



Sunday 13th September 2026

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley, Diamond Valley

Parish Priest: Fr. Steven Rigo

Assistant Priest: Fr. Libeesh Kuriakose

Pastoral Associates: Sandy Starbuck & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

Parish Secretaries: Lisa Leahy & Libby Sandy

Phone:

03 9435 1543 or 03 9434 7373

Email:

diamondvalley@cam.org.au

Website

www.melbcatholic.org/s/diamondvalley

Our Churches & Primary Schools

Sacred Heart Diamond Creek

25 Gipson Street,
Diamond Creek 3089

School Contact:

Mrs. Gina Murphy

Ph: 03 9438 1590

principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

St. Mary's Greensborough

204 Grimshaw St.,
Greensborough, 3088

School Contact:

Mrs. Marisa Matthys

Ph: 03 9433 4000

principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

St. Thomas the Apostle Greensborough Nth.

251 Diamond Creek Road,
Greensborough North 3088

School Contact:

Mrs. Trish Vandekolk

Ph: 03 9434 4565

principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au

Mass Timetable

Saturday Vigil:	St. Thomas - 6:00pm, St. Mary's - 6:30pm, St. Peters - 7:15pm (1st Saturday Only)
Sunday:	St. Mary's - 8:00am, 10:00am & 5:00pm, Sacred Heart - 9:00am, St. Thomas - 10:30am
Weekday:	St. Mary's - 9:15am Tuesday to Friday Sacred Heart - 9:15am Wednesday & Friday St Thomas - 9:15am Tuesday & Thursday
1st Friday Devotions:	6:30pm Reconciliation, 7:00pm Healing Mass with Blessed Sacrament Adoration, Divine Mercy & Benediction at St. Thomas'

Reconciliation

Sacred Heart - Friday 9:45am-10:15am

St. Thomas - Saturday 9:30am - 10:00am

St. Mary's - Saturday 5:45pm - 6:15pm

Parish Office Hours

Sacred Heart:	Wednesday (Any time by appointment or email diamondvalley@cam.org.au)
St. Mary's:	Tuesday 10:00am - 3:00pm Wednesday 8:00am - 4:00pm Thursday 10:00am - 3:00pm Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm
St. Thomas:	Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm
Sandy Starbuck:	Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

We Pray for all the those who are sick that they may be Healed & Comforted especially:

Bernie Murray, Max McMahon, Phillip Rovtar, Paul Leonard, Katie Pittle, Martin Leonard, Catherine Leonard, Arlindo de Freitas, David Goodison, Bridie Burke, Bernadette Farren, Tommy Burke, Thomas Keenan, Chris Padget, Jim Goodge, Charlie Goral, Arthur Henry, Blair Williamson, Beth Scott, Morag Fraser, Tom Crothers, Sonny Reyes, Eileen Seller, Tyler Calleja, Anne Ridsdale

We pray for the recently deceased and those whose Anniversaries occur at this time 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, 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, Stjepan Kernjak, Bernard Healy, Maureen Elks, Bill Crow, George Jones, Bradbury Family, Myrtle Devitt, Marie & Brian Herrick, Annie Young, Louis Cunden, Rose Carr, Gabriel Mitchell, Kathleen Harty, Barry Woolcock, Benita Drummond, Peggy Dugan, Thomas Tippet, Brendan Gallagher, Eileen Ryan, Martin Quinn, Millie Pisani, Clarice Stewart, Fredrick (Ted) Toomey, Joan Quix, Samantha Dragwidge, George Colvin, Nell Toohey, John Taylor, Ella Meagher, Monica Leake, Moyra Doyle, Maureen Daly, Merna Mills, Fr Jim De Laurier, Neville Davis, Mieczyslaw Puka, Joseph Borg, Laura Mallia, Annie Loubey, Joseph Borg, David Hyland, Philip Hedger, John Gallagher, Dason Fernando, Marie Graham, Jim Danaher, Hamilton Todd, Gerald Attygalle, Don Lippiatt, Harold White, Catherine Darcy, Rondal Gravell, Joseph Fernandez, Matt Cashin, Edgar Reid, Laurie Sarjeant, Laurie Boyle, Harold White, Gloria Lockington, Avel Lucas, Christine Clancy, Francis Meehan, Elenor Neeson, Phyllis Fitzgerald, Valerie Willis, Samuel Lentini, Charles Goral Snr, Davina Ann Bongiorno, Joan Taylor

WORSHIP, PRAYER & FAITH FORMATION.

Fr Libeesh will be on leave from Tuesday 7th September and returning on Friday 9th October.

During this time weekday Mass will be at:

Tuesday: St Mary's

Wednesday: Sacred Heart

Thursday: St Thomas

Friday: St Mary's.

THE WAY PRAYER GROUP: A Charismatic Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, 17th September 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. Supper provided. All are welcome. **For further details, please contact Emilia 0418 120 902.**

BECOMING CATHOLIC: On Sunday 13 September, at 10 am Mass at St Marys, three young adults will be accepted for Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. They will receive these sacraments at 10 am Mass on 18 October. Their names are Jennifer, Tara and Daniel. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their preparation.

If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church yourself, or know someone who is interested, we have another group currently starting and new members are very welcome. Contact Tim Hamilton (0412 070 511 or tim@enviroessentials.com.au)

FR LIBEESH KURIAKOSE HOMILIES. Fr Libeesh's homilies are now available on the parish websites along with Fr Steven's.

THE LEGION OF MARY, ST MARY'S: The Legion of Mary have started their weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm– 9pm in St. Mary's Presbytery (Front room). All are welcome to attend and see what being a Legionary is about.

Please contact Philomena - 0403910446

WEEKLY MISSAL REFLECTION & STUDY GUIDE

A weekly reflection and study guide based on the Sunday and weekday Mass readings is available by email. It includes reflections, prayers, practical questions and additional biblical background.

If you would like to receive a copy each week, please provide your email address to **Pasquale Di Rago**

Email: pasdirago@hotmail.com Mobile: 0466-490-730

Advent begins Year B and the Gospel of Mark, you are invited to
Zoom in to Meet Mark, His Gospel & His Jesus
7.00 to 9.00pm, 3 Wednesday evenings: 11, 18 & 25 November

Book at: <https://www.trybooking.com/DPJZO>

Or Click:



Donation only



For further information contact: sandraellenbishop@gmail.com

This course is offered by the Catholic School of Evangelisation.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting

Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 – 20:00

Location: via ZOOM

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison

Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

MADONNA AND CHILD BY ARTIST WILHELMINA WATSON

Recently we were saddened by the death of Wilhelmina Watson, one of the original parishioners at St Thomas who had served our parish in many ways.

Wil had a great appreciation of art and even produced some amazing works of art herself. One very special piece is a Madonna and Child done in charcoal pastel. It was Wil's wish that this piece be donated to St Thomas' church, so we are honoured to accept this beautiful gift from Wil's family.

Wil's beautiful art work will be blessed at the 10:30 Mass this Sunday and we welcome her family for this special occasion.

We give thanks to Wil for all that she did for St Thomas' community and we thank her and her husband

David, her children Robert, Andrea and Katrina for the beautiful gift of the Madonna and Child.

Rest in Peace Wil Watson.

Please join us for Morning Tea after Mass.



SEASON OF CREATION

Speaking in his homily at the Care of Creation Mass in Pontifical Gardens of Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo XVI said

'as we accept the invitation to pause and reflect before the works of God, we begin the "Season of Creation" – a period of five weeks devoted to prayer and commitment to the care of our "common home." On this Day, therefore, and in the weeks ahead, let us set aside a few moments to pause from the frenzy of our daily lives, in order to savor the profound harmony of which we ourselves are a part. Let us place in 'silent mode' the many noises generated by human activity, so that we may hear the melodious voice of creation, through which God, the Author of all things, speaks to us.

This task of contemplation, which disposes us to an encounter with the Lord, is a first step towards an 'authentic ecological conversion, where the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us.'

[@www.vatican.va](https://www.vatican.va)

JOIN WITH POPE LEO IN PRAYER FOR 'FOR THE CARE OF WATER' DURING SEPTEMBER.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen.

Lord of Life, You give us the gift of water, source of fruitfulness, freshness, and hope.

It quenches thirst, nourishes the earth, and heals wounds.

We thank You, because it is also a symbol of your grace and love that renews us through Baptism.

Today we ask You to teach us to safeguard it with gratitude, justice and responsibility.

Forgive us for turning it into a commodity, forgetting that it is a universal gift, a right without borders, meant for all your children.

We see with pain so many brothers and sisters who lack clean water, who walk for miles to find it, who become ill due to its scarcity.

May your Spirit make us pilgrims of the essential, able to live with simplicity,

denouncing waste and pollution, defending the right of every brother and sister

to drink without fear and without inequality.

May our care for water be a sign of love for the Creator and a commitment to the lives of the poor,

educating new generations to value and protect the Earth's resources. Amen

© Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network <https://www.popesprayer.va/>

PRAYER FOR SYNOD

Almighty and ever living God,

Bring forth the Holy Spirit, wisdom and understanding,

to all parishioners and participants in the Synod of our diocese in Melbourne

Teach them in all things

to seek first your honour and glory.

May they hear from the Spirit what is right

have courage to pursue it

and grace to accomplish it,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SEASON OF CREATION



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

Today is the second Sunday of the Season of Creation, that period of time where we are reminded of our place in Creation and our responsibility to play our part in caring for the planet and all living things.

We hear in the Gospel of Matthew and in the two readings, clear messages about forgiveness, mercy and community, about life as a shared journey. The second reading tells us: "None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself." We are all interconnected.

..... Thinking of Peter's question in the Gospel reading about how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him, we could also ask the question: How many times should I care for the earth? Seven times? Seventy-seven times? Or an infinite number of times, an infinite amount of care. ... (In Laudato Si) Pope Francis said: "the world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?" When we slow down and notice, the beauty of the world is there to be seen and heard – in a dewdrop, an autumn leaf, a black-bird's song, in abundant hedgerows, in clean rivers.

Nature needs our help. This well-known phrase should give us pause for thought: "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children". So, for the wellbeing of our children, and our children's children, we show our care for the earth. We show it when we make space for nature, in our gardens, schoolyards, church grounds. We show it when we make choices like using more public transport or using ecologically friendly products in our homes. It is estimated that the average adult makes about 35,000 choices every day. Why shouldn't some of these choices contribute to our own wellbeing, and to the wellbeing of the planet and of future generations?

In his encyclical letter Magnifica Humanitas, Pope Leo writes that "building a world in which everyone can flourish requires shared responsibility and courage. No one can single-handedly bear the weight of the challenges the world is facing, just as no one is so weak that they cannot play their part..." In other words, we don't have to do it all, but we all can do something.

The theme for the Season of Creation this year is "Living Water". For where would we be without water? 71% of the Earth's surface is covered by water. It makes up 60% of the human body, on average. We use it in ritual and blessing and offer it to each other as a sign of hospitality. All living creatures need it to live.

..... Communities around the country are showing their care for creation, by taking small but powerful actions. When a community rallies together for a beach or riverside clean up, water quality is improved. When we choose to avoid single use plastics and disposable coffee cups, we reduce waste before it ever lands in our waters.

..... Of course, as the second reading, the letter of Paul to the Romans, reminds us, we are all interconnected. No one operates in a vacuum; our lives and choices affect those around us. No more so than when it comes to climate change. The impacts of the climate crisis, including extreme weather, drought and floods, are more severe for vulnerable populations who have contributed the least to climate change, and who have limited means to adapt to climate change impacts. This is where the concept of climate justice comes in – changing our ways of living is not just a matter of safeguarding our own wellbeing and that of our children, but also a matter of simple justice. Remembering Pope Francis's words, "we know that things can change".

(Extract By Lara Kelly, Congregation Justice Office, Dominican Sisters Cabra, from Homily Notes for each Sunday of the Season of Creation 2026, from the Irish Bishops Conference).

REMEMBER THIS DATE AN EVENING FOR CARERS, OCTOBER 23RD 2026.

Why? An evening for anyone who is in a carer role.

It is an opportunity to move out of your role for a little while, to share a meal with others with similar experiences.

There is no set agenda, however if you chose to you might want to speak of the joys and challenges you experience as carer.

Where: Gathering space St. Mary's Church

When: Friday 23rd. October

Time: 6.30 p.m. to 9.00p.m. (at the latest)

There is no cost.

RSVP: Monday 19th October. (or further information)

Ros Cairns 0448943543 or email roscairns@mscsisters.org.au

- **Please indicate any dietary restraints.**



NEWS AND EVENTS

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

The **Safeguarding Committee** is once again pleased to be able to offer an opportunity for all in the Parish of Our Lady of the Valley to gain awareness of and confidence in the use of the Defibrillator should an emergency incident occur within our communities.

Basic First Aid questions can also be addressed at these sessions. Dr. Mark Beeby will be facilitating each of these sessions.

Two sessions will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th September at 7.00pm – at St. Mary's Greensborough (in the Gathering Space)

Friday 16th October at 10.00 am - Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek (in the Church)

Please phone 94351543 or email diamondvalley@cam.org.au to notify your attendance.

Grimshaw Street Interchange and Greensborough Highway:

Weekend overnight road and lane closures

We're continuing major works on the new Grimshaw Street Interchange. Upcoming traffic changes will help us build the new Grimshaw Street bridge and prepare for future North East Link tunnel connections.

To prepare for the next stage of construction, we'll be carrying out **overnight and weekend works in September**. At times, there will be lane and road closures on Grimshaw Street between Macorna Street and Greensborough Road, and on the Greensborough Bypass between the M80 Ring Road Interchange and Watsonia Road.

The most significant traffic changes will take place from **9pm Friday 11 September to 5am Monday 14 September**, when we'll be working 24/7 to install temporary traffic arrangements. During this time, there will be road closures and detours on parts of Grimshaw Street, Greensborough Highway and the Greensborough Bypass. Please plan ahead and allow extra travel time.

From **14 September 2026 until mid-2027**, temporary signalised U-turns will operate on Greensborough Highway while we build the new interchange and bridge. This temporary arrangement will help maintain traffic flow during construction.

Once these traffic changes are in place, we'll continue building the interchange and work extended hours from **7am to midnight, 15 September to 22 December 2026**, to complete the middle section of the new Grimshaw Street bridge.

* *There are copies on the table at St Mary's for you to take home.*



Congratulations! The youth group who have been meeting monthly at St Mary's, have chosen their name: ***Children of the Valley***. The name reflects our Parish of Our Lady of the Valley, Diamond Valley, and the young people's connection with our parish communities.

The group is opened to all 12 – 17 yrs. Come along to next gathering on **Sunday 20 September at 2.30pm** at St Mary's Church.

Join us for real conversation, new friendships and a relaxed space to explore faith together.

The group is seeking mentors and leaders to help in maintaining a welcoming, safe and faith-filled space where young people can form connections with others, while learning about their faith, prayer, scripture and participation in the life of the Church.

If you are interested in journeying with these young Catholics as a leader or mentor.

Please contact Fr Steven Rigo at steven.rigo@cam.org.au, Fr Libeesh Kuriakose at libeesh.kuriakose@cam.org,

or Sandy Starbuck at sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au, 9435 1543.

NEWS & EVENTS

BUILDING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCH AT ST THOMAS - ALL WELCOME - Please join us for our next Building Bonds of Friendship lunch to be held on Thursday 24 September at 12:30pm in the St Thomas Meeting Room.

Please RSVP to Lilian Hobson 0402 823 679 or lilian.hobson@gmail.com Please advise any dietary requirements.

Please also let Lilian know if would like to bring some food to share. We ask a \$5 donation from all those not bringing food.

SACRED HEART CHURCH: The Sacred Heart Cleaning Team is in need of more helpers. We clean in groups of twos or threes at a time that suits the group or each individual. At this stage it's once every 5 weeks. With more helpers, less turns!

If you think you would like to be part of our team please have a chat with me after Sunday mass, message or ring me.

Wendy McEvoy 0438154759

SENIOR MOMENTS SACRED HEART: . Wednesday 16th September, lunch and Scrabble at 12.00pm in the parish centre.

Wednesday 7th October 12.00pm, Mr Rooster Chicken and Chips.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY PARISH FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE will once again be held from the weekend 29/30 August until 3/4 October. Parishioners are asked to donate non-perishable items and toiletries for men & women. Some of the urgent items are: Tuna in oil of any size (95g, 185g or 425g), Tomato paste, Coconut cream or milk, Honey, Full cream UHT milk 1 litre, Instant coffee / black tea bags, Sweet / savoury biscuits, Basmati rice, Tinned vegetables (tomatoes, peas, carrots, corn kernels), Oil (750ml – 1 litre), Dried legumes (chickpeas, split red lentils, yellow split peas), Spices (cumin, turmeric, chilli, coriander), Laundry powder 1kg packs, Laundry liquid 1 litre, Unsalted dried nuts, Dried fruit.

At all Mass Centres, baskets/boxes will be available to receive the items. 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.



NEPAL FLOODS APPEAL CARITAS AUSTRALIA: [Nepal Floods](#) / [Donate Online](#) / [Caritas Australia](#)



ST MARY'S LADIES AUXILIARY: – The Ladies Auxiliary will be selling raffle tickets for various prizes, including a beautiful large painting by Judy Racz, other smaller paintings and a rug! Only \$2 per ticket!

Saturday September 12th, 19th and October 3rd after Mass.

SAFEGUARDING

If you hear something or see something that feels, ***just not right***

MAKE A REPORT by phoning any of our Parish Offices or

Email: diamondcreekgreensboroughsafeguarding@cam.org.au

Concerns around immediate danger, call 000

KEEPING OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES SAFE

To notify a concern around a safety matter, call the Parish Office



Book of the Week

Weaving Faith and Family When you're hanging on by a Thread!

This warm and witty collection of reflections on family life provides parents with

easy and practical ways to help their kids connect faith and family. A popular columnist

and experienced mum, Eileen Marx knows what it's really like around the dinnertable and provides simple steps to help children understand that family life and spiritual life can be one and the same.

Cloud.clz.com/247780



PARISH INFORMATION

Please send any bulletin contributions directly to diamondvalley@cam.org.au by **12 Noon on Wednesday's** to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin. Thank you

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: FOR Our lady of the Valley PPC is OLVPPC@cam.org.au

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK: Please see Notice Boards in Gathering Spaces and on our websites.

SACRED HEART HALL HIRE: For all enquiries regarding cost and terms and conditions contact Alison Pieper on 0417571535

or Email: alisonpieper52@gmail.com

Twenty-Forth Sunday Ordinary Time - Year A

FIRST READING

Sirach 27.30 - 28.7

Forgive your neighbour the wrong that is done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.

Anger and wrath, these are abominations, yet a sinner holds on to them.
The vengeful will face the Lord's vengeance, for he keeps a strict account of their sins.
Forgive your neighbour the wrong that is done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.
Does anyone harbour anger against an other, and expect healing from the Lord?
If one has no mercy toward an other like oneself, can one then seek pardon for one's own sins?
If a mere mortal harbours wrath, who will make an atoning sacrifice for that one's sins?
Remember the end of your life, and set enmity aside; remember corruption and death, and be true to the commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not be angry with your neighbour;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook faults.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (R.8)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. **R.**
3. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. **R.**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 14.7-9

Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

My brothers and sisters, we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

Alleluia Alleluia

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 18.21-35

Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, a brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"
Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."
"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay,
his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.
So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'
The lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.
"But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;
and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'
Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.
"When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord
all that had taken place.
Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'
And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.
"So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."