can be gone. My prayer is that it will.

LIFE IS A GIFT.

Shelby Condo



If you have not had the opportunity to watch Fr Tao's film on his Journey about his life and his faith please watch it for it gives us an insight into his life.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFC4wQ9AU3Y&app=desktop>

A Big Thank You to everyone who has contributed to our Message Board so far.

If you would like to post a message next week or even share some news or a joke, please feel free to email

greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au before 12.00pm each Wednesday

First Reading Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side,
a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace
will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe
with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take
on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul
of the needy
from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

**(R.) Lord, in your great love,
answer me.**

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my
brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me.
(R.)
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me.
(R.)
3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in
their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give
him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures.
(R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:12-15

**A reading from the letter of St Paul
to the Romans**

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man,
and through sin death, and thus death
has spread through the whole human race
because everyone has sinned. Sin existed
in the world long before the Law was given.
There was no law and so no one could be
accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet
death reigned over all from Adam to Moses,
even though their sin, unlike that of Adam,
was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but
the gift itself considerably outweighed the
fall. If it is certain that through one man's
fall so many died, it is even more certain
that divine grace, coming through the one
man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an
abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Spirit of Truth will bear witness
to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Mt 10:26-33

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew**

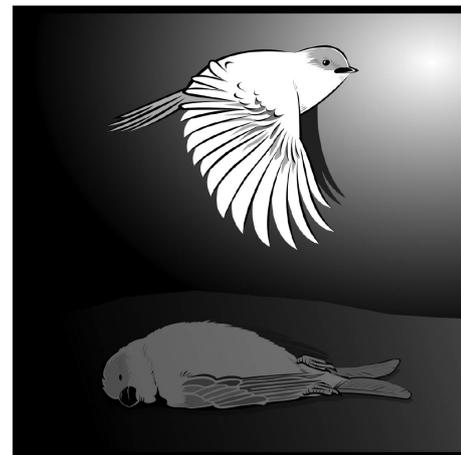
Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows:
'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now
covered will be uncovered, and everything
now hidden will be made clear. What I say to
you in the dark, tell in the daylight;
what you hear in whispers, proclaim from
the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body
but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather
who can destroy both body and soul in hell.
Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny?
And yet not one falls to the ground without
your Father knowing. Why, every hair on
your head has been counted. So there is no
need to be afraid; you are worth more than
hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in
the presence of men, I will declare myself
for him in the presence of my Father in
heaven. But the one who disowns me in
the presence of men, I will disown in the
presence of my Father in heaven.'

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Gospel reads: '... not one [sparrow] falls to the ground without your Father knowing.'

But that is a bad translation. The Greek simply says 'not one [sparrow] will fall to the ground without your Father.' Full stop! Our Heavenly Father accompanies a dying sparrow as it dies! That is the measure of the Creator's love for all creatures. God wants to – does – enter into the moment of death, *our* moment of death.

Now, that *would* be consoling if I were facing what Jesus was foreseeing for his disciples in the first century.

One of the first Christian groups to hear this Gospel was that set around the Tigris River running through Baghdad in modern day Iraq. Now they face terrible persecution from fanatical Muslims. We can barely imagine hearing today's Gospel amongst the remnant, left in Baghdad today. How does 'Do not be afraid' really sound to them?

So, we could pause for a moment to pray for those for whom today's Gospel is a challenge beyond our imagining.

mtate@bigpond.com