



Sunday 28th February 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Dixon George

Parish Pastoral Associates: Jacinta Bright & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

The Partnered Parishes of:

St. Mary's

204 Grimshaw St.,
Greensborough, 3088

Parish: 9435 1543

Presbytery: 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

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@stgreensborougnth.catholic.edu.au

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 6th & 7th March

SACRED HEART 9.00am

Special Minister: R. Padget, M. Jenkins

Reader: T. Jenkins

ST THOMAS VIGIL 6.00pm & 10.30am

Special Minister 6.00pm: K. Salm, K. McMahon, M. Bedford

Special Minister 10.30am: M. Tipping, A. Kerr, B. Riordan

6.00pm: **Reader:** K. Salm **Commentator:** D. Haelser

Set Up: K. Salm

10.30am: **Reader:** J. Kerr **Commentator:** R. Rendina

Set Up: J. Kerr

Counters: T. Williamson, M. Bates

Cleaners: Marg McKenzie, Glenis McDonald, Lyn Stephens (13th March)

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, Annette Hyland

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

Nese Roberts, Leanne Lynch, Ursula Morrissey, Judy Vincent, Fr Peter Fulton, Mary Crothers, Francesca Serrao, Reginald Chircop,
Sanico de Carlo, Brian Kenny, Nick Buttifant, Giuseppe Piccolo, Eddie Scully, Leslie Lowe, Kevin Phin, Rosemary Schneider,
Alfonso Nguyen, Maria Nguyen

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENIOR MOMENTS: We welcome everyone along to our planning meeting on Wednesday 3rd March 12.00pm in Sacred Heart Parish Centre.. Please do not bring food to share, as a light lunch will be ordered. Disposable cups and plates provided, or byo drinking cup. 55+ year olds. Everyone is welcome. Your will be required to sign in on arrival.

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 or call the parish office at St Mary's on 9435 1543.



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.

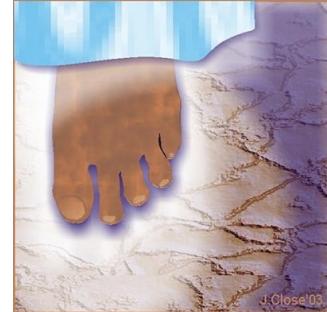
WORSHIP & PRAYER

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

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: The Annual World Day of Prayer will be celebrated at St John's Anglican Church Diamond Creek on Friday 5th March at 10.30am. All welcome.

LECTIONARY ART & REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE

This is the third Lenten gospel reading in which a solitary place is mentioned. On Ash Wednesday we are advised to pray in our rooms with the doors shut. On the first Sunday of Lent the Spirit drives Jesus into the wilderness. In today's gospel Jesus and three disciples go 'up a high mountain apart, by themselves'. An extraordinary theophany is experienced by the disciples in this remote place. Here, the presence of God is signalled by both bright light and shadow. Is Mark mixing his metaphors, or does this amazing event confound homogeneous imagery? Try looking at last week's image and this one together – an unusual relationship between the two emerges.



Margret, 39, is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment.

The school faced water shortages that often left staff and students without safe water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables. Then Tropical Cyclone Harold damaged the school and its vegetable garden as the threat of COVID-19 loomed.

With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed water tanks, provided cyclone-proof building materials, and helped to implement COVID-19 prevention measures.

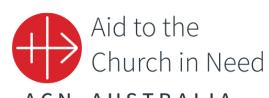
Margret's school now has enough water for its students and the capacity to cater for more, and is now planning to boost food security through increased agricultural production.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

ACN AUSTRALIA: Did you know that each year the Catholic charity, *Aid to the Church in Need*, supports the training of 12,000 seminarians and provides ongoing formation for 8,000 priests. Could you help support a priest or seminarian? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/formation



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.

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 2 Beauty in Listening

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

We often take it for granted that we listen as someone speaks. However it may be that we hear the words but don’t actually listen to the person, to the meaning being conveyed. We are busy people and it is so easy to drift away into our own thoughts and needs. It may take real effort to actually stop and concentrate and pay attention when someone speaks. The act of listening is a beautiful gift that we offer to each other, showing our respect and care. It truly connects us to others. This is also true of our listening to God. We are in touch with our God when we are open and committed to listening for God’s voice, and the beauty of God’s words offers healing and contentment.

HELP NEEDED FOR BAPTISMS.

As you are all know last year virtually all of our Baptisms were cancelled due to Covid19 restrictions. We now have a substantial amount of Baptisms to get through.

Michael Bates has been assisting with Baptisms for quite a few years now and has performed a sensational job. Unfortunately due to personal reasons he will be unavailable to assist for a little while. **This is where you come in!!**

This year I am in desperate need of **your** help as we navigate through this rush of Baptisms.

We are in need of some loyal parishioners to assist on the day only, duties include:

- Greet the families & Guests
- Mark off their names on arrival
- Assist Fr Tao with the Baptism & Set-Up

You would be only required from 11.30am for up to 1 hour.

We are already booked out for Baptisms from February to May.



Baptism dates for 2021 are as follows:

28th March 18th April 23rd May 27th June 25th July

29th August 26th September 24th October 28th November 19th December

If you are able to assist please feel free to call me. I will run you through the process and there is a list of what needs to be done in the

Church to assist. *Lisa*



Loyola College celebrates InterCultural Night ALL WELCOME

Date / Time: 26 March 2021 (Friday) / 6:00 PM

Venue: 325 Grimshaw St., Watsonia VIC 3087

Registration fee: \$10.00/person (Book tickets trybooking or tickets on sale at the door)

Attire: National Costume or traditional dress or colours (only if possible)

Special Mass: 6:00 PM in Old Loyola Chapel

Mass Presider: Msgr Joselito Asis, Melbourne Episcopal Vicar for Migrants & Refugees

Followed by a celebration commencing at 7:00 PM held at Loyola College Companion Hall (Entrance via Grimshaw Street – Gate 1)

Featuring different cultural presentations in dance, music from communities of Filipinos, Vietnamese, Indonesians, Italians, Sri Lankans, Indians, Chinese, Maltese...followed by dance dance dance

BYO Food / Free coffee and tea

Some packed Food and drinks available for sale

Exchange gifts (Bring enclosed food, souvenir items, gifts of your country). Free music and tables.

Trybooking: www.loyola.vic.edu.au/tickets/ or

Please contact Sr Nelia or Mr John Tran 9433-0265 / 0411 361 081

Funds raised for the Cambodia, East Timor, Philippine Immersion Programmes



CALLING EDITORS OR BUDDING EDITORS!

We need help with the e-book. Amanda Grieg the IT leader at St Mary’s School, has begun work on editing and formatting the famous e-book, to which Fr Steven invited parishioners to contribute, describing their experiences, large or small, of COVID lockdown. We have a number of contributions and Amanda has completed some work in getting this e-book ready, but she needs help. If you are interested please contact your parish office and your details will be passed on to Amanda. If you want to know more before committing, please contact Jacinta Bright at St Mary’s Parish on 9435 1543 or via email Jacinta.bright@cam.org.au

Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

28 February 2021

First Reading Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham,’ he called.’ Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10, 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
‘I am sorely afflicted.’

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. (R.)

2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord’s name. (R.)

3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

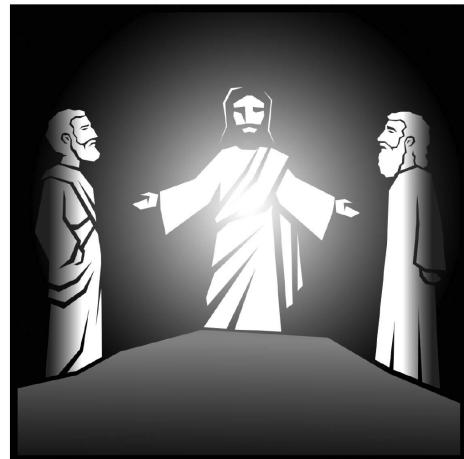
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mk 9:2-10

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We all have dreams for the future, dreams about success and well-being. We all want a better world for our children and grandchildren. Our religious tradition sets before us aspirations that call for personal transformation. However, sometimes when we follow the inspiration of our most devout aspirations, obstacles are thrown in our path preventing us from following our dreams. Still, God does not call us out of our dreams into a vacuum. If we are asked to relinquish a possible future, it is only to be offered God’s future. Our aspirations may be noble, but the possibilities that God offers will outstrip them in excellence. Abraham was promised an heir; he relinquished his hold on his heir, and he was granted heirs beyond counting. Jesus came as a Rabbi; he allowed himself to be handed over to death, and he was revealed as the beloved Son of God.

Those preparing for Baptism might be asked to relinquish the dreams that they previously held in order to embrace the future God has in store for them. We who are already joined to Christ will be asked to recommit ourselves to this transformative experience. Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ’s transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God’s future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

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