



Sunday 6th 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
Ern Edwards, Thomas Cullis, John Monagle, Jack Hoy, Beryl Brown, John Desmond, Jim Bradley, Charles Sargeant, Daniel Loughnanen John Mash, Frank Ma-lia, Charles Ware, George Hansen, Mary Gertrude McNamara, Miguel Vicente Pena, Kathleen Maskell, Patrick Bergin, Bertram Van Hoff, Kevin O'Reilly, Mary Dietrich, Annette Monteleone, Thomas Staveley, Dulcie Hower, Matt Cashin, Giuseppe Di Benedetto, Allan Ash, Margaret O'Meara, Patrick Monagle, Rose Devlin, Jose Fabien, Alice Henry, John Parmansche, Dolores Said, Ernie Girolami, Max Jean-Francois, Thomas & Margery O'Connell, Michael O'Hehir, Giovanni Cirillo, Antonio Dinoto, Steven Banhidi, Giuseppina Zambara, Mons Francis Lyons, Kathleen Murphy, Don Tobin, Wilma Gonzaga, Margaret Neeson, Stefan Gogola, Max Jean Francois, Antonio Papas, Gisele Olivia Caliste. Jack Whybrow, Mother Theresa, Mary Butcher, Joyce Reid, Laurie Boyle, Laurie Sarjeant, Peter Cashen, Daisy Walters, Philip Cummins, Pat Thomas, Mick Higgins, Valda Duffy, Richard Cheong, Maria Geric, Mary O'Connell, Augustine Cheong, Margaret Kelly, Harry Saldeurle, Christopher Newman

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.

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



**We invite you all to celebrate
1st Friday devotion with
Fr Libeesh**

**Every month 1st Friday
at St Thomas**

**6.30pm Confessions,
7.00pm Healing Mass,
Blessed Sacrament Adoration,
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction
and Supper**

St Thomas The Apostle Church
251 Diamond Creek Road,
Greensborough North

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.



We proclaim a crucified Christ

1Cor1.23

19 August 2026

PRAYER SERVICE of LAMENT
15 September 2026
St Patrick's Cathedral Grounds, East Melbourne: 4.00pm

Dear Fathers, Deacons, and Parish Communities,

The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows invites us to stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross. There we see a mother who remains close to her Son in His suffering, steadfast in faith and open to the hope that God alone can bring. In Mary, the Church learns not to turn away from suffering, but to remain present with compassion, humility and prayer.

In 2026, on this memorial we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual Service of Lament for survivors of abuse.

I invite you, your parish leaders, and representatives of your parish community to join me on **Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 4.00pm in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral** as we come before the Lord in prayer and lament.

This Service is an occasion to humbly stand alongside those who have suffered abuse, and all who continue to carry its lasting effects. It is for us, as the Body of Christ, to acknowledge and lament sincerely and with humility the failures that have caused such profound harm, and to place before the Lord our prayer for healing, justice and the ongoing conversion of His Church.

Survivors and their loved ones remain at the heart of this gathering. Through the proclamation of God's Word, silence, music and symbolic ritual, we will commend to the Lord all who have been harmed by abuse, asking that His healing mercy bring light where there has been darkness, hope where there has been despair, and renewed trust where trust has been broken.

In the days leading to the Service, I invite our Parish communities to unite in prayer across the Archdiocese. Resources will be made available to assist parishes in remembering survivors and all those affected by abuse within parish liturgies and personal prayer. I encourage you to share

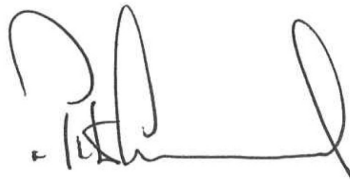
this invitation with your community so that those who wish to participate, either in person or online, may do so.

Mindful that this gathering is first and foremost a place of prayer for survivors and their families, and wishing to preserve a quiet and respectful atmosphere, I ask each Parish to nominate a few representatives to attend on behalf of the parish community. The Service will also be livestreamed, enabling many others to join us in prayer from across the Archdiocese.

As we stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross, may we allow the Lord to deepen within us hearts that listen with compassion, seek the truth with humility, and remain steadfast in the ongoing work of healing and reconciliation. May this shared act of lament become another step in our ongoing journey of conversion, as together we entrust ourselves and our Church to the mercy of Christ.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,



Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

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.

Parish of Our Lady the Valley

Formation Day **Anne Slingo, Facilitator**

Our Formation Day on 29 August brought together 49 parishioners from across Our Lady of the Valley Parish for a day of gratitude, connection and faith formation.

- ♦ There was a real spirit of welcome as people gathered at St Thomas' Church, sharing conversation over a cuppa before Anne Slingo led us into reflection and spiritual conversation.
- ♦ Anne guided us to consider our ministry of service and where God may be calling us as a parish community at this time.
- ♦ In small groups, parishioners listened, shared and named words of hope for the way forward: vision, freedom and service.
- ♦ Fr Steven thanked everyone for their participation and explained that the next step will be to discern how best to support ministry of service for the people of Our Lady of the Valley Parish.

Sandy Starbuck, Pastoral Associate – *Special thanks to Mary Jahne for her COSTCO membership, Lisa and Chris Leahy for helping with setting up with my special thanks to Chris who made a special trip to collect the fruit for me. For Kay Salm and others who helped serve tea and coffee, I'm very grateful.*

Thank you everyone!

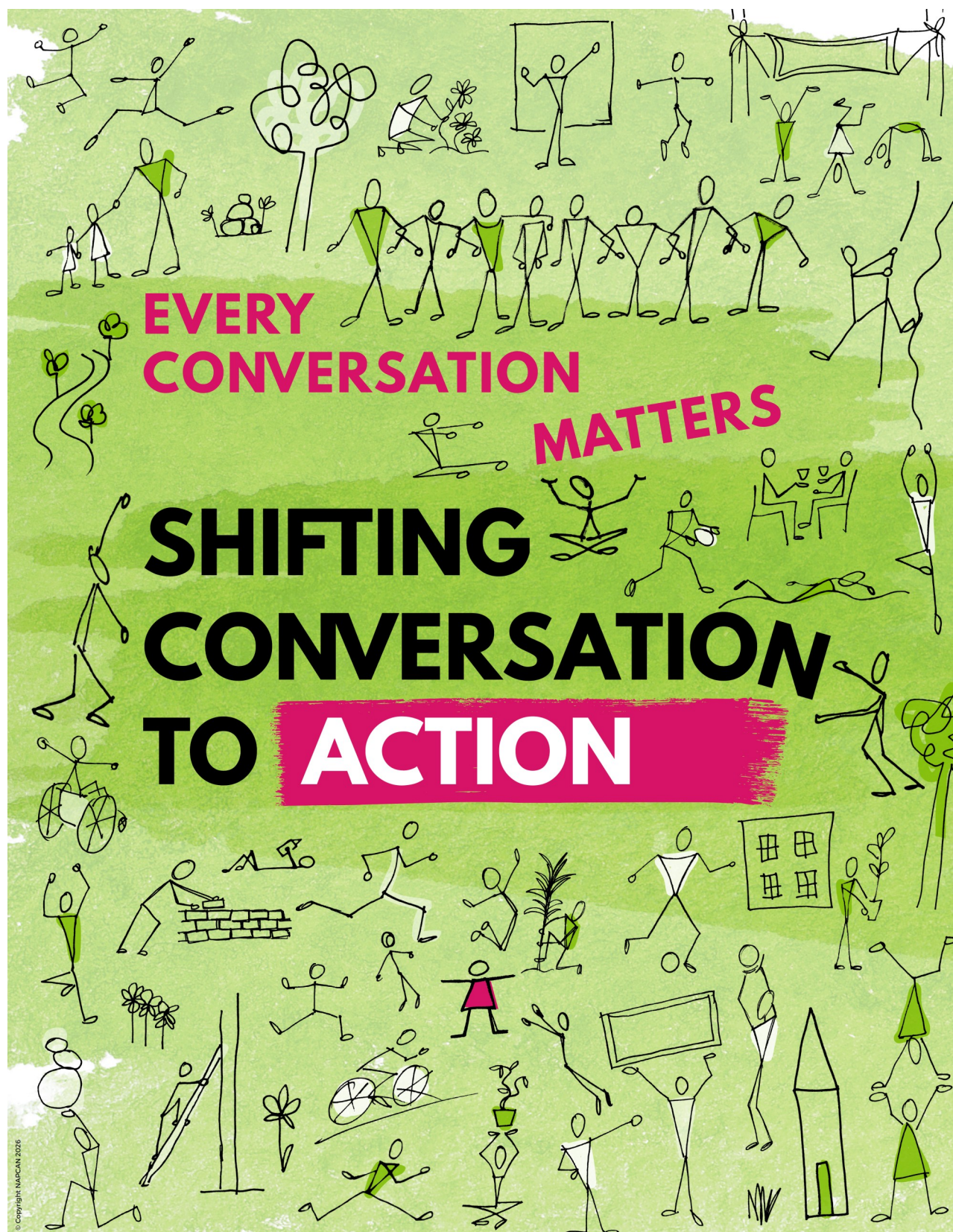


PRAYER FOR SYNOD

*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.*

NCPW is a national campaign that brings Australians together to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. It provides an opportunity to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect, share valuable resources, amplify children's voices, and encourage practical actions that support families and communities, and help prevent harm before it occurs.

NCPW reminds us that protecting children is everyone's responsibility - not just the role of specialists or government services. It encourages parents and carers, community leaders, service providers, policymakers, neighbours and young people to consider how our everyday actions and decisions can contribute to children's safety and wellbeing.



NEWS AND EVENTS



In preparation for the pending lease of St Peter's Church Hurstbridge to the Green Wedge Community Christian Church, we have recently sold all but four pews and the safe. With the money received, we have recently had the spouting around the church totally replaced, and the fascia boards, doors and window frames freshly painted.

In the near future, the downpipes will also be painted. Many thanks to a team of willing volunteers from the St Peter's community and also to Bandey's Roofing in Mernda, who looked after us very well.

Mass is still being held in the Church on the first Saturday evening every month, and the St Peter's community would love to see some new faces.

The Strategic Planning Committee



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

".... This week the Church begins to mark the Season of Creation, a special time of prayer for caring for creation within our Christian tradition. Many Christian churches have long featured prayer for creation in their liturgies, we mark 1st September as the Day of Prayer for Creation, and in 2019 Pope Francis encouraged the Catholic church to adopt this Season to highlight prayer for our earth and care for creation as an ongoing part of our faith, working together for the renewal of Creation. The Season of Creation runs from 1st September to 4th October, and reminds us of the gift of creation that we have inherited.

.... This year's theme, "Living Water", explores Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation. The symbol depicts water flowing from the Temple of God - at first a tiny stream that grows deeper, and deeper and as it does so, it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through living water comes healing; but in order to receive new life, we too must step into the water and become part of God's river of life, taking part in the healing of creation.

It is possible that when we think of the climate crisis, our hearts sink and we might feel overwhelmed, the number of challenges is so great, the stories so many, and we have our own struggles as well. But that is where making space to see God's presence in the smallest thing can bring great benefits. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis says "Nature is a magnificent book in which God speaks to us & grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness & praise." (*Laudato Si'*, 12)

.... It's not all roses however, echoing the gospel about conflict today – Pope Francis was quite realistic in his letter *Laudato Si'*, describing the problem of pollution as a pile of filth. He calls for caring for water, restoring biodiversity, challenging economies that have endless growth at the expense of the planet and humans, and fundamentally urges us to listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

..... What is our response, do we harden our hearts or do we see the invitation to reach out in love, for our neighbours, our children and future generations, to our brothers and sisters in communities across the world who suffer the brutal effects of climate change first-hand?

.... Today our readings speak to us of love and conflict, praise and concern, presence and absence, reconciliation and division; the whole of life is here! Jesus speaks very practically to the problem of disputes and conflict, he knows life is not perfect, but seeks to reassure us of his presence, concern and love for all involved. In fact, he reminds us of turning to him, to bring the matter together in prayer, because "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them".

[\(Extract By Róisín Alexander-Pye, Laudato Si Officer, Trócaire, from Homily Notes for each Sunday of the Season of Creation 2026, from the Irish Bishops Conference\).](#)

To mark the start of the Season of Creation, the Mass for the Care of Creation will be celebrated at Sacred Heart and St Mary's at the 9.15am morning Masses on Friday 4 September.

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 16 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.



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 20th 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

FRIENDSHIP GROUP ST MARY'S: Next meeting on Wednesday 9th of September from 12pm - 2.30.Ppm.

BYO Lunch, afternoon tea provided. Come have a chat and try your luck with Bingo. Book of 10 games \$5. Hope to see you join us. any queries call Geraldine **0438148896**.

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 & 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



Be informed, inspired and entertained

WEAVING FAITH FAMILY...

When You're Hanging on by a Thread!



Reflections & Suggestions for Your Busy Family
Eileen Marx

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 dinner table and provides simple steps to help children understand that family life and spiritual life can be one and the same.

Cloud.clz.com/247780



St Mary's Parish Library

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



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-Third Sunday Ordinary Time - Year A

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33.7-9

If you do not speak to warn the wicked, I will require their blood at your hand.

The word of the Lord came to me: “So you, O mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.

“If I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked ones, you shall surely die,’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand.

“But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 (R.7c+8a)

R. If today you hear God’s voice, harden not your hearts.

1. O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! **R.**
2. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me,
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. **R.**

SECOND READING

Romans 13.8-10

Love is the fulfilling of the law.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word,

“Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Corinthians 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 Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 18.15-20

If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

Jesus spoke to his disciples. “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone.

If the brother or sister listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If the brother or sister refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”