



Sunday 26th July 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.melbournecatholic.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. Peter's - 7:00pm <i>(1st Saturday's Only)</i>
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, Michael Carcas, Richard Smithson, Bridie Burke, Bernadette Farren, Tommy Burke, Thomas Keenan, Chris Padget, Jim Goodge, Charlie Goral, Marie Lazatin, Arthur Henry, Blair Williamson, Beth Scott, Stjepan Mitrovic, Morag Fraser, Tom Crothers, Leoncio Nakpil, Sonny Reyes,

We pray for the recently deceased including Glenda Maureen Clift and those whose Anniversaries occur at this time that they may enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:

Mary Keenan, Salvatore, Basil, Maria & Fortunato Caccetta, David Phillips, Kevin Jose, Caterina Borgolotto, Patricia Nettleton, Joe Garzia, Kevin Jose, Pat Gannon, Anna de Gier, Michael Pham, Hopetoun Chapman, Edwin Ray, Shannon Risson, Nunzio Napoleone, Mary Kenny, Eileen Mc Inerney, Guido Paciocco, Domenico & Elidia Paliotta, Jack O'Brien, Salvatore De Bartolo, Lynette Corcoran, Petronilla De Leo, Anda Juric, Brian Millar, Maureen Millar, Labiba Mazloum, Michel Mazloum

Emily O'Neill, Barry Todd, Myra McMahon, Jack Greenwood, Tracey Nation, Vincent Nihill, Maureen Dole, James McCormick, Maria Cardamone, Petronele Sukys, Brian McKinlay, Clint Barratt, Mary Shortal, Julia Monagle, Frances McCormack, Teresa Giddens, Henry Lyall, Sr. Cecilia Moran RSM, Eileen Ahern, Sue Edwards, Glenn McCormack, Clive Kennedy, Leo Fitzgerald, Joy Kean, John McEntee Snr, Ena Colvin, Grazia Scotto, Joseph Frendo, Mary Shelley, Alice Puckeridge, Ron Mountney, Mary Shortal, Maria Cardamone, Carlos MiLiCup, Joyce Williamson, Kevin Clarke, Gaudio Tosetto, Maureen Bentley, Frank Cosgriff, Letitia Liston, Candy Paiva, Margaret Pini, Candice Paiva, Victoria Debono, Reg O'Connor, Tawiga Krolkowski, Edward Sheridan, Sarah Kelly, Stanislaw Krupko, Kevin Barnett, Doris Russell, Edward Beers, Sheila Hopkins, Daniel Joseph Carr, Rocco Galati, Irma Cole, Shannon Risson, Mick Phelan, Desmond O'Neill, Yvonne Michell, Kevin Bryan Dillon, Fr Stan Gaidelis, SJ, John Young, John Nugent, Philip Said, Baby del Prado, Carmen Pinzon-Atienza, Fr. Frank Shortis, Bruce Johnson, Denis Cail, Jim O'Connor, Mary McCormick, Jim T. Smith, Mary McMahon, Ellen Rutz, Amy Delves, Shelley Dodd, Manue Galea, Aileen Coffey, Angelina Cardamone

WORSHIP, PRAYER & FAITH FORMATION.

Fr Steven will be on leave from Monday 13th July and returning on Saturday 1st August.

Weekday Masses will be celebrated at the following churches.

Tuesday: St Thomas

Wednesday St Mary's

Thursday: St Mary's

Friday: Sacred Heart

Liturgy of the Word at St Mary's Fridays only.

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

BIBLE STUDY GROUP ST MARY'S: A bible study group meets in the St Mary's gathering space on Tuesday evenings from 7.00pm- 9.00pm. ***For further enquires please contact: Rosa Rios 0456655625 or Michelle D'Souza 0432 316777.***

SACRED HEART, PREPARING FOR RECONCILIATION: For children in Year 3 or older, who are unable to attend a Catholic school, there will be a small group preparing for the Sacrament to Reconciliation at Sacred Heart church, beginning on Monday July 27th at 4.00pm. This is an important step for families hoping to bring a child to First Eucharist in 2027.

Please contact the parish office for further information.



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING

***The time is drawing near for
Our Lady of the Valley Formation Day- 29th August.***

Those who currently serve in Parish Ministry are invited to come gather for a day of faith formation. The day will be a time of welcome, gratitude for your service providing an opportunity to deepen our awareness of the grace of our gifts given freely to each person enabling you to serve with generosity responding to the needs of our Parish communities.

We need others to come and reflect on where God may be guiding them to participate in service and so we encourage you already have responded to your own calling, to invite others, who may be prayerfully discerning joining a ministry group. ***LOCK IN THE DATE!***

DATE: Saturday, 29th August 2026

Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm (*LUNCH PROVIDED)

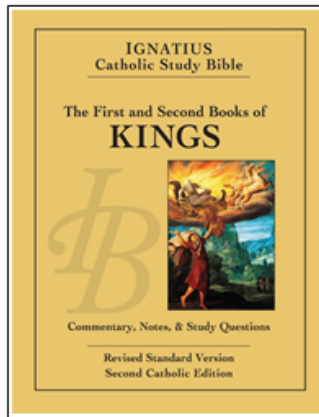
RSVP by WED. 26TH AUGUST!

Ph 9435 1543 or email diamondvalley@cam.org.au

St Thomas the Apostle Church, Greensborough North

****Please contact us if you have any dietary requirements.***

WORSHIP, PRAYER & FAITH FORMATION.



The Zoom bible study group will be starting to study 1 & 2 Kings in a few weeks. (We are currently coming to the end of the book of Job.)

We Zoom in 7.30 to 9.30pm Mondays.

It would be helpful if you had the book, but not absolutely necessary.

For further information and a link to the meeting contact:

Sandra: sandraellenbishop@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE:

Is there diversity in chaplaincy? Discover more . . .

A webinar will be offered in 2 parts to explore this question and more.

The first webinar will be held on Thursday 23rd July and the second on Thursday 30th July. 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Speakers are chaplains from various fields.

Week 1: Ambulance Victoria, Emergency Services Ministry and Police Chaplaincy,

Week 2: Aged Care, Prison Ministry and Hospital Pastoral and Spiritual Care.

Organised by The Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders Melbourne (APMLM) and Garratt's Publishing.

Registration details available at: [Is there diversity in Chaplaincy? – Webinar Series - Garratt Publishing](#)

Synod Prayer – Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.*

The Adsumus Sancte Spiritus Prayer was used at every session of the Second Vatican Council.

The prayer is attributed to Saint Isidore of Seville (560-4 April 636) and has been used in Councils, Synods and Church gatherings since.



Do you remember your Confirmation Day?

Who was your Sponsor, your chosen Saint Name? What were you feeling on this special day?

How has receiving the Sacrament continue to bring your gifts of the Spirit to Life?

Grade 6 students at St Mary's School, have written a letter to a Parishioner telling them about themselves and asking questions about YOUR Confirmation. There are several student letters waiting for you to take and write back sharing [YOUR Confirmation story](#).

AUGUST 14TH is fast approaching!

Your letter **needs to be returned** to the plastic tub on the table in the Gathering Space no later than

FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH

to give time for the letters to get to the students before their Confirmation.

Questions? email Sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Usually, the 26 July is celebrated as the feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne, the parents of Blessed Virgin Mary and the feast chosen by Pope Francis to remember Grandparents and the Elderly.

Below are extracts from the 2026 Message from His Holiness Leo XIV.

"I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

Dear brothers and sisters

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. Is 49:16) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. Is 49:15). The prophet gives us a glimpse of an intimate and intense dialogue in which God addresses, in familiar terms, each person individually and the people as a whole. Even today, we can read these words as referring to each of us, and everyone can hear that "I will never forget you" spoken directly to them."

The Holy Father concludes his message:

"I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love - He who never forgets us!"

Pope Leo XIV, From the Vatican, 15 June 2026.

The full Message is available www.vatican.va



WE ARE
Called
VOCATIONS EXPO

ACU Campus Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite you to come and explore what life looks like in Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan Priesthood, and Married life. Hear from speakers who will share what answering a call looks like, what challenges lie ahead and the many joys you find along the way.

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST
9AM-1PM
GREG CRAVEN CENTRE,
LEVEL 7, ST TERESA OF KOLKATA BUILDING,
ACU MELBOURNE



*with Archbishop
Peter Comensoli*



Free event
Book via - trybooking.com/DNKHK

The poster features a background image of a crowd of people looking up at a large, ornate religious statue or altar. The text is overlaid on this background.



**Catholic Theological College will open its doors to the public
as part of the
2026 Open House Melbourne Weekend**

 **Date:** Saturday, 25 July 2026
 **Location:** Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne
 **Time:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

NEWS AND EVENTS



SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Listen • Reflect • Act

3-4 September 2026 (Online)

Register Today!

caritas.org.au/soc-gathering



An endorsed Caritas Australia initiative, with the support of the Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service



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



SYNODALITY AND WITNESS

A Church that walks together gives a powerful witness to the world.

SYNODALITY AND PATIENCE

God's timing is often slower than ours, but always wiser.

SYNODALITY CALLS US FORWARD

We are invited not to cling to the past, but to move forward in faith.



THE MELBOURNE SYNOD – 4TH – 6TH DECEMBER 2026

Recently, we received two of the Melbourne Synod theme papers, Formation and Participation and Missionary Leadership (a Parish Consultation Guide is also attached.) The third paper explores Young Discipleship. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination – trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion.

You may recall that one of the recommendations of the recent Plenary Council was that each local church call a synod or an assembly. Archbishop Comensoli convoked the Melbourne Synod in December 2025 will be a synodal gathering of God's people – bishops, priests and laity.

The word *synod* means a "journeying together," reflecting the Church's commitment to collaboration and shared decision making. Pope Francis describes Synodality as ***"an ecclesial journey that has a soul, which is the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit there is no synodality."**** The Synod theme papers are an important step in our "ecclesial journey" of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Synod.

The suggested reflection process to be used is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. To support our efforts in the reflection process, a Guide for the Consultation Process is available.

We warmly encourage all Parishioners to collect copies of the 2 theme papers we have received which you will find in the Gathering Space of St Mary's, the foyer of St Thomas's and in the Baptismal Font space of Sacred Heart. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection which can be provided.

Participation can begin here as your feedback to these questions can be provided via the QR code which can be found on page 3 of each theme paper.

If you have any further questions or comments please contact Sr Margaret Sapsford – margaret.sapsford@cam.org.au or Sandy Starbuck – sandy.starbuck@cam.org.au.

Acknowledgement: Archdiocese of Melbourne Synod website & Synod Office

***Pope Francis address to the International Theological Commission Nov 29, 2019.**



REPORT FROM THE OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY PASTORAL COUNCIL (INTERIM)

The interim Pastoral Council of Our Lady of the Valley Parish met on 9 July. As you know, the previous Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council is continuing to function as the interim council, with the purpose of developing a process to form a new council. A new Vision, Mission and Role Statement will be developed along with guidelines for its functioning, and the method for filling positions on the council. As always, the parish will be kept informed about this work.

The following matters were discussed:

- The Parish Pastoral Councils of Sacred Heart, St Mary's and St Thomas have now ceased to operate. The Council commended the councils on their dedicated work for their parishes over many years and thanked all members for their commitment, energy and devotion to the spiritual and overall wellbeing of their parishioners.
- Review of the inaugural Mass of Our Lady of the Valley Parish held at St Thomas Church on 20 June – Many groups and individuals contributed to a beautiful, joyous and celebratory Mass, led by our regional Bishop, Tinh Nguyen, and concelebrated with Fr Steven, Fr Libeesh and other members of the clergy. Supper followed in the St Thomas school hall, enjoyed by many parishioners. The Mass book, welcome to the congregation, the address by Fr Steven and other materials will be placed on the parish website. All those who contributed to this special occasion for our new parish were highly commended for their hard work and selfless giving of time and talents.
- The Council began work on the documents required to form the new council, in particular the Vision, Mission and Role/ Functions statements. This work will continue at the next meeting.
- The Council will produce a parish prayer in subsequent meetings. Some work has already commenced.
- The Council thanks all parishioners who have contributed to the call to provide input into the design of a new symbol/logo for our parish. Discussion and discernment will continue at the next meeting.
- Brief report from the Finance Committee. Finances are stable and the parish can meet its responsibilities and commitments. The Sacrificial Giving campaign has begun across the parish.

The OLCPC meets next on Thursday 6 August, 7.30 pm in the St Thomas meeting room.

New email address for the OLVPPC OLVPPC@cam.org.au

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL.

On July 18th and 19th, we held our the St Vincent de Paul Society's 2026 Winter Appeal.

As cost-of-living pressures continue to affect many households, increasing numbers of people are turning to Vinnies for help with essentials such as food, fuel and household expenses.

Your generosity enables the St Vincent de Paul Society to provide practical support and compassionate care to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, poverty and financial hardship.

We warmly invite the parishioners of Our Lady of the Valley to support this year's Winter Appeal by giving whatever you can afford.

Every donation, no matter the size, will make a real difference in the lives of people in our local community.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

How you can help:

- **Make a financial donation to Vinnies:** Envelopes are available in the church (July 18th/19th), or donate online at vinnies.org.au or by calling 13 18 12.
- **Make a financial donation direct to our Conferences:** - Greensborough: fundraising.svdv-vic.org.au/greensboroughconference - Diamond Creek: fundraising.svdv-vic.org.au/diamondcreekconference
- **Join us:** If you feel called to volunteer, we warmly welcome new members to our conference.
- ***Donation envelopes can still be placed in the collection plate this weekend.***



GRIMSHAW STREET CLOSURE

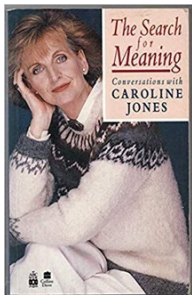
Upcoming closure on Grimshaw Street West. from 9pm, Friday 24th July to 5am, Monday 27th July will be closed between Watsonia Road and Greensborough Bypass.

As work progresses on the M80 Ring Road Completion, we're continuing upgrades at the Grimshaw Street interchange. To complete these works, we will be closing Grimshaw Street from 9pm, Friday 24th July to 5am, Monday 27th July between Macorna Street and the Greensborough Bypass with vehicle and pedestrian detours in place.

This closure will enable us to complete essential utility and finishing works on the west side of the Grimshaw Street interchange.

Detours will be in place via the Greensborough Bypass, M80 Ring Road, Plenty Road and Grimshaw Street. Delays of up to 20 minutes are expected, so please plan your trip accordingly and allow for additional travel time.

Be informed, inspired and entertained



Book of the Week

The Search for Meaning: Conversations with Caroline Jones

In this book, based on a successful ABC radio program, Caroline Jones uses searching and compassionate questioning to elicit responses of great honesty from seventeen well-known people on how they make sense of their lives

Cloud.clz.com/247780



SENIOR MOMENTS SACRED HEART: Wednesday 5th August at 12.00pm, Lunch at the French Lettuce in Hurstbridge.

Wednesday 19th August at 12.00pm, lunch and scrabble in the Parish centre.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: HORN Sewing Machine Cabinet in great condition. Contact: Pamela – 0407 347 141

PLANT SALE ST MARY'S: There will be a Plant Sale in the Gathering Space after Masses weekend 8th/9th August.

Enquiries Phil or Judy 9435 4506

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP AT ST MARY'S—SALE!! SALE!! SALE!! THIS WEEKEND



This weekend, we shall be holding a sale of an array of goods lovingly knitted and crocheted by our dedicated group members. Items include: knitted toys, snuggle rugs, babies/toddlers knit-wear up to size 5, just to name a few!

Come pay us a visit in the Gathering Space this weekend at all masses. Cash only thank you.

All proceeds go back into the Prayer Shawl Group to purchase more wool for us to continue this special ministry.

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

Seventeenth Sunday Ordinary Time - Year A

FIRST READING1 Kings 3.5-12++

You have asked for an understanding mind.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.
“And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.
And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this, your great people?”
It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.
God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALMPsalm 119.57+72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (R.97)

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. The Lord is my portion; I promise to keep your words.
The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. **R.**
2. Let your steadfast love become my comfort according to your promise to your servant.
Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. **R.**
3. Truly I love your commandments more than gold, more than fine gold.
Truly I direct my steps by all your precepts; I hate every false way. **R.**
4. Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.
The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. **R.**

SECOND READINGRomans 8.28-30

God predestined us to be conformed to the image of his Son.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
For those whom God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
And those whom God predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONMatthew 11.25

Alleluia Alleluia

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia Alleluia

GOSPELMatthew 13.24-43

Let both of them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus spoke to his disciples:
“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid;
then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value,
he went and sold all that he had and bought it.
“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

*
“So it will be at the end of the age.
The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
“Have you understood all this?”
They answered, “Yes.”
And he said to them,
“Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household
who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”