

Sunday 11th June 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Martin Tanti & Fr Ananda Maddineni MSFS

Parish Pastoral Associates: Sandy Starbuck & 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: Tanya O'Meara & Lisa Leahy

Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: Mass 9.15am

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Sunday: Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

Reconciliation Times

Saturday: 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

Please send any bulletin contributions to greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend bulletin. Thank you



O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Year A, 11 June 2023.

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/reflection-trinity-year-a>

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10am-2pm, Wednesdays 8am-12noon, Thursdays 10am-3pm and Fridays 10am-2pm. Please send any bulletin contributions to greensborough@cam.org.au by 12noon Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you



Dear Parishioners,

I would like share with you that I shall retire from my role of Parish Secretary at St Mary's. I have worked in the Parish office for 8 and half years and it has been a very rewarding and fulfilling time. It was first job back into the workforce after being a stay at home mum and working in my husband's business. I have thoroughly enjoyed every moment of my time here and have made many wonderful friends. It was a very supportive and welcoming place to work and I will miss it. Thank you all for your support and friendships over the years here. I have moved to the beach and love my seachange and look forward to the next part of my life.

Best wishes to you all.

Sharon



CHURCH SECURITY Group members and parishioners are reminded to check that **ALL doors** of the church and gathering space **are securely locked** and **all lights are off** when you leave after evening Masses and meetings. Thank you.

COLLECTORS, please wait until the *Reflection* image is off the screen before starting the 1st collection. Thank you.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP Next gathering Wednesday 14th June. BYO Lunch with Afternoon tea provided. Usual Bingo to be played. For enquiries call Geraldine-0438 148 896 or Angela-9444 6298.

LADIES AUXILIARY: the Ladies Auxiliary's next fundraiser will be a cake stall after Masses weekend 24th/25th. June.

Enquiries Lucy 9435 6990 Judy 9435 4506

HOLY ROSARY is recited every Thursday morning after 9.15am Mass.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The prayer shawl ministry meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays.

Enquiries: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: First Friday of month, after 9.15am Mass to 3pm. Spend whatever time you can.

All Welcome.

LITURGY NOTES – The Word of God. At Mass we listen to the Word of God, reflect on its message, and respond in prayer. God's Word is active. It is both a word to be heard and a guide to the way we live. We are called to take the Word of God with us in our hearts when we leave the church and return to our everyday lives. As a reminder of this call, at the end of Mass, the book of scripture, open at the Gospel of the day, is placed on the front of the lectern facing the congregation. The Word of God leaves the church in the hearts of the people rather than in a closed book.

Be informed, inspired and entertained



St Mary's Parish Library

Books of the week:

Some of the Library's holdings of books for teens and children are featured on the display board this week, and may be borrowed.

If the Library is not open please ask a priest or sacristan to open

the room and you can record your loans on the form provided. Please return in one month through the chute outside the Library.

Access to the catalogue is available at: cloud.collectorz.com/247780

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S continued

PLEASE PRAY FOR

June Baptisms:

Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time: Peter Mejak, Barbara Fernandez, Christos Pittas, Jocelyn Tibayan, Margaret Schreenan, Margaret Bramley, Olivia MacDonald, Helen Quigley, Lorraine Alexander, Harley McAleer, Pat Milczakowsky

Recently Deceased:

We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom: James Murphy, David Barot, William John Semmens, Fr. Des Clifford CSSR, Ron Ferguson, Antonio Chiodo, Jeremy Serong, Dennis Rooney, Therese Jean-Francois, Doris Mullavey, Phyllis Star, Pietro Chiodo, Arthur Butcher, Fidel Orendain, Henry McIntyre, Betty Wilton, Greta Edwards, Margaret Sheridan, Eliseo Tamayo, Brian Foley, Elizabeth Enoch, Hilda Kate Weston, Bill Adams, Mary Walsh, Frederick Kendall, Kevin Hill, William Petty, Eleanor Pike, John Redmond, Angelo Arena, Percy De Zilwa, Paul Kay, Vincent Maurice Pollock, Cresini Santos, Asim Mujezin, Josephine Van-Hoff, Lillian Lonergan, Basil Callaghan, Domenico Filippelli, Helen Adicho, Laurence Furey, Jim McCarty, Norma Munro, Rhonda Margaret Herrin, Debbie Kinder, Pete Molo, Noeline Baillie, John Hickey, Nell Dowling, Maud & John Peacock, Gerald Carr, Eileen Downey, Percy Cull, Alma Soley & 2 sons, Eileen Gow, George Barber, Carmela Pagliarello, Maurice Scully, Catherine Downey, Marion Phelan, Jim Hower, Patricia Watson, Fr. Michael Clarke OMI, Patrick Luttick, Norah Cheevers, Betty Lucas, Ellen Donahoo, Andrew Williams, Francine Nihill, Caterina Caselin, Didier Bourdet, Len Godwill, Sally Lawler, Frances Borg, Trevor D'Souza

ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

MEDITATION: Saturday mornings 10am at St Peter's Anglican Church, Bundoora, cnr Grimshaw and Alma streets (opposite Adi). Cost: Free. Contact Ranjit on 0403654549.

MISSION: TRANSFORM LIVES - THEIRS...AND YOURS PALMS AUSTRALIA Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: **RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.** www.palms.org.au

PASSION ON THE BIG SCREEN – A Day @ the Movies with Peter Malone msc' (in-person event), Saturday 17 June 2023, 10 am – 3.30 pm (AEST) We often refer to Jesus as the Word made Flesh. But Colossians I proclaims Jesus as the Image of the Invisible God. Religious images have always been part of spirituality, The 20th century saw moving images emerging on screens, cinemas, television and new modes of streaming. How can we relate to these images as vision for our spiritual lives? Images, symbols, visual metaphors, Christ-figures? We appreciate Lectio Divina. Here we respond to Visio Divina, movie clips, their challenge. Facilitated by Peter Malone msc ~ author, lecturer, founding member of The Film Critics Association and priest. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost: \$60 (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 03 9890 1101.

INNER HEALING THROUGH "MEDITATION ON JESUS" " through Breathing in the Spirit and gentle prayerful postures with relaxation methods, From June 30 – July 2, 2023 Guided by Fr. Gilbert. Contact: Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia, Victoria 3155. RSVP Tel: 03 9762 6625 or Email gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

SOUTHERN STARS SOCIAL CLUB: Party night for single Catholics in the 28-60 year age group.

Saturday 24th June, starting time 8.00pm.

Location: School Hall at St Scholastica's Parish . Corner of Burwood Highway and Stirling Street, East Burwood. Cost \$13.00 includes lucky door prizes and supper. Enquiries: Peter: 9885 2167.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday: 8.00am-4.00pm Wednesdays 12.30pm,-4.00pm
Thursdays 8.00am-12.00pm (**Wednesday 8.00am-12.00pm & Thursday 12.30-3.00pm St Mary's**)
Please send bulletin contributions by 12.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you

BAPTISMS: Please pray for Sophia, Arlo, Wyatt and Angus who are being Baptised later this month.

LOOKING FOR COUNTERS ON A TUESDAY MORNING: If anyone is available to count on a Tuesday morning on a roster basis could you please let me know. Counting should not take more than an hour of your valuable time. You can email the office greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au

Thank you Lisa

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 24/25th June at the latest. Please drop in your envelopes in the St Thomas or Sacred Heart collection bowls. This will be the last collection for banking before the end of the financial year 2022/2023. 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 2023/2024 will issued in July/August. Anyone wishing to participate in the Asylum Seeker/Refugee Support project, please contact Lilian on 0402 823 679 or by email on alhobson@optusnet.com.au

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION How welcoming and missionary focused are we at St Thomas the Apostle? From 24th June to 9th July, the Catholic School of Evangelisation will be holding an international intensive at St Thomas' hall. The aim is primarily to equip teams from the Philippines and Papua New Guinea with 4 courses that they can take back and deliver locally, as they have done in the past. Of course the intensive is open to anyone who would like to come and participate (watch for the flyers).

Our 4 international guests are to have free days on Tues 27th June, Sunday 2nd July and Wed 5th July. If you would like to extend some hospitality in the form of sightseeing trip etc, please contact me.

Sandra Bishop, phone: 0429 167 879 or email: sandraebishop@optusnet.com.au

Roster for Weekend 17th & 18th June 2023

Saturday 6.00pm

Reader: S. Mc Mahon

Commentator: E. Sacchetta

Eucharistic Ministers: K. Salm, M. Bedford, L. Carty

Set Up: JK. Salm

Sunday 10.30am

Reader: T. Williamson

Commentator: J. Kerr

Eucharistic Ministers: B. Riordan, M. Tipping, A. Kerr

Set Up: J. kerr

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:

Miran Kasalo, John Iacobucci, Andelko Korculanin, Estelle Smooker, Tina Butera, Peter Kranjak,

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, Domenico Di Giandomenico, David Wong

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



BAPTISMS: We pray for Phoenix, Atticus and Sadie who will be welcomed into our Sacred Heart community in June.

THANK YOU to the volunteers from Sacred Heart Family Groups who rostered on at the Tram Café last Saturday.



SACRED HEART FEAST DAY: Owing to the Annual Clergy Conference, please note there will be **no 9.15am Mass on Friday 16th June**. There will be a special Blessing of Parish Group Members and Volunteers during 9am Mass on **Sunday 18th June** as we celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. We are very grateful to all parishioners who participate in the life of our parish. A special morning tea will follow Mass.

SENIOR MOMENTS: Wednesday 21st June Scrabble 12pm in Parish Centre. BYO light lunch.
Wednesday 5th July Pastie, pie and cake lunch 12pm in Parish Centre.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Email: ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com

ROSTERS:

Cleaning: Week 12th June M. Cusack, W. McEvoy

Sunday 11th June Sacred Heart 9am

Reader: L. Armiento **Commentator:** F. Ledda **Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Cusack, J. Bruce

Saturday 17th June St Peter's 7.15pm

Reader: M. Frisby **Commentator:** P. Leonard **Eucharistic Ministers:** R. Nicolaisen

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

Grace Wein, Chris Padget, Philip Leonard, Pam Collins, Katie Pittle, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Bridie Burke, Thomas Keenan, Mervyn Bourke, Jacob Draper, Kath Rickard.

Recently Deceased:

We pray for those who have died including 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.

LEADING MISSIONARY RENEWAL: VIBRANT AND VITAL PARISHES

Saturday 15 July 2023, 10am - 3pm Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

For enquiries, please contact proclaim@cam.org.au or call 9926 5761

A formation day for parish priests, their (potential) teams and interested lay leadership in parishes to envision, and be equipped for, missionary renewal as we explore ways for parishes to be vital and vibrant. Our speakers: Ron Huntley, Fr Chris Ryan MGL and Cath Garner.

Spend time in prayer, hear testimonies from parishes and work with your parish leadership team as you identify the needs and next steps for your communities.

Cost: \$30 per person, maximum \$250 for 10 people This event is ideal for parish priests, their (potential) teams of between 5 and 10 people, and interested lay leaders in parishes.

Register at: trybooking.com/CISBB or scan the QR code below.

Registration closes 5 July. Download flyer for further information including cost and registration details.

Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal | Melbourne Catholic



PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS

THE WAY PRAYER GROUP: A Charismatic Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 15th June at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Ck Rd, Nth Greensborough. The evening will commence at 7.30pm with Praise & Worship, followed by Mass and supper. All welcome. For further details, please contact Emilia 0418 120 902 or Rose 0411 650 339.

ST. MARY'S/ST. THOMAS - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 2023 WINTER APPEAL

This year's Appeal will be officially launched on the weekend of **24/25 June**. The theme this year is 'What if your Mum, Grandma or Sister became homeless?' spotlighting women over 55 years, as one of the fastest growing demographics of people at risk of and experiencing homelessness across Australia. There could be a woman in your neighbourhood or in your Parish, who is really struggling to make ends meet. This is where our Conference can help – visiting that lady (or Companion) in her own home with food and other essentials to tide her over.

We are therefore seeking the kind assistance of you the Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Thomas to give what you can afford to enable us to continue to support these women through our cold Winter.

- ◆ 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 of each Mass on the 24/25 June weekend or soon after.
- ◆ Phone/Credit card donations can be arranged by calling **13 18 12** 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' section



Maureen Lonsdale

Greensborough St. Vincent De Paul Conference

A CHURCH OF THE MANY: POPE ADDRESSES SOME SYNOD QUESTIONS, FEARS | USCCB)

Pope Francis told a group of Italian bishops and coordinators of the synod process in their dioceses that he knows some people have questions or even fears about the upcoming Synod of Bishops and the whole idea of fostering a "synodal church." Some confusion is natural at first, he said, but the Holy Spirit likes to stir things up to get people moving and then create a new harmony.

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2023/church-many-pope-addresses-some-synod-questions-fears>

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLESSING & OFFICIAL OPENING OF ST MARTIN OF TOURS CHURCH

You are warmly invited to attend the Mass to celebrate the 502th Anniversary of the Blessing and Official Opening of St Martin of Tours Church, Macleod/Rosanna on Sunday the 18th June at the 10.00am Mass.

Could you please RSVP to 9401 6338 or email macleod@cam.org.au

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: Find Your Path at CTC Online Information Session. Monday 19 June at 7.30pm (AEST)

Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/information-session For more information contact: Dr Christopher Knauf ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI: Sunday the 11th of June. 3.00pm Solemn Mass and Eucharistic Procession. Corpus Christi College.

Seminary Church of the Sacred Heart, Corner of Rathdowne and Pelham Streets, Carlton.

CATHOLIC NEWS: The article is from Cath News – Wed 26th May edition.

Social Justice , 8 sessions over 16 weeks. Commencing 6th June.

Facilitated by Nathan Leber. For more information: <https://news.cathnews.org.au/t/r-e-ttldlid-oxdrqidl-iy/>

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS AT THE C.S.O.E INTERNATIONAL INTENSIVE

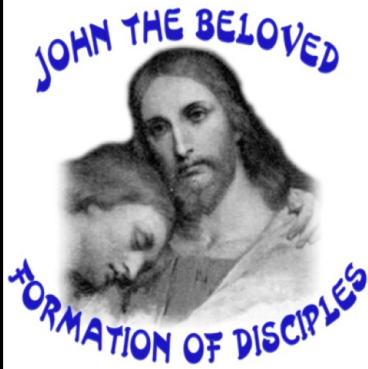
24th June to 9th July

Location: St Thomas the Apostle Parish Hall, 251 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough North.

BYO Lunch & Bible, morning and afternoon tea provided Daily Mass will be celebrated.

For any further information please contact Sandra Bishop on:

sandraebishop@optusnet.com.au



This course is an opportunity to come into a deep, personal relationship with Jesus, to experience His love & healing in your life and to make a deeper commitment to follow Him. It will also give you a greater enthusiasm to share this Good News with others in your family & community.

If you are looking for a deeper sense of purpose & meaning in your life then this course is for you. Come sit at the Master's feet, discover Jesus' master plan, spend a day in the life of Jesus, explore the relationships of a disciple and experience Jesus' pastoral formation program.

8.45am to 5.30pm, Saturday 24 June to Monday 26 June

Book before 22nd June at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CHHCW>

Full fee \$90, Concession/Student card holders use code: CON/STUD for 20% discount

Mark, Matthew, Luke & John are 4 friends who carry us to Jesus who heals & encourages us to reach out to others.

Mark: Presents Jesus as the Good News, who performs 18 miracles & when dying on the cross is truly recognised as the Son of God.

Matthew: Presents Jesus as the Teacher who fulfills Old Testament prophecies & with his 5 discourses proclaims the Kingdom of Heaven.

Luke: Presents a vision of a merciful Jesus, the Universal Saviour, who proclaims the Good News to the poor & to sinners.

John: In John's Gospel it is Jesus himself who proclaims himself by 7 "I am" statements and by 7 signs reveals his mission to the world.

9.00am to 4.30pm, Wednesday 28 June to Saturday 1 July

Book before 22 June at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CHGXQ>

Full fee \$120, Concession/Student card holders use code: CON/STUD for 20% discount

This course acknowledges Pope Francis' tremendous gift to the church – Evangelii Gaudium.

It identifies the greatest gift we can receive – the knowledge & experience of God's love & God's presence. Participants have the opportunity of deepening their relationship with God.

They learn how they can use their particular gifts to share God's love in a variety of locations & for a variety of audiences.

Practical methods are exercised so as to take the church out into the streets EG 49.

8.45am to 5.00pm, Monday 3 July & Tuesday 4 July

Book before 22 June at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CHHMV>

Full fee \$60, Concession/Student card holders use code: CON/STUD for 20% discount

A study of the life of Moses, especially as it models the attitudes required for Christian leaders.

The course will take participants through the Schools of Pharaoh, of Midian and of the Desert, to learn specific spiritual and leadership lessons.

It unveils the deep depression of Moses, his requests of God, and his trials.

It discusses the qualities of his collaborators and the power of a leader's intercessory prayer.

This course is especially beneficial to those in leadership positions as they learn, from the experience of Moses, that no leader "owns" their position, it always belongs to God as does the work to which they are called.

9.00am to 5.00pm, Thursday 6 July to Sunday 9 July

Book before 22 June at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CHHGA>



God's Presence - Our Present



CSOE Response To Evangelii Gaudium

The Life of Moses



Beyond the Desert



Lectionary Art and 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 A

11 June 2023

First Reading Dt 8:2-3, 14-16

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know.

Moses said to the people: ‘Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

‘Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
or

(R.) Alleluia!

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. *(R.)*
- He has established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. *(R.)*
- He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. *(R.)*

Second Reading 1 Cor 10:16-17

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf.

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

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 Jn 6:51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Jesus said to the Jews:

‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;
and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.’

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his

flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied: ‘I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

This feast harkens back to the celebration of Holy Thursday. By way of the metaphors of food and drink, its readings provide us with a look at the mystery of divine presence. They first provide a picture of a God who feeds us. In the past God set a table in freedom, and then provided food that enabled our ancestors to survive. God fed those who were needy, not those who were worthy. Jesus offered sustenance to the crowds that gathered around him. It was not manna from heaven that he offered but his own flesh and blood as food and drink. This food and drink are the pledge of eternal life.

Those who eat this bread and drink this cup are caught up in a profound unity with God, a unity not envisioned in the wilderness experience. There is a new overlay of significance. Jesus’ claim to give his flesh and blood was a bold one, Paul’s seems even bolder. He states that partaking of the bread and the cup not only joins us with Christ, but actually makes us participants in the body and blood of Christ. Humanity and divinity are joined as one. The Eucharist is a sign of unity in another way. Joined to the body and blood of Christ, we are joined to each other. We are one body and that body is Christ. The Eucharist is truly a celebration of thanksgiving: thanksgiving for our transformation and thanksgiving for our unity.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
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