



Sunday 22nd 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

WEEKDAY MASS AT ST THOMAS THURSDAY 26th MAY WILL COMMENCE AT 9.00am

A school Mass for the Ascension of the Lord. All welcome.



Believers will have a sense of Jesus' presence through three things - love, the Holy Spirit and peace.

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C, 22 May 2022.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/homily-notes--6th-sunday-of-easter-year-c>

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.

PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

The Partnered Parishes THINK AND BREATHE Child Safety – KEEP CHILDREN SAFE.

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDELINES 22nd APRIL

IT IS NOT MANDATORY TO WEAR A FACE MASK IT IS ONLY RECOMMENDED.

Close contacts of positive cases are to wear face coverings indoors, and to avoid “sensitive” or group settings. It is still recommended to wear a Face Covering when social distancing cannot be maintained over a period of time.

It is recommended that those who distribute Holy Communion continue to wear a Face Covering and sanitise their hands before doing so.

In accordance with the guidelines from the Archdiocese, Hand Sanitiser is still available in our Churches.

All Catholics in Melbourne continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further directed by the Archbishop.

2022 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL

BRING HOPE TO NEELA AND HER FAMILY

Catholic Mission, as the Australian agency of the international Pontifical Mission Societies, works on behalf of Pope Francis to support Church run mission programs around the world.

Thanks to the generosity of Australians like you, last year we were able to support life giving programs like the Mother and Babies Home, run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand, where pregnant women and mothers from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds are given a helping hand to create a brighter future for themselves and their precious babies. Without your help, Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters could not continue this critical program, especially with the impact of the pandemic.

But there is still work to be done in many other Church run programs around the world.

This year, we invite parishioners to support families from disadvantaged backgrounds through programs like the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Ethiopia.

Due to ongoing droughts and failed harvests, many families in the rural township of Emdibir are unable to provide enough food for their loved ones. In collaboration with the local community, Fr Habtesilassie Antuan and the Church dream of building a goat rearing centre, which will provide nourishing goats' milk for families in need and nutrition programs at local health clinics.

However, the Centre can only be built with partnership and support. Through this appeal, Catholic Mission invites parishioners to be part of this life changing mission program from the beginning, and by doing so, commit to being witnesses of Jesus Christ.

We look forward to your parish partnering with us to support this life giving work in Ethiopia, along with many other Church run mission programs around the world.

Envelopes will be available in our Churches for you to donate.

<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/>

<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/community#donate>



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>



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.

PLANT SALE after masses on the **weekend of 28/29 May**. Enquiries Judy Newell 9435 4506.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Commencing on Friday the 3rd of June we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 9.15am Mass until 3pm. This will take place on the first Friday of each month. Spend whatever time you can. All Welcome.

FAMILY GROUPS On **Sunday 22nd May** we will be celebrating 15 years of Family Groups at St Mary's at the 10.00am Mass followed by morning tea in the Gathering Space. Please join us as we pray for all Family Groups Australia wide. If anyone is interested in joining Family Groups—even if you are single or a couple—please speak to any of our lovely members at the Morning Tea. Pauline Prendergast 0422 668 133.

We apologize that the library is not staffed at every Mass as we lack enough volunteers. However when it is open you are welcome to come in and self-borrow following the instructions on the desk.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer can contact the Library at smp1g04@gmail.com. No literary or computer expertise is necessary.



St Mary's Parish Library

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

- In the week of 'Laudato Si', May 16 – 24, We note that Pope Francis has written : "We all need to make a contribution to halt the destruction of our common home and to restore nature: governments, businesses and citizens – we must act like brothers and sisters who share the Earth, the common home that God has given us.
- St Mary's Social Justice Group has been collecting household batteries for many years. We are pleased to see that major stores such as Aldi and Woolworths (not Coles) now have collection facilities.
- Woolworths, Aldi and Coles collect soft plastic. Google - REDcycle for more information.
- We would like to thank the anonymous donor of the new Parish library book - The Forest Underground: Hope for a Planet in Crisis. It was reviewed last week it. "The Forest Underground: Hope for a Planet in Crisis" (2022) – presents 'practical solutions to counter desertification, famine and despair'. Rather than just planting trees which may wither and die without water, Tony's innovative methods, have meant that the tree density on farmland has become ten times greater, across 5 million hectares.
- National Reconciliation Week commences 28-29 May.



BIG GOUP HUG The Big Group Hug is a local charity that supports disadvantaged families in the community and beyond. They provide donated goods to help parents care for children from newborn to 12 years of age. To keep all kids cosy and warm please donate **NEW** socks, jocks, singlets and pyjamas for boys and girls size 2-16. There is a donation box in the Gathering Space of the Church.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S CONTINUED

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.

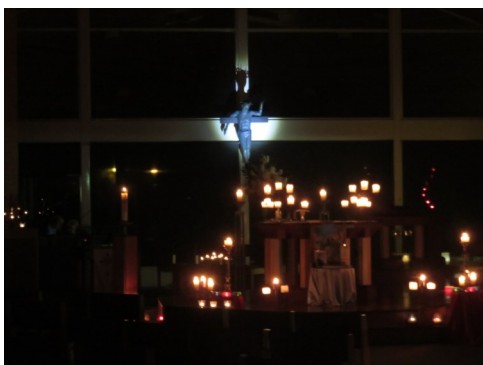
ST MARY'S FUNERAL MINISTRY TEAM is **urgently seeking new members** capable of preparing and/or running the audio-visual presentations at funerals. Please contact the parish office for more information on 9435 1543 or email greensborough@cam.org.au Thank you

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.

CANDLELIGHT MASS AT ST THOMAS

After 2 years of Covid restrictions, Mass by Candlelight has finally been celebrated once again at St Thomas. Hundreds of candles lit up the Church. Thank you to everyone involved in the service last night.





WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

WEEKDAY MASS AT ST THOMAS THURSDAY 26th MAY WILL COMMENCE AT 9.00am

A school Mass for the Ascension of the Lord. All welcome.

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: We welcome the children who are being Baptised later this weekend into our community.

Our prayers are with these children and their families: Carter, Emelia and Jasmine.

Parish Pastoral Council: Next meeting 15th June, 7.00pm

Email address: stthomasppc@gmail.com

St Thomas Funeral Ministry Team – WE NEED YOUR HELP.

St Thomas' Funeral Ministry Team is a very small group of parishioners who assist the priests with any funerals held at St Thomas'.

We do a variety of things to help such as:

- join with the presiding priest when meeting with families to assist with planning
- assist with setting up and tidying up the church before and after funerals
- assisting with the Audio Visual
- assist with Communion
- welcome families on the day of the funeral

Not everyone on the Team does all those things, as each one of us has a variety of skills which we use to assist where appropriate.

We really need a few more to join our team because we are not all always available and it is best to have a couple of us there on the day. If you decide to join us, we will give you lots of training to build up your skills and confidence.

Fr Steve and Jacinta Bright are going to run a Workshop for our Team on the **13th July which will run from 10am till 3pm.**

At this Workshop you will meet the other Team members and it will help to develop your understanding of what is involved when celebrating a funeral in the Catholic church.

To be able to assist families at such a sad time is actually very rewarding, so please consider joining us.

Please contact Lisa at the Parish Office if you wish to join us or if you have any queries.

Rosters for Weekend 28th & 29th May

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: J. Bohan

Commentator:

Eucharistic Ministers: M. Bedford, L. Carty, D. Haesler

Set Up: J. De Carlo

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: M. Bates

Commentator: T. Williamson

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

Set Up: C. & B. Riordan

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 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

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Heart of Life is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, and has been offering the Siloam Program to individuals from Australia and around the world for over 40 years. Almost 50 religious Orders from Australia and overseas are represented in our Siloam graduates, together with Lay women and men. The Program guides trainees along the path of contemplative discernment, following the way of the heart.

the Centre is now accepting applications for the 2023 Program and we would be pleased if you could include the following text in your parish bulletin. More information about the programs is available here.

"Taster Session', **Tuesday 14 June 2022, 7.30pm-9pm (AEST), via Zoom.** Are you called to be a spiritual director?

A pastoral supervisor? A spiritual leader? Would you like to participate in spiritual formation that develops a compassionate, contemplative, listening heart? We invite you to join our Taster Session for a facilitated reflection and more information about Heart of Life's courses. Led by the formation team at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Bookings via:

www.trybooking.com/BZAWV via or email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne for more details.



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



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

Working Bees: St Peter's Hurstbridge 9am Saturday 28th May.

Sacred Heart school and church 9am Saturday 4th June.

Senior Moments: Wednesday 1st June 12pm Lunch Diamond Saigon. Contact Margaret for bookings.

Wednesday 15th June 12pm Lunch and Games in the Parish Centre.

Parish Pastoral Council: Items discussed at Meeting 12th May

- Thanksgiving Campaign progressing. A letter will be sent to school parents.
- Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sr Margaret will speak at Mass on plans to use 'Praying with Children' program, inviting parishioners to volunteer. Need 2 leaders per fortnight. PPC agreed to this going ahead.

Sacred Heart School Report: Kirsten Hodgson, School Advisory Council tabled School report.

- Grounds Maintenance Proposal – Mix of mini working bees and general working bees. Next working Bee June 4th.
- Stage 2 refurbishment progressing.
- 60th Anniversary Celebrations – develop history of school. PPC representative welcome to be a part of the committee. 50th Anniversary photos a starting point. Provided map of school property. PPC will rotate attendance at the SAC meetings.

Parish Maintenance Report :

- Hall roof repair solutions still under discussion with CAM representative. Quotes received. Loan will be required.
- Structural engineer needed for Mercy Cottage.
- Brian is removing rubbish from garage.
- Decking needs attention.
- Working bee St Peter's Hurstbridge, 28th May.
- Hall graffiti to be removed next Diamond Creek working bee 4th June.

Rosters for Weekend 28th May & 4th June

St Peter's 7.15pm: Reader: M. Frisby Commentator: E. Gittins Eucharistic Ministers: P. Leonard

Sacred Heart 9.00am: Reader: A. Pieper Commentator: F. Ledda Eucharistic Ministers: A. Schellens, R. Belli

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, Jacob Draper, John Downey, Bernadette Hobbs

We pray for those who have died 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, Henry Van Oosterom, Kevin Rogers, Eddie Schellens

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/GZKP7QF> 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/>



ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: Free online conference via zoom. "How do we know Chris now?"

Celebrating 50 years of CTC. Friday 17th June. 9.30am-12.30pm For further information visit our website: ctc.edu.au Contact Dr Christopher Morris: christopher.morris@ctc.edu.au

TEACHING MEDITATION AND PRAYER: Online unit via zoom.

Four Saturdays: 18th/25th June and 8th, 15th October.

To enroll and for further information: Undergraduate: dean@ctc.edu.au Postgraduate: postgrad@ctc.edu.au

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY: An Australian pilgrimage led by a Sister of Saint Joseph & the Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre. for 10 days, from 18th October & concludes on the 29th October. For more information visit our website:

www.marymackillopplace.org.au or email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or phone 02 8912 4818.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA: ACN has launched its "Helping form the Priests of Tomorrow " global campaign. For 75 years, the benefactors of Aid to the Church in Need have generously supported the formation of seminarians. In fact, some of these men now serve as priests in Australia today! At the current time, ACN is supporting some 15,000 seminarians on the path to the priesthood.

Please read and reflect on their stories and discern to help us, spiritually and financially, to form the priests of tomorrow. These young men never cease to pray for the benefactors who assisted them on their journey. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do.

Visit: www.aidtochurch.org/seminariansglobal



A vertical poster for a Pentecost celebration. The background is a warm, golden-orange gradient with a white dove in flight on the left. At the top, a quote reads: "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place" ~ Acts 2:1 ~. Below the quote is a small white cross with a sunburst design. The text "CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL FAMILY INVITES YOU TO" is centered. The main title "A CELEBRATION OF Pentecost" is written in a mix of fonts, with "Pentecost" in a large, white, cursive script. Below the title, the date "SUNDAY, 5 JUNE 2022" and the location "OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH 49 NICHOLSON ST., EAST BRUNSWICK" are listed. At the bottom left is a portrait of Archbishop Peter Comensoli. At the bottom right is a photo of three people singing and playing instruments. A banner at the bottom reads "CELEBRANT ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE" and "PRAISE & WORSHIP RISEN LORD COMMUNITY MUSIC MINISTRY". The event schedule "2 45 PM ROSARY | 3 10 PM PRAISE & WORSHIP | 4 00 PM HOLY MASS" and "REFRESHMENT AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER MASS IN THE HALL UNDER THE CHURCH" is at the very bottom. The website "WWW.CCR.ORG.AU" is at the bottom.



LECTIONARY ART REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE. Jesus offers the disciples wisdom and peace. Jesus stresses that this is not a peace that comes from everyday experience but something more: it comes from God. God's peace will enable the disciples to be untroubled and unafraid as they journey into the future without Jesus. God's peace will not make the disciples separate from everyday life, but singular within it.

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

22 May 2022

First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!
or

(R.) Alleluia.

- O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
- Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
- Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 21:10-14, 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory

of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

**All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 14:23-29

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him
and make our home with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my
words.

And my word is not my own:
it is the word of the one who sent me.
I have said these things to you
while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.
Peace I bequeath to you,
my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift
to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me say:
I am going away, and shall return.
If you loved me you would have been glad to
know that I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.
I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target.

This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.' It is not in *outer* space, but in *inner* space that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink.

When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us.

Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

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