



"Though many we are one."
One in faith and one in the Gospel values
of hospitality and welcome, compassion and justice.

Parish Priest: Fr. Declan O'Brien
Priest in Residence: Fr. Abraham Kunnatholy
Deacon: Rev. George Piech Meat
Pastoral Associate: Mrs. Cate Kavanagh
Polish Chaplain: Fr Marian Szeptak SC
 Telephone: 9701 6071
Parish Secretary: Ms. Maria Evans
Finance Officer: Mr. Geoff Harkin
Gardener /Caretaker: Mr. Kevin J McLaren
Centre Manager: Ms Sue Findlay
 St. Mary's Parish: 160 Foster St, Dandenong
 Postal Address: PO Box 22, Dandenong 3175
 Telephone: 9791 4611 Fax: 9791 7119
 Email: dandenong@cam.org.au
 Website: www.stmarysdandenong.org

Parish Office Hours
 Monday: 9.15 to 12 noon
 Tue. Wed. Thurs. 9.15 to 4.15pm
 Friday: 9.15 to 3.00pm

If you urgently need a priest please call 9791 4611, if Father does not answer, please leave a message and he will call you back. The church will be closed on Mondays after the word and communion service and rosary.

Sunday Mass Times
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm
 English, 12.30pm Polish

Weekday Mass Times
Monday: Word and Communion Service 9.00am
Tuesday, Mass 9.15 am
Wednesday, Thursday: Mass 9.00am
Thursday: Mass at Cardinal Knox 11.00am
Friday: Word and Communion Service 8.00am Mass at 11.00am
Saturday: Word and Communion Service 9.00 am 10th Jan onwards Mass in Malayalam **Reconciliation:** 5 to 5.45pm Saturday or up-on request .

Baptism: Come to the 10.30am Mass on the second or fourth Sunday of the month and meet with Cate, to begin the reception process
Marriage: please book the Church at the same time as you book your venue.
 As marriage preparation is an essential condition of marriage, you must book your **preparation course** at least **4 months** prior to the wedding. Further details can be obtained from Fr. O'Brien

St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650
 New St, Dandenong: **Principal:** Mr. Greg White
St. John's Regional College Phone 9791 3366
 Caroline St, Dandenong:
Principal: Mr. Andrew Walsh
St. Mary's Community Centre 9792 4884
 New St, Dandenong: Download brochure from www.stmarysdandenong.org

If you are going to Hospital and would like to be anointed please call Fr Declan 9791 4611



There is to be **NO PARKING** outside designated parking bays. Please allow yourself plenty of time to use street parking. There must be access **AT ALL TIMES** to emergency services. Ambulance, Police or Fire Brigade. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

PROJECT **COMPASSION**

For those who look to us, we pray. May all people have access to the basic necessities of life so they can live lives in peace and dignity We pray to the Lord



From the desk of the Parish Priest..... Father D

John 3:14-21 Jesus meets Nicodemus

One night a well-intentioned Pharisee, Nicodemus, sought counsel from Jesus. Jesus responded openly, giving him key insights into his own identity and mission.

Jesus explained to Nicodemus that God had sent his only Son into the world so that the world might be saved. Everyone who believed in the Son – the light of the world – would enjoy eternal life. Those who lived by this truth would themselves be a light in the world, a light to others.

Our journey through Lent to Easter reminds us that Jesus, the light, has come into the world dispelling the darkness of evil and restoring broken lives. One example of the light of Jesus – and the transformation it brings – is a project in rural Nepal where, despite its natural beauty, many people are very poor, barely surviving by farming small plots of land. When Caritas Nepal, supported by Caritas Australia, initiated the Kolkatla Fish Raising Group eight years ago, one of the first to join was mother-of-three Sarita whose small farm was not producing enough to provide for her family.

Caritas Nepal gave the group of eight men and four women a low-interest loan, along with the training and equipment they needed to establish a successful business of raising and selling fish.

The group leased a natural pond on the northern side of their village, and with much hard work their business has grown to become one of the most successful enterprises supported by Caritas Nepal.

'The program has provided our family with good health and hope,' says Sarita. 'And it has become a platform for the unity and growth of the community.' Human growth and potential relies on adequate food for life.



Parish Lenten Prayer-Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7.00pm. Please see to Cate if you would like participate in the readings.

Would you please check your envelopes, we are looking for envelope numbers **375** and **265** that may have been picked up by mistake. Please call Maria 9791 4611 at the office or drop them back if you have them and you will be issued with the correct ones, thank you.

Please take home your new Thanksgiving Envelopes this weekend, help us save on postage, thank you.

R.C.I.A. We ask your prayers and support for **Everiste, John** and **Kisa** as they continue their formation in the Rite of Christian Initiation programme during the Sunday Mass under the faithful guidance of our RCIA team. Everiste, John and Kisa will receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4th at 8pm.



Thanks to all who signed up for ministries this year. All rosters are available in the foyer.

St Mary's Youth Group
 16 to 25 years Welcome
 6:30pm to 8:30pm
 15th March at Parish Meeting Room
 Food & Drinks provided

If any Parishioner would like their house to be blessed, please contact Maria at the Parish office 9791 4611 to make a booking with either Father Declan or Deacon George.



Year 7 2016 Late Enrolments
 St John's Regional College is accepting late enrolments for Year 7, 2016. Be sure to submit your application as soon as possible while there are still places available. All potential students **MUST** submit an enrolment application even if there are already siblings attending the College.



The Open Door Exploring Spirituality Today
 Bookings essential: Trish or Jo 9791 8664 110 Ann Street, Dandenong 3175

"The Earth Has Music for Those Who Listen" William Shakespeare
 Join us as we listen deeply to music and allow our souls to be nourished. This gentle process uses classical music, relaxation, an expression of our experience through drawing or writing and some small group sharing.
Some people prefer to lie on the floor for the music experience – please bring a rug and a cushion if you would like to do this
Details: March: 17 & 24 1.30-3pm. Suggested Donation: \$5

From the Desk of the Pastoral Associate...

Please have a browse on our notice board, here are a few items that may be of interest to you...

- ◆ **The Open Door Retreat Day 15th March**
- ◆ **Passionist Come Away Retreat Days**
- ◆ **Men's Shed**
- ◆ **God Rich in Mercy Prayer (at Fitzroy)**
- ◆ **Cultural Diversity Week in Dandenong**
- ◆ **The Open Door events calendar**
- ◆ **Wellsprings for Women Term 1 Programme**

The Regulars:

Daily Rosary after morning Mass (except Sunday)
Mondays:

Tuesdays: Centering prayer meditation at The Open Door, 7pm

1st Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Eucharist 11.30—3.00pm

2nd Wednesday: **CanCare** at Endeavour Hills**
3rd Wednesday Friendship Club

lunch at Dandenong RSL
4th Friday: 11.00am Anointing Mass
First Sunday Hospitality Sunday ~Cuppa's

Third Sunday Presentation of Baptism
 candidates at 10.30am Mass followed by Baptism preparation
Youth Group after 5.30 Mass
Fourth Sunday Baptism at 10.30 Mass

*The Open Door is part of the St John of God Ministries, 110 Ann Street Dandenong 9791 8664

** **CanCare** sponsored by St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills it is led by cancer survivors, and its members are all people who have been touched by cancer. All who have been touched by cancer are welcome. You don't have to be Catholic. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm at St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills Parish Centre. For more information call 97003781 during office hours.

This weekend we pray for

Recently Deceased: Fernando Gusmao Araujo

Anniversaries: Stella Collins, Barry Deworsop Catherine Cunningham,
Sick: Jeff Fisher, Marlene Frawley, Aileen Leahy, Jim Lynch, Marie Cotter, Shelley Campbell, Ryan Robinson, Anthony Tan, Col Cormick, Frank Pigott, David Morrison, Tyrone De Silva, Margaret Deegan, Max Lennox, Jenny Stivic, Ruth Caia, Michael Kelly,

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