



Sunday 19th June 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

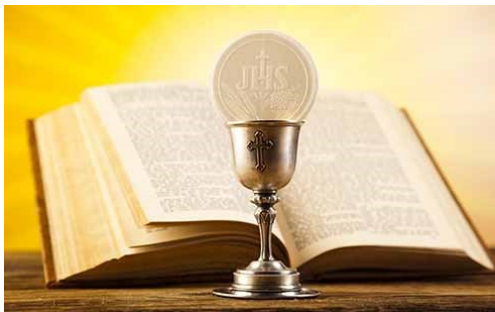
Mr David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**
principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

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

ST THOMAS MASS ON THURSDAY 23RD JUNE WILL COMMENCE AT 9.00AM



The Eucharist is meant to be the way in which the post-Easter community continues to experience and celebrate the hospitality of God, a pledge and foretaste of the banquet of the final Kingdom.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/homily-notes--body-and-blood-of-christ--corpus-christi--year>

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.

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.

- ◆ **While participating in parish activities, clergy, employees and volunteers are required to act in a manner that safeguards children and young people from abuse and harm at all times.**
- ◆ **Clergy, employees and volunteers should avoid one-to-one, unsupervised situations with children and young people.**
- ◆ **Activities and/or discussions with children and young people are to be conducted in view of others.**

Forms are available in our Churches or you can download these from our websites.

PLENARY COUNCIL

We recall that the first Assembly of the Plenary Council in Australia occurred in 2021. Since then further discernment has been occurring.

Recently the 'Framework for Motions' was released for the second Assembly which is to be held between 3rd-9th July in Sydney.

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au



Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

GREENSBOROUGH CONFERENCE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2022 WINTER APPEAL

This year's Appeal will be officially launched on the weekend of **2/3 July**. As the price of food increases and we have to watch what we buy, we are mindful of those in our community who always have to watch what they spend on food as their income is so limited. That is where we at the Greensborough Vinnies Conference come in, providing food vouchers to tide our families over until their next pay day. We are therefore seeking the kind assistance of St. Thomas' Community to give what you can afford to enable us to purchase these vouchers and other basic essentials.

- Appeal envelopes will be provided on the ends of the seats and at the back of the Church - they can then be placed in the 2nd Collection on the above weekend or soon after.
- Credit card donations can be arranged by calling 03 9895 5959 and stating you are donating to the [Greensborough](#) Conference
- Donations can be made online via vinnies.org.au – please make sure you include [Greensborough](#) in the 'Comments/Conference Name' section

Vinnies Briar Hill: Are seeking volunteers for a few hours once a week to support our shop at 23 Sherbourne Road, Briar Hill. If you want to join a friendly team and support your local community, please speak to the Manager on 9432 6797. Thank you.



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.

UPDATE FROM THE PARTNERED PARISHES PLENARY COUNCIL FACILITATORS' GROUP

In the newsletter of 20th March we advised you that the group was exploring ways to acknowledge the pain and hurt caused by sexual abuse in our Church by some members of the clergy, religious and others engaged in Church work. This was in response to the major concern expressed by so many parishioners during the Listening and Dialogue and Discernment phases of the Plenary Council consultation about sexual abuse within the Church.

We can now report that a letter and proposal has been sent to Archbishop Comensoli regarding the raising of a sculpture/statue and plaque to be placed in the cathedral grounds, "as an act of sorrow and reparation for those betrayed and hurt by this abuse". We await his reply. Work is continuing on the wording and placement of a plaque within each parish grounds, again acknowledging the pain and suffering of those abused and expressing sorrow, and the development of a ritual of sorrow/lament.

It is encouraging to note that in the framework of the proposed motions for consideration for the Plenary Council members who meet again in July, there is an acknowledgement of "profound sorrow" and "unreserved apology" for the abuse of children and young people by Church personnel, that "religious leaders have failed to act sufficiently to prevent abuse" and a commitment "to do whatever we can to promote healing ... and acknowledge the need for repentance". An annual day of prayer is also mentioned, to particularly address the needs of those who have been hurt. We believe that the three projects above are ways that, at our local level, we are able to respond proactively to the pain and betrayal felt by many in our Church, now clearly acknowledged by the leaders of the Church.

Please go to the parish websites to see the letter and proposal that have been sent to the Archbishop.

UPDATE FROM THE PARTNERED PARISHES PLENARY COUNCIL FACILITATORS GROUP

Last week we informed you that a letter and proposal had been sent to Archbishop Comensoli recommending the placement of a statue/sculpture and plaque in the cathedral grounds as an act of acknowledgement, sorrow and reparation for those betrayed and hurt by sexual abuse in our Church. We have received the following positive and very encouraging reply. We hope that the project team can produce an appropriate and sensitive outcome in a timely manner.

8 June, 2022

Dear members of the Partnered Parishes Plenary Council Facilitators Group

Thank you again for your letter and proposals. The Archbishop has reviewed them and is very grateful for what has been put forward.

There is currently a project being formulated (still in its early stages) to look at the whole Cathedral precinct and how that can be a place of invitation for both the local faith community and the wider community. A key part of this consultation is the physical and permanent acknowledgement and recognition of those who have been damaged and hurt by the Catholic Church.

Your proposals are valuable and will be provided to the Project group that is working on this. As the above project gets further underway (and this may take some time), we can look towards a meeting to discuss the proposal further.

Please be assured of the Archbishop's prayers for you, and his gratitude for the deep commitment and care you bring to God's people. The communities that have come together in this proposal demonstrate the heart of Christ in action.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Annie

**Annie Carrett
Chancellor of the Archdiocese,
Chief of Staff to the Archbishop
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

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.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP NEWS:

DIAMOND VALLEY REFUGEE SUPPORT FOR THE BRIGIDINES' ASYLUM SEEKER PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY ST MARY'S.



The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) is a Melbourne-based initiative of the Brigidine Sisters which aims to provide hospitality and practical support for asylum seekers; actively network with like-minded individuals and groups who are working for justice for asylum seekers; promote advocacy for the rights of asylum seekers; engage in education about asylum seekers issues. The Project works with, and for, asylum seekers both in detention and in the community. Concerned and compassionate women and men across cultures and generations contribute to the work of the Project.

Anyone interested in helping, either with a one-off or a monthly donation given in provided envelopes, and placed in the church collection basket. Contact Ellen Smiddy 9435 5145

WORLD REFUGEE DAY -You are invited to join the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office and the Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace for an online prayer service on World Refugee Day. Registration to attend the prayer service which will be broadcast live at 6 pm AEST on **20 June** is now open. Register for the online prayer service <https://bit.ly/RefugeeWeek2022Prayers>



[RefugeeWeek2022Prayers](#)

REPAIR CAFÉ Notices are available on the bench at the front door of the Gathering Space of the Church at St Mary's about the Repair Café.

The nearest Repair Café is at 14 Church St Greensborough (All Saints Anglican Church in Greensborough) You may get something repaired OR register to volunteer as a repairer. Repairs to – garden tools, bikes, mowers, furniture, toys, sewing/mending of clothing, problems with setting up mobile phones etc. Have a look on their website or Facebook page for further details.



[Greensborough Repair Cafe - Home](#) | [Facebook Greensborough Repair Café VIC](#) | [Repaircafe](#). TOSS IT? NO WAY

ST MARY'S PARISH LIBRARY



We have a great collection of Biographies for you to borrow.

If there is no-one in attendance in the Library, it can be opened and you can record which books you take on the sheet.



This month we can recommend:

(i) **"As Good As Gold" (2017) - Robert W Killick**

This is an entertaining autobiography of the working life of Melbourne Industrial Chemist Dr Bob Killick. His anticipation of consumer needs and negotiating with international companies is fascinating. The family were involved with the Syndal Baptist Church participating in Bible Studies and musical productions there.

(ii) **"Seeking the Way: my journey to truth and life" - Michael Mulcahy (2018)**

Honest, insightful, humble and informative, Father Mick's words are recorded for all in a humorous and very readable way. From his time in Venezuela with the desperately poor, to time serving prisoners and those with mental ill health, the book shows Father Mick as a gentle and thoughtful, yet powerful force.

(iii) **"Pollyanna" DVD (2003)**

Cheerful Pollyanna always shows resilience and optimism, even when she is orphaned and sent to live in the country with her eccentric aunt. Here Pollyanna experiences a further setback, but together with her aunt, they both flourish and conquer this challenge too. This is a light and joyful film for all ages.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S CONTINUED

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament :-First Friday of month, after 9.15am Mass to 3pm. Spend whatever time you can. All Welcome.

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 .

DONATION OF USED HEARING AIDS AND GLASSES: Box available in the Gathering Space.

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA: ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. Our brothers and sisters in Lebanon are suffering due to ongoing financial and political instability. As the body of Christ we are called to support one another. Will you join us as we help them by providing food parcels to 500 needy



families in the diocese of Baalbek, Lebanon? To read about the project, or to make an offering visit: www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS

Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to academically support Refugee and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese and also adult centre. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information.

The training day is in July. Email: somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact)

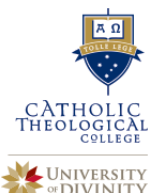
Website: www.mercyworks.org.au Tel: 9326 1895

Catholic Theological College: Online Open Day Information Session. Tuesday 21st June at 7pm (AEST)

Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/open-days For more information contact: jenny.delahunt@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



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



Baptisms: we pray for Freya, Sophia, Micaela, Taya, Tomas and Marcus who will be welcomed into the Sacred Heart community in June.

Senior Moments: Wednesday 6th July Pie and Cakes 12pm in Parish Centre. Please contact Margaret with your orders. Wednesday 20th July Lunch & Games 12pm in Parish Centre

Parish Pastoral Council: met on Thursday 9th June. Ann-Marie opened meeting with a prayer acknowledging this month's Feast of the Sacred Heart.

- * Ted gave a report from our Partnered Parishes Plenary Council Facilitators Group on the Atonement Process, including a letter sent to the Archbishop.
- * Parent Ronan presented a School Report including Child Safe Standards, identifying people to help put together the school history in preparation for 60th Anniversary, very positive recent combined school & church working bee and an invitation for parishioners to work together with school parents at November Election Day fundraising BBQ.
- * Brian reported on the well attended and successful working bee at St Peter's, and his recent meeting with an engineer who inspected the parish hall roof.
- * The Sacred Heart church and school grounds working bee was extremely productive. Working together and social connection with our school parents was a very satisfying and positive experience.
- * Parish Thanksgiving Renewal to start in July.
- * Frank and Moya attended a Funeral Ministry workshop at St Mary's. This ministry requires more volunteers to assist our Priests by meeting families, preparing for or setting up the church for funerals.
- * Frank is working on a photo board and updating a funeral information brochure which will be available in our churches. He will speak at Masses alerting people that we need more help with Funeral Ministry, also with volunteers for Sunday ie setting up, collectors, readers.

PPC Suggestion Box at back of Church. Email address: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

RCIA Sacred Heart and St Thomas: If anyone is interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith please contact either of our Parish offices. A new group will begin soon.

Diamond Creek Conference annual St. Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal: There will be a leaving collection after Masses on 2nd/3rd July. Envelopes are also available for cash or credit card donations, which can be placed in collection bags or left at the Parish Centre during July. Donations will be distributed locally in our Parish, where assistance is provided with food, paying gas/electricity bills, chemist expenses, delivering firewood etc. Donations of non-perishable food, toiletries, blankets or cash would be most appreciated. Thank you.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Two weeks ago on Pentecost Sunday the Parish community was invited to be aware of others and remembered our young families and welcomed newcomers. We reaffirm our personal and the Parish's communal commitment to the re-introduction of Kids' Liturgy and/or Children's Liturgy of the Word. At this special time in our Parish's life we are being called to deepen our prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit communally. Sr Margaret has invited the School Staff to join us as we continue to pray.

Hail Mary, Mary Helper of Christians, pray for them. Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Parish Feast – Sacred Heart: The School and Parish communities of Sacred Heart and St Peter's are invited to gather for Mass on the Parish feast day, Sacred Heart 24th June at 9.15 am. We thank the staff and students of the School for hosting this liturgy.

Rosters for Weekend 26th June

Sunday 9. 00am Sacred Heart

Reader: B. Greaves

Commentator: J. Hoyne

Eucharistic Ministers: Y. O'Brien, C. Ledda

Saturday 2nd July St Peter's

Reader: J. Robinson

Commentator: M. Frisby

Eucharistic Ministers: Dharshanie

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, Lina Molinaro

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.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

ST THOMAS MASS ON THURSDAY 23RD JUNE WILL COMMENCE AT 9.00AM

St Thomas Parish Pastoral Council: Email address: stthomasppc@gmail.com

Happy 90th Birthday George. George and Lyn have been long standing parishioners here at St Thomas. George turned 90 on the 14th of June. George was thrilled with the birthday greetings in the newsletter. He has asked for mail to be sent to him as well as Lyn. His email address is: georgebull14@optusnet.com.au

Baptisms: Please keep in your prayers, Zara, Hudson, Liam and Xavier who will be baptised later this month.

Contactless Payments: We are now able to allow electronic transfer of funds through the purchase of a Square Tap Machine. Parishioners will be able to 'tap and go' for the Presbytery and Parish collections. There are instruction in the Church or you can ask for help.

 Square



This will enable those who want to have less reliance on cash to be able to keep supporting the Parish and our Priests.

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.

Diamond Valley Refugee Support for the Brigidines' Asylum Seeker Project:

Many thanks to all participating parishioners for continuing to support the project. Please ensure all donation envelopes are handed in by the 25/26th June at the latest. Please drop in your envelopes in the St Thomas or Sacred Heart collection bowls 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 2021/2022. 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 2022/2023 will issued in July/August.

Rosters for Weekend 25th & 26th June

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: T. Holland

Commentator: J. Bohan

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

Set Up: J. De Carlo

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: S. Millar

Commentator: J. Kerr

Eucharistic Ministers: R. Piccolo, A. Letzia, Volunteer

Set Up: J. Kerr

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 June that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Pauline Georgiades, Joanne Tubb, Antonio Napoleone, Eric Rosario, Leo Campbell, Des Price, Bert Smooker. Gordon Shannon, Saverio Posterino

LECTIONARY ART REFLECTION BY JENNY CLOSE.

Jesus said that his own body and blood were 'real' food which was not merely nourishing, but life-giving. It is easy to agree with 'the people' in this reading the metaphor is raw and abrasive. It was dangerous language, but it engaged their attention. The central symbols of bread and wine at our Sunday Eucharist are dangerous in what they evoke. It reminds us that the Eucharistic elements we use at Sunday Mass need to be authentic in order to more richly convey the power they evoke.



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Year C

19 June 2022

First Reading Gn 14:18-20

Melchizedek brought bread and wine.

Melchizedek king of Salem brought bread and wine; he was a priest of God Most High. He pronounced this blessing:

'Blessed be Abraham by God Most High, creator of heaven and earth, and blessed be God Most High for handing over your enemies to you.'

And Abraham gave him a tithe of everything.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 109:1-4. R. v.4

**R. You are a priest for ever,
in the line of Melchizedek.**

1. The Lord's revelation to my Master:
'Sit on my right:
I will put your foes beneath your feet.' (R).
2. The Lord will send from Zion
your sceptre of power:
rule in the midst of all your foes. (R).
3. A prince from the day of your birth
on the holy mountains;
from the womb before the daybreak I
begot you. (R).
4. The Lord has sworn an oath he will not
change.
'You are a priest for ever,
a priest like Melchizedek of old.' (R).

Second Reading 1 Cor 11:23-26

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming the death of the Lord.

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming to his death.

Sequence (shorter form)

Behold the bread of angels, sent
For pilgrims in their banishment,
The bread for God's true children meant,
That may not unto dogs be given:

Of in the olden types foreshadowed;
In Isaac on the altar bowed,
And in the ancient paschal food,
And in the manna sent from heaven.

Come then, good shepherd, bread divine,
Still show to us thy mercy sign;
Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine;
So may we see thy glories shine
In fields of immortality;

O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,
Our present food, our future rest,
Come, make us each thy chosen guest,
Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I am the living bread from heaven,
says the Lord;**

**whoever eats this bread will live
for ever.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 9:11-17

They all ate and were filled.

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing.

It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ celebrates the central celebration of Christianity – the Eucharist. All three readings relate to this Eucharistic theme. In the second reading, we have the first written account of the Last Supper and what came to be seen as Jesus instigating the Eucharist. Paul's account, written well before the gospels, was entrenched in the tradition by the time the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke echoed these words of Jesus at the Last Supper. Of course, it is these same words that are spoken by the priest at the consecration in the Eucharistic Prayer each Mass. The words used today are the very same words that have been used in the Church for two millennia.

Rather than a gospel account of the Last Supper to celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, we are presented with what is widely regarded as another 'eucharistic' story from the gospel of Luke. The feeding of the five thousand with five loaves and two fish is regarded as a eucharistic story because it was a clear example of God's presence in a miraculous meal. All of the meal stories in the gospel of Luke are instructive for the audience. Whenever the gospel writer refers to a meal, the meal is used to teach about the reign of God. The gospel writer uses meals to demonstrate who is welcome in the reign of God. Like in today's gospel, the author of Luke's gospel was keen to show that the reign of God is available to anyone who wishes to be a part of it. The reign of God is inclusive and welcoming; no one will be turned away.

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