



Sunday 1st May 2022

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Martin Tanti

Parish Pastoral Associates: Jacinta Bright & 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

Website: www.cam1.org.au/greensborough

Secretaries: Francesca Olofsson & Sharon Prosser

Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 9.00am-10.00am & 5.45pm-6.15pm
before evening Mass

Parish School Principal

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**
principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

Sacred Heart & St Peter's

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

St Peter's: 1st & 3rd Saturday 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

THE CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES

Mass at Home: St Patrick's Cathedral: On Channel 31, 44 on Digital TV, for Sunday Mass at 11.00am

Mass for You at Home - Diocese of Wollongong: Sundays on Channel 10 at 6am, Foxtel Channel 173 at 10am, and online at
www.massforyou.com.au



Let praise the Lord for all the signs of resurrection
around us

Third Sunday of Easter Year C, 1 May 2022

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripture-reflection--it-is-the-lord>

Sacred Heart, St Mary's & St Thomas the Apostle are all members of the Diamond Valley Deanery.

Diamond Valley Deanery

www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

www.cam.org.au



***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.***

The Full Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, Loyola

My name is Steve Nash. I am one of the RE Learning Consultants in the Eastern Region of Melbourne.

Alongside my work, I am in a process/course to become a spiritual director. As part of the course there is a practical element which involves doing the Exercises of St Ignatius with two people. Hence, I am looking for two people who would like to go through the process of the exercises with me.

There will be a cost only in order to help allay the cost of the supervisor (\$25.00 per session but if that is too much we can work something out). I am looking for people who are interested in doing the exercises but people I don't have any formal professional contact with: so teachers or staff in schools that I work in would be OK, REL's would not. REL's in schools I don't work in would be OK. If you or someone you know would be interested pass my details on to them:

Steve Nash

snash@macs.vic.edu.au

0416 137 890

The Spiritual Exercises are a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius Loyola to help people deepen their relationship with God. For centuries the Exercises were most commonly given as a "long retreat" of about 30 days in solitude and silence. In recent years, there has been a renewed emphasis on the Spiritual Exercises as a program for laypeople. The most common way of going through the Exercises now is a "retreat in daily life," which involves program of daily prayer and meetings with a spiritual director. The Exercises have also been adapted in many other ways to meet the needs of modern people.

The Full Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius is a Retreat in Daily Life over 30-35 weeks. The prayer for the Exercises asks an hour of you each day and a 45 minute visit to your spiritual director once a week (which could be in person or online).

As your spiritual director, I am in a process of formation as a Giver of the full Spiritual Exercises in the Heart Wisdom Program at Kardia Formation P/L, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA, and therefore I will be supervised. That simply means I will discuss the process with a supervising spiritual director.

Best regards

Steve

Scripture Study: Would you like to join our weekly scripture group on Zoom?

We are commencing a 6 week study on **The Letters to the Hebrews**, starting from **Thursday 19th May 2022**.

This study reviews the history of Israel and points us to Jesus Christ who fulfils and surpasses all the hopes expressed in the Old Testament. This study reminds us of the great heroes of faith found in the Old Testament and urges us to imitate their faithful endurance. For more information and enrolling please contact Michelle on 0432316777 mtdsouza@optusnet.com.au

PROJECT COMPASSION 2022

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2022 Lenten appeal.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday: The world Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

Invitation to Candlelight Mass

Come and pray for peace - Thursday 19 May

at St Thomas the Apostle Chapel,
Diamond Creek Road, North Greensborough

quiet music from 7.30pm

Mass at 8.00pm






We all have questions about faith, life and meaning, and we all deserve a safe space to ask them. Alpha is that space.

Exciting news!! We are planning to bring **Alpha** to our Partnered Parishes community, in particular, the parents of children attending our three primary schools. In preparation for this, we are inviting expressions of interest for positions on the **Alpha Leadership Team**. The only 'qualifications' you need are your love for our Lord Jesus and a desire to bring people together to explore the big questions in life.



If you are interested, please email AlphaVic3088@gmail.com or call Trevor on 0435 823 002.

To learn more about Alpha, visit <https://www.alpha.org.au/try>

 <p>CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE</p>  <p>UNIVERSITY OF DIVINITY</p>	<p>Corpus Christi College and Catholic Theological College</p> <p>Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal</p> <p><i>Support the training of priests for tomorrow's Church</i></p> <p>Your (tax deductible) donation will support the living arrangements and education for the Corpus Christi College seminarians.</p> <p>Donate via our website:</p>	 <p>DE TE VIVERE</p>
<p>https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/</p>		

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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



PLEASE NOTE NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Francesca and Sharon will provide for our secretarial needs on Tuesdays 9am-5pm and Thursdays and Fridays 10am-4pm and Jacinta's days will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-5pm.

Please continue to send any bulletin contributions to Francesca and Sharon at greensborough@cam.org.au by 2pm Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin.

FUNERAL FOR FR. MICK MULCAHY—It is with sadness that we farewell Fr. Mick Mulcahy. Fr. Mick has been a very important part of the St. Mary's parish community and Ministered for 13 years (2003-2016). His caring personality and sense of humor brightened his visits to us. The funeral shall be held at St. Mary's on Wednesday 4th May at 11.00am.

ALTAR SERVERS Several children have responded on the *Time and Talent* form indicating they wish to be Altar Servers. Altar serving is an important ministry and is a way children can be a part of the Church in a practical and satisfying way. If your child has received first Eucharist and would like to become a server, please contact the office on 9435 1543 or speak to the priest after Mass. Training for new and returning servers will commence soon. Thank you.

SPECIAL MOTHERS' DAY SHOW BY ST. MARY'S VERY OWN PATRICK ROBERTS!!

An Irish blessing for Mothers' Day

There is but one and only one,
Whose love will fail you never.
One who lives from sun to sun,
With constant fond endeavour.

There is but one and only one
On earth there is no other.

In heaven a noble work was done
When God gave us a Mother.

Author Unknown



MAY 1st. In a message for the **Feast of St Joseph the Worker**, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv has highlighted the challenges many people face in working more than one job to make ends meet – and the flow-on effects of that decision.

"Many are cobbling together multiple part-time or casual jobs to try to make ends meet. This work is usually poorly paid and insecure. There is little career progression. Casual and seasonal workers are not entitled to paid leave even when they are sick or must care for others. It is a stressful and uncertain way to live. Much of this work is undertaken by women. This type of work is hard on family life. It makes it difficult for young people to get a start in life."

Bishop Long noted that the need to work more than one job is common for workers who have played critical roles during the COVID-19 pandemic: cleaners, health and aged care workers, childcare staff and social assistance workers. These and other workers in the care economy have been such heroes during this pandemic."

"Stable, secure jobs are needed to power a recovery that actually works for working people and their families," Bishop Long said.

Social Justice Group

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S CONTINUED

ST MARY'S FUNERAL MINISTRY TEAM is **urgently seeking new members** capable of preparing and/or running the audio-visual presentations at funerals. Please contact the parish office for more information on 9435 1543 or email greensborough@cam.org.au Thank you

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! For many years a group of volunteers have catered after funerals at St Mary's. We would like to re-organise this group. If you would like to help and need details please contact Judy Newell 9435 4506.

FACE MASKS Whilst not mandatory, the Chief Health Officer currently recommends masks to be worn indoors, and the Archdiocese reminds parishes that this is especially applicable to larger gatherings.

St Mary's Prayer Shawl Group Meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enq: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

HELP WITH TRANSPORT TO MASS: A parishioner who is unable to get to Mass would greatly appreciate if anyone would be available to take them to 10.00am Mass on Sundays. If you are able to help could you please contact the Parish Office 94351543.

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CARITAS APPEAL FOR UKRAINE: Caritas is having an emergency appeal for Ukraine, if you wish to donate please use this link: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine>



'PONDERING GRIEF': Saturday 30 April 2022, 10am-3.30pm. Facilitated by qualified Counsellor/ Supervisor/ Educator Linda Espie this reflection day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop offers a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern.

Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch).

Book and pay via www.heartoflife.melbourne, or email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: Is offering a Series of short sessions: online via Zoom Engaging Your Faith Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$25 per session, running from 3rd to 28th May 2022 Booking, payment and further information: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

ACU CENTRE FOR LITURGY: The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a new online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Classes start April 27. For further information see our website: <http://www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training> or contact the Centre on (02)9701 4751 or CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au

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



Baptisms: We pray for Celestine, Dante, Rosa, Cormack, Myles, Darbybelle, Brady, Willow, Charlie, Rueben, George and William who will be welcomed into the Sacred Heart community in May.

Mother's Day Slideshow 9am Mass Sunday 8th May: Please forward your photos to :

Alison alisonpieper52@gmail.com

Caritas Project Compassion: Thank you for your generous donations to Project Compassion. Please return money boxes so receipts can be issued.

Senior Moments: An invitation is extended to join the Senior Moments social group for 12pm lunch on Wednesday 4th May at Diamond Creek Tavern. Please contact Margaret Jose for bookings.

Wednesday 18th May 12pm Lunch and Games in the Parish Centre.

Joan Chittister osb. Joan is an American Benedictine, a Practical Theologian, and she embodies the voice of wisdom and experience. A parishioner has donated **2 free tickets** to hear Joan speak on Thursday 12th May 7pm-9pm at Melbourne Town Hall. Contact the Parish Office.

Parish Pastoral Council: Next Meeting Thursday 12th May. Suggestion box in back of Church.

Email address: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

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

Mario Molinaro, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Tony Ledda, Margaret Holland, Bridie Burke, Mary Rafferty, Thomas Keenan, Bernadette Hobbs, Mervyn Bourke

We pray for those who have died including John Downey and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of May that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Dorothy Pittle, Alan Bentley, Glenn Hurley, Michael Berriman, Helen McCrohan, Peter Beaumont, Frank Perversi, Noela Atkinson, Mary Camilleri, Henry Van Oosterom, Kevin Rogers, Eddie Schellens

Rosters for Weekend 7th & 8th May

St Peter's 7.15pm: Reader: B. Flynn Commentator: E. Gittens Eucharistic Ministers: P. Leonard, R. Nicolasien

Sacred Heart 9.00am: Reader: B. Greaves Commentator: T. Jenkins Eucharistic Ministers: J. Bruce, M. Cusack

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR HEALTH & AGED CARE WORKERS

Sunday 1st May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

The last two years have impacted all of us, but especially on members of the aged-and health-care service sectors. This Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for their ongoing care and **those working in these sectors are especially invited to attend.**

MASS TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Sunday 22nd May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

In recognition of the significant impact of COVID in our families and communities, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial Mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions.

Parishes and individuals are invited to submit the name(s) of those you would like remembered during the Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel (inside St Patrick's Cathedral) during May or online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QE> The names will be placed in a basket at the base of the altar, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21–22 May.

Parishes are also encouraged to mark this event during their Masses on the weekend of 21–22 May, focussing prayerfully on those who have died during this time of the COVID pandemic. Further resources, including prayers and liturgical inclusions for parishes can be found here: <https://summit.melbournecatholic.org/libraries/2022/emerging-out-of-covidtwo-special-masses-for-the-community/>



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



Parental Supervision: With the return of families at our Masses and as our toilets are out of view, parental supervision of your children is required while using the facilities.

Baptisms:

Mothers Day Slideshow: I am looking for photos you might like to have included in the slideshow at the Mother's Day Masses on the 7th & 8th May.

If you have any you would like to share, please email to me at sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com

Parish Pastoral Council meeting 20th April .

The Parish Pastoral Council consists of the Parish Priest Father Steven, ex-officio members and a group of parishioners put forward by the parish community. In our first meeting in March, the following office bearers were chosen:

- ◆ Tim Holland, Chairperson.
- ◆ Cathy O'Brien, Deputy Chairperson.
- ◆ Lisa Leahy, Secretary.
- ◆ Emilia Sacchetta, Deputy Secretary.

The other parishioner members are: Michael Bates, Sandra Bishop, Chris Leahy, Michael O'Keeffe.

- Documents regarding mission, role, functions and guidelines of the PPC were accepted. Issues of how we communicate across the parish, including with the school and parish groups, were raised.
- We also discussed the Archdiocese project of forming missions throughout the diocese;
- Organising a gathering of Prep parents early each school year.
- Code of Conduct declaration for volunteers.
- Initiating a prayer service for peace in the world, one with the school children and one for parishioners in the evening.

The following matters were discussed at the April meeting.

- The peace services at the school and for parishioners in general were reviewed. It was agreed that they were very meaningful, reflective and engaging. Small numbers at the night service.
- There was discussion about how to improve and broaden our communication, with the school and regarding everything we do. We believe it is important to have strong connections and communication with our school and we are exploring ways to strengthen these and to do more together.
- Father Steven reported on a meeting with the neighbouring parishes of Eltham and Montmorency regarding possible mergers in the future. Ongoing discussions to continue.
- Further discussion about planning an evening with the parents of Prep children next year.
- Offering an Alpha parenting course is also being explored.
- We talked about the feast of St Thomas in July and the completion of the statue of St Thomas near the church.
- We have also initiated an inventory of works that are needed around the parish, such as lighting.
- An updated list of parish groups is also being compiled.
- An email address has been set up for anyone wish to contact the PPC. stthomasppc@gmail.com

Cathy O'Brien

Next meeting: 18th May.

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

Peg Wilcox, Dawn Ellis, Miran Kasalo,

We pray for those who have died including Kaye Dixon (Ray Dixon's wife) and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of May that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Domenica Picollo, Kath Mumford, Theodora Ellul, Maura McGauran, Stephen Ruzic, Marg Watson, Ray Money, Gaetano Palazzolo

Rosters for Weekend 7th & 8th May

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: T. Holland

Commentator: J. Bohan

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Leahy, S. Bishop, L. Carty

Set Up: K. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: F. Landy

Commentator: M. Kenny

Eucharistic Ministers: F. Landy, M. Tipping, C. O'Brien

Set Up: M. Bates

LECTIONARY ART REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE. When Jesus appears to the disciples, in the reading from John, he meets them where they are – in material reality. The experience of the divine is mediated through the familiar things of this world: Jesus shows them the marks of crucifixion on his body and he breathes the Holy Spirit into them. This is a sensual experience. Thomas, however, is being too concrete and at first he refuses to move beyond the sensual so Jesus allows him a visual and tactile experience, but a leap of intuitive faith is expected of Thomas in the end.



Third Sunday of Easter, Year C

1 May 2022

First Reading Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit.

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2

**(R.) I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.**

or

(R.) Alleluia.

- I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)
- Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)
- The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 5:11-14

The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;
he has shown pity on all people.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 21:1-19

(or shorter form Jn 21:1-14)

Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

You and I, like Peter, are enabled by grace to repent of our betrayals of Our Lord, some major, most minor, and to claim: "Lord, you know that I love you."

But, this claim has to be evidenced by concrete action. In the case of Peter it was to feed and shepherd "my lambs, my sheep." What will manifest our professed love? In the words of Father Richard Rohr, it is to *love what God loves*.

Of course, we have to love our fellow human beings, but leaving it there would be inadequate. "For God so *loved the cosmos* as to give the Son." (Jn 3:16,17) So what must we do?

Recall, Our Lord says elsewhere, "You are the Salt of the Earth." You must preserve the Earth so that it does not decay and so that it is a suitable habitation for all the creatures, including us, for whom the Earth is a common home.

He went on: "You are the Light of the Cosmos." You are the enlightened mind and the enflamed heart of the whole cosmos, enabling it to understand its existence and to love God for it.

We could pause for a moment to reflect on the words of Pope Francis: "We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story and each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is."

mtate@bigpond.com

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