



Sunday 11th September 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](mailto:Greensborough@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://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](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacred Heart & St Peter's**

25 Gipson Street,  
Diamond Creek 3089

**Parish:** 9401 6361

**Email:** [DiamondCreek@cam.org.au](mailto:DiamondCreek@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://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](mailto:principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

251 Diamond Creek Road,  
Greensborough Nth 3088

**Parish:** 9434 7373

**Email:** [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://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](mailto:principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au)

**THE CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES**

The Chief Health Officer has strongly recommended the use of face coverings in indoor and crowd settings during this winter period. Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. However, parishioners should be encouraged to be sensitive to the well-being of others when in close proximity.

Clergy and Extraordinary Ministers are asked to wear face coverings for the distribution of communion.



**Scripture reflection: Rejoice with me ... I have found my sheep that was lost!**

**We hear Jesus' powerful teaching about the joy of finding again what was once lost.**

**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C,  
11 September 2022**

**Fr Brendan Byrne SJ**

**<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripture-reflection--rejoice-with-me---i-have-found-my-sheep-that-was-lost>**

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



**[www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au](http://www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au)**

**Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

**[www.cam.org.au](http://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.***

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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



## 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](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) by 2pm Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin.

Thank you

## INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

"I feel that I am evolving into a new, improved version of myself which is a great feeling." This comment was made by someone undertaking RCIA to come into the Catholic faith. Are you thinking to yourself that there must be more to life?

Becoming a Catholic (or re-discovering your Catholic faith) is experiencing God's love. If you would like to find out about the Catholic faith, please join us on **Sunday 11th September at 7.30pm** in the parish house (the door across the carpark from the tennis courts). Just turn up on the night or contact Tim on 0412 070 511. We'd love to see you.

*We also invite people who are already Catholic to join our meetings, to learn more about their faith and to lend support and friendship.*

**THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE IS BACK ON THIS YEAR!** GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON! FIRST PRIZE IS A NEW 2022 KIA PICANTO VALUED AT \$19,500. FIVE MORE GIFT CARD PRIZES TO BE WON . TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE SOON.



**FRIENDSHIP GROUP:** Wednesday 14th September at 12.00pm, in the Gathering Space, BYO Lunch. Tea/coffee provided Cost \$5 for 10 games. Please call Angela on 94446298 or Geraldine 94354306 / 0438148896 to book.

**HIRING OF PARISH FACILITIES:** Unfortunately due to a number of various circumstances, the James Kierce Centre and the Parish Hall are no longer available to hiring for social functions.

**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 PRAYER SHAWL GROUP:** Meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enq: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

**ST MARY'S SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP:** Social Justice Sunday was on August 28th 2022, and the new Statement for 2022-2023 was launched then. We draw your attention to action to help oppose violence and abuse - listening and speaking out. ***For information, counselling and support if you are impacted by violence and abuse: - 1800 RESPECT or 1800 737 732 St Mary's Social Justice Group***

**We are delighted to invite you to see and purchase handmade religious articles made by the Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent (Belarus), on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September after Masses.** The Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth was founded in 1996.

Our missionary began in the National mental hospital located not far from the Convent. Sisters take care of mentally challenged children and adults. The life of the child with diagnoses such as Down syndrome, birth traumas or congenital physical defects may be quite short and it is painful to see them suffering. Also the adult patients need constant support owing to the fact that their illnesses make it impossible for them to adapt socially. In order to help these people some workshops were organized on the premises of the Convent where vulnerable people have a possibility to express themselves in art for God working together with nuns and sisters and making icons (including hand painted), crosses, crucifixes, wood carvings, embroidered and ceramic gifts, rosaries and vestments. All these goods made with love and prayer bring blessings to their owners. We are happy and thanking God for the opportunity to introduce and offer them to you. See notice on board.



**Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary—September 8.** The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth

century. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning. We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.



## **ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS**

**UNDERSTANDING YOUR PERSONALITY:** Gifts Differing', Saturday 1 October 2022, 10am-3.30pm. Our popular Myers Briggs reflection day, led by Peter Malone msc (BA(Hons), STL, DTheol (Honoris Causa)). Participants can complete the Personality Type Indicator form on the day. Held at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern VIC. Cost \$60. Book and pay via: [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) email [office@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:office@heartoflife.melbourne) or telephone (03) 9890 1101.

**MARCH FOR BABIES 2022:** Please keep this date free and come and show support for the unborn. Join us for the 2022 March on the 8th October at Treasury Gardens at 12.30pm and walking to Parliament House at 1.00pm. Come and help us celebrate life, every life, great or small, born or unborn. Show your support and wear **Pink** or **Blue**.

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA:** Please consider leaving an eternal legacy by remembering *Aid to the Church in Need* in your will. This gift will ensure that the light of faith continues to shine brightly throughout the world and that persecuted, and suffering Christians will be cared for and given a voice. When you leave a gift in your will to ACN you can also rest assured that ACN will arrange Masses for the eternal repose of your soul. Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/legacies](http://www.aidtochurch.org/legacies)

**PALMS AUSTRALIA:** American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities. Embrace one of these [Mission opportunities abroad](#) and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961. [Enquire online](#) or **Ph: 0422 742 567** and [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am** where you can talk directly with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now. Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our [13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>](#)

**INNER HEALING RETREAT:** A retreat on the Meditation on Jesus will be held on the 16th & 17th September, at 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, 3155. The retreat begins at 5.30pm on Friday 16th September and concludes at 4.30pm on Saturday 17th of September. (Prayer & Meditation through gentle postures and breathing in the Holy Spirit, heals body, mind and soul.) Guided by Fr. Gilbert Carlo SVD RSVP Tel: 0424202191 or Email: [gilbertcarlo@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertcarlo@gmail.com)

**WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY EVENING:** Celebrating Women's Strengths Guest Speaker - Sr Nicole Rotaru RSM St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall. 290 Childs Rd, Mill Park Friday 16th September 6 pm - 9 pm \$25 per head includes two course meal RSVP 08/09/2022 To book please go to the following link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CBOSD> or call the parish office on 9407 6700

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY:** On **10 October 2022** (10-11:30am AEDT) the ACU Centre for Liturgy will host the Prof Julie Hanlon Rubio from the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, Berkeley CA, USA, who will give an [online](#) public lecture (via Zoom) entitled **"Does the Catholic Sacrament of marriage have a future?"** Given consistently decreasing rates of Catholic marriage in Australia and other places around the world, it is more important than ever to consider the future of this beautiful and essential Christian vocation. For more information and to register, please go to [www.acu.edu.au/News\\_CentreforLiturgy](http://www.acu.edu.au/News_CentreforLiturgy)



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place where people feel safe and supported.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday)

### **PRAYER**

*Gracious God,  
you love and care for all of your children,  
especially the smallest and most vulnerable.  
We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk  
who have been abused in any way,  
and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.*

*Help us to hear their cries of pain  
and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.  
Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse,  
and the failure to be heard.*

*We pray that with the help of your grace  
communities and families will find understanding and support,  
so that now and in the future  
their wounds may be healed  
and they may find lasting peace.*

*Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk,  
giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience  
to seek out assistance when required.*

*We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen*

### **PLENARY COUNCIL OUTCOMES**

Nimmi Candappa, a Melbourne academic, writer and Plenary Council Member is generously giving of her time to our three parishes to provide her insights on some of the outcomes of the recent Plenary Council Second General Assembly. Nimmi will be with us on Thursday 22 September in St Mary's Gathering Space at 7:00 pm, with the evening consisting of a presentation from Nimmi, followed by a Q & A session.

Please join us to welcome Nimmi, and to discover Nimmi's reflections on the recent assembly and her views on the future direction for our Catholic church.

Refreshments provided. Please RSVP to St Mary's Parish Office. 9435 1543.



## PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

### MAJELLAN MEDIA

Majellan Media has provided several copies of *The Majellan Magazine free* for parishioners to take home.

There is no obligation, but should you enjoy reading it please consider subscribing.

You can subscribe on their website: [www.majellan.media](http://www.majellan.media)

### MASS BY CANDLELIGHT

Hundreds of candles and quiet, meditative music await you from 7.30pm before Mass at 8.00pm

If you accept Jesus' invitation to "Come away...and rest a while" (Mk 6:31).

Join us for the final 2022 Mass by Candlelight on Thursday 15th September at St Thomas Church,

251 Diamond Creek Road Greensborough North. Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 339 or Emilia 0418 120 902.



### ASYLUM SEEKERS - AND A NEW AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

#### St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action shared online Forum, 7:30pm-8:30pm, Thursday 29 September 2022

In our war torn and further troubled world complicated by Climate Change and Pandemics the issue of Asylum Seekers and Refugees is of growing significance. It touches at the very heart of Social Justice.

In this online Forum from **7:30pm - 8:30pm on Thursday 29th September** Brigidine Asylum Seeker's Project ([BASP](#)) Co-Founder, Sr Brigid Arthur AO csb, will provide a timely update on the growing significance of Asylum Seekers.

This discussion will be in the context of Catholic Social Justice thinking, and a new Government. The Forum will include a Q&A session and be made available to our sisters and brothers at St Gregory's Parish and some other neighbouring parishes. The Forum will be Convened by John Costa (St Kevin's Parish SJA Convenor), co-Convened by Tiziana D'Costa (Parish Lay Ecclesial Leader), and **will consider such issues as:**

**A brief history** of Asylum seekers in Australia, particularly comparing 2014 with 2022

**Where** Asylum seekers have come from in the past? & where they come from now?

**How** do Asylum seekers physically get to Australia? & how does this differ for Refugees?

**What** are the circumstances prompting Asylum Seekers to risk escaping to an unknown land? c.f. Refugees?

**How** do Asylum seekers survive / have aspirations in Australia cf Refugees? (Dignity? Housing? Income? Work & other rights? Medical support? Education? A Future? )

**What** impact is a new Government having / likely to have on treatment of Asylum Seekers? c.f. Refugees?

**The Government** is urgently seeking ways to increase the number of Australian workers - Can Asylum seekers / refugees complement current immigration processes?

**How** does Australia handle / welcome Asylum Seekers? Refugees? compared with other countries?

**What** are the short and long-term effects on the lives of Australian Asylum seeker and their family members in the ways we currently treat them?

**How** does all this relate to Catholic Social Justice Principles?

**Registration [HERE](#) (Forum Zoom link will be sent to you just before the event)**

Dear parishioners,

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that I am retiring from my Pastoral Associate role at the end of September (or the first week in October.) I have been here at St Marys' for over 17 years now and 32 years in total in Pastoral Associate Ministry in Melbourne.

I am older and tired and a recent spell of illness sharpened my appreciation of the need to slow down.

The parish will advertise for a new Pastoral Associate and I am sure you will welcome and support that person, as you have for me.

Thank you for everything you have given me over my time here and I look forward to seeing you over the next couple of months.

**Jacinta**

### JACINTA BRIGHT'S FARWELL

Following Jacinta Bright's sad news that she is retiring in October as our Pastoral Associate, it is appropriate that we farewell her with her family present so as to express our gratitude and well-wishes to her.

All parishioners from our Partnered Parishes are warmly welcome to farewell Jacinta at the **10.00 am Mass at St. Mary's on Sunday October 2nd.**

This will be followed by refreshments in the Gathering Space of the church. If you are coming, you might consider bringing a plate to share.

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



**Help needed:** Sacred Heart Parish Fundraiser **Craft Market** after Mass on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October in the Hall. Please contact the Office if you would like to assist with organisation or to book a table.

**Children's Liturgy:** Parents and Grandparents – ***Kid's Liturgy or Children's Liturgy of the Word*** is returning. The Covid pandemic meant that the Parish's initiatives for Children during Mass ceased but now Children's Liturgy will be happening during 9am Mass at Sacred Heart church on the second and fourth Sundays commencing on Sunday 11th September.

Consider bringing your children along to learn about the Lord Jesus as the Gospel reading is proclaimed in a child friendly environment which follows safeguarding procedures.

Once a year a parent or care giver is asked to complete a Permission to Participate form, a Safeguarding recommendation. Copies are available at the back of the church, in the school office or attached to the School newsletter.

**Senior Moments:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 12pm Lunch and Games in the Parish Centre.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Email: [ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com) Suggestion box at back of Church.

### Rosters for Weekend 18<sup>th</sup> September

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September** 7.15pm St Peter's

**Reader:** M. Frisby **Commentator:** Amindha **Eucharistic Ministers:** volunteer

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September** 9am Sacred Heart

**Reader:** A. Pieper **Commentator:** C. Fernando **Eucharistic Ministers:** P. Leonard, C. Bell

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

*Mario Molinaro, Lina Molinaro, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Margaret Holland, Bridie Burke, Mary Rafferty, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper*

***We pray for those who have died including Daniel Edmonds (Rob Edmonds brother) and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of September that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

*Terry Moran, Michael Holland, Ann Cusack, Andrew O'Dea, George Ind, Peter Thomas, Francis Goodge, Margaret & Bernie Fitzgerald, Alexander Libertino*

## ST THOMAS PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS

***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, John Iacobucci, Anelko Korculanin*

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

*Jean Watson, Maria Scordo, Gennaro Mascia, Bernadette Richardson, Norah Moylan, Jane Tremayne, Tess Natoli, Barry Williamson, Mollie Kerr, Rocco Crea, Bernadette Linehan, Vincent Mascia, Jim Hardwick Snr, Kevin Power, Antonio Lunardello, Ines Lunardello, Vincenzina Varalla John Ryan, Fr Jim Feenan, John Muscat, Dawn Morgan, Barisa Zilic, Stjpan Kernjak*

## SACRED HEART & ST THOMAS SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

**St Thomas the Apostle & Sacred Heart Parishes Food Drive for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre** will once again (after a 2 year break due to COVID) be held from the weekend of **27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> of August until 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> of October.**

Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women.

Some of the urgent items are: Tuna in oil, 400g; Tinned tomatoes, 400g; Honey small bottles; Raw unsalted nuts, almonds, walnuts, cashews; Spices, small packs cumin, turmeric, chilli; Coconut cream; Sweet and savoury biscuits; Dried fruit, apricots, dates; Peanut butter; Jam; Full cream UHT milk, 1 litre.

Deodorant; Disposable razors; Shampoo & conditioner; Laundry powder, max 1kg; Dishwashing liquid, 1 litre.

At St Thomas the large basket will be available to receive these items; there will also be a basket available at Sacred Heart.

There will also be list of items needed available to take home.

**ASRC Foodbank currently provides free groceries to around 1000 people, including children, every week, most of whom have no income and no work rights. Every donation makes a difference.** <https://asrc.org.au>

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS

### Rosters for Weekend 17th & 18th September

#### Saturday 6.00pm

**Reader:** P. Carty    **Commentator:** D. Haesler    **Eucharistic Ministers:** M. McKenzie, K. Salm, L. Leahy

**Set Up:** J. De Carlo

#### Sunday 10.30am

**Reader:** T. Williamson    **Commentator:** L. Hobson    **Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Tipping, A. Kerr

**Set Up:** J. Kerr

*The school community is having a Liturgy for the Blessing of the St Thomas Statue on Thursday 15th September at 2.45pm-3.15pm.*

*The Parish community will have a Blessing of the Statue during the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 25th September.*

*Everyone is welcome.*

*The Adoration Chapel now has a key safe located inside the chapel on the side wall.*

*The code is the same as the chapel code. Please contact Lisa if you wish to access the Chapel out of hours.*

### UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL TABERNACLE

Dear Parishioners,

A number of St. Thomas parishioners have requested that we consider having a tabernacle in a place of prominence in the church. However, we already have the Adoration chapel that has been built in such a way that it is accessible for people to come to pray at any time or collect the Blessed Sacrament to take to the sick without actually going into the body of the church. Since there may not be two tabernacles used for the reservation of the Eucharist in the church, a few options have been considered:

1. That a wall be built to separate the current Adoration chapel with the current tabernacle from the body of the church, and have another tabernacle in what is currently the Seasonal chapel.
2. That we have 2 tabernacles, but the Blessed Sacrament is only in one of them at any particular time— so the Blessed sacrament would be reserved in the Adoration chapel and would only be brought into the church's tabernacle before Masses and be returned after Mass. This would mean that a wall would not be erected between the church and the Adoration chapel.
3. That we do nothing because any other option would impact on the integrity of the original design of the church that intended to separate the place of reservation of the Blessed Sacrament from the body of the church.

No other options have been considered at this stage. An initial meeting was held a few weeks ago and it was decided that we would "test the waters" by placing a screen between the church and the Adoration chapel and place another tabernacle in the church for the reservation of the Eucharist during Mass. Please note: THESE ARE ONLY TEMPORARY. I am pleased to say that the response to the request for feedback has been wonderful and passionate. They are indicative of the importance that is placed on the reservation of the Eucharist in our church and the love of the church building itself.

Please continue to submit feedback if you wish, but to do so by the 30th September.

***We will meet on Wednesday 5th October at 7 pm. in the church.***

***I would like to use that meeting as an opportunity to genuinely listen to one another and arrive at a consensus together for the sake of our parish community, both now and into the future. Everyone is welcome at this meeting.***

***In the meantime you can continue to submit any feedback to Fr. Martin prior to Friday 30th September.***

[martin.tanti@cam.org.au](mailto:martin.tanti@cam.org.au)

With gratitude for your interest.

**Fr. Steven Rigo**

### SHAPING OF OUR CHURCH

In September of 1997, Fr Kevin McIntosh extended an invitation to all parishioners to participate in an Advisory Group charged with setting forth the aspirations of a new church for the parish. Their work was facilitated by Prism Studio Pty Ltd, liturgical and design consultants.

They gathered together on 3 occasions, for more than 12 hours of prayer and discussion, to discern "what the spirit is saying in the church". Discussions took place in an atmosphere of consensus-building. They developed concept statements, values, expressed by the treasures we had and those for which we hope, and also our most important needs.

***There are handouts available in the church for your information regarding the process that was undertaken, an article by Randall Lindstrom (Building & furniture design) . Pitching a New Tent, A Futuristic Church, and The Shaping of our Church.***



**Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close** In this pair of parables, one features a male and the other a female central character. This is consistent with the inclusivity of Jesus' approach to ministry. In the second parable a sinner is likened to a coin which has become lost among the detritus and concerns of everyday life; but that coin/person is valued by God and sought after like a rare find.



## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

11 September 2022

### First Reading Ex 32:7-11, 13-14

*The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.*

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried, "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 50:3-4. 12-13. 17. 19. R. Lk 15:18**

*(R.) I will rise and go to my father.*

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. *(R.)*
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. *(R.)*
3. O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.  
My sacrifice is a contrite spirit;  
a humbled, contrite heart you will not  
spurn. *(R.)*

### Second Reading 1 Tm 1:12-17

*Christ came to save sinners.*

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting

in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

**God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;**

**and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.**

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel Lk 15:1-10

or longer form **Lk 15:1-32**

*There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.*

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'



### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The God who spoke to Moses is pained by the depravity of the people yet moved to show them mercy. Who could ever have imagined such a God? The God depicted in the gospel actually searches for what is lost. He seems to abandon the safe ones for the sake of the one who has strayed. She goes to great lengths to find one coin. As a spurned yet loving father, God patiently waits until we come to our senses. Who could ever have conceived of such a God?

Our God seems consumed with an insatiable desire to reestablish a relationship with us after we have turned our backs on God, have chosen to commit our loyalties elsewhere, have thoughtlessly wandered off into danger that threatens our well being, not God's. What is it about us that makes us so desirable? The answer has less to do with us than with the magnanimous character of God. It is almost as if unconditional love is not simply a characteristic of God, but God's very essence and no human frailty or depravity can change this.

Paul insists that it is through Christ that all of this is accomplished. It is through the sacrifice of Christ that the depraved are forgiven, that sinners are saved, that the lost are found. It is through Christ that we are sought by God, and Christ is the very gift of mercy, the forgiveness of our sins, the celebration of our return.

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