

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY PARISH

INAUGURAL MASS

Saturday 20 June 2026

Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek

St Peter's, Hurstbridge

St Mary's, Greensborough

St Thomas the Apostle, Greensborough North

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting & Announcements Tim Holland

Welcome Cathy O'Brien

Entrance Procession: Come to the Feast

Procession: Cross bearer, server, students carrying banners from Sacred Heart Diamond Creek, St Mary's Greensborough, and St Thomas the Apostle Greensborough North, a member of Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council carrying copies of the Decree for Blessing, Readers, Clergy.

O, ev'ryone who thirsts: Come to the waters!
Here is an end to hunger: Come to the feast!
And ev'ryone who labours: Come to the waters!
All you who have no money: Come to the feast!

For this is life: the waters of the Jordan:
For this is life: the waters of your birth:
For this is life: the waters that renew you:
O come to the feast! O come to the feast!

O, ev'ryone who seeks: Come to the waters!
Hear me and share the riches: Come to the feast!
And ev'ryone who mourns: Come to the waters!
Now is an end of sadness: Come to the feast!

For this is life, the streams of joy and gladness:
For this is life: the rains that bring you joy:
For this is life: the waters that restore you:
O come to the feast! O come to the feast!

For this is life: to die and rise in Jesus:
For this is life: to share the life of Christ:
For this is life: the bread and wine of justice:
O come to the feast! O come to the feast!

Greeting Bishop Thin

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

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Bishop Thin Brothers and sisters, let us pause and become aware our sins,

Tim Holland: Lord Jesus, you come to make your home among us.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Tim Holland: Lord Jesus, you came that we may have life and have it in abundance. Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Tim Holland: Lord Jesus, now you come in word and sacrament to unite and walk with us. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria *(sung)*

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father. *(Refrain)*

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us. *(Refrain)*

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. Amen. *(Refrain)*

Collect Bishop Tinh

Lord,
fill this place with your presence,
and extend your hand upon our newly created
Parish of Our Lady of the Valley, formed out of the communities of
Sacred Heart, St Mary's, St Thomas' and St Peter's.
May your word here proclaimed
and your sacraments here celebrated in our new parish
strengthen the hearts of all the faithful.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading John Ellis

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (NJB) (*Acts 2:42-47*)

These remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

And everyone was filled with awe; the apostles worked many signs and miracles.

And all who shared the faith owned everything in common;

They sold their goods and possessions and distributed the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

Each day, with one heart, they regularly went to the Temple but met in their houses for the breaking of bread;

they shared their food gladly and generously;

they praised God and were looked up to by everyone.

Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Trusting Psalm (sung)

Lord, let your mercy be on us

as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithfulness and love.

This love can never be measured.

God's beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,

so let us place our trust in God.

Lord, let your mercy be on us

as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord means a patient, gentle God.

Whose love can never grow weary.

God's mercy is as though our sins have never been,

if we can place our trust in God.

Lord, let your mercy be on us

as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is fire burning strong

and love that never grows weary.
God will seek and save the lost until we all return,
so let us place our trust in God.

Second Reading Alison Pieper

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (NJB) *1 Cor 12:4-11*

There are many different gifts, but it is always the same Spirit;
there are many different ways of serving, but it is always the same Lord,
There are many different forms of activity, but in everybody it is the same
God who is at work in them all.

The particular manifestation of the Spirit granted to each one is to be
used for the general good.

To one is given from the Spirit granted to each one is to be used for the
general good.

To one is given from the Spirit the gift of utterance expressing wisdom;
to another the gift of utterance expressing knowledge, in accordance with
the same Spirit;

to another faith, from the same Spirit; and to another the gift of healing,
through this one Spirit;

to another the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, the
power of distinguishing spirits;

to one, the gift of different tongues and to another, the interpretation of
tongues.

But at work in all these is one and the same Spirit, distributing them at
will to each individual.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *(sung)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts O Lord to listen to the words of your Son

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Father Steven

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (NJB)

(John 2: 1-10)

On the third day there was wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited.

And they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the feast had all been used, and the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'

Jesus said, 'Woman, what do you want from me? My hour has not come yet.'

His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

There were six stone water jars standing there meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim.

Then he said to them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the president of the feast'

They did this; the president tasted the water, and it had turned into wine.

Having no idea where it came from – though the servants who had drawn the water knew – the president of the feast called the bridegroom

And said, 'Everyone serves good wine first and the worse wine when the guests are well wined; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of Jesus' signs; it was at Cana in Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily Bishop Tinh

Profession of Faith

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Kavisha, Daniel and Stephanie

Bishop Thinh: Brothers and sisters,
gathered as one family in Christ, we give thanks for the
gift of our new parish. With hearts full of hope, let us
bring our prayers before God, who calls us to be His
people and to share His love with the world.

Kavisha: We pray that our new parish may be a living sign of Christ's
presence - a place of welcome, prayer and service - where all
may encounter the love of God

(pause)

Lord, hear us,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Kavisha: We pray for our priests, leaders, parishioners and all who
serve in ministry: that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit,
strengthened in faith, and filled with compassion for all.

(pause)

Lord, hear us,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Kavisha: We pray for the communities of Sacred Heart and St Peter's,
St Mary's and St Thomas' as we become one family in faith,
unity, hope and love under the patronage of Our Lady of the
Valley.

(pause)

Lord, hear us,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Daniel: We pray for our parish school communities. May our journey
of faith be united, allowing us to support each other with
generosity and hope, as one family in Christ.

(pause)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Daniel: We pray for our former parishioners who generously used their Spirit-given gifts and expertise laying the foundations from which we have all benefitted.

(pause)

Lord, hear us,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Daniel: We pray that our parish may be a light in the community, promoting justice, peace and care for creation, and offering friendship to the lonely and support to the vulnerable.

(pause)

Lord, hear us,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Stephanie: We pray for all who are sick, that they be given the strength to cope in the week ahead.

(pause)

Lord, hear us,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Stephanie: We pray for those who have died especially for the priests, religious sisters, lay leaders and volunteers from our communities over the years and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time ...

(pause)

Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Bishop Think: Loving God,
you have called us together as your people in this new parish.
Hear our prayers, bless our beginnings and guide us always in your ways.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

LITURGY OF EUCHARIST

Procession of the Gifts: Lilian Hobson and Geraldine Conroy

Preparation of the Offerings

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received
the bread we offer you:
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received
the wine we offer you:
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, accept the gifts of a rejoicing Church.
May your people,
who are gathered in this sacred place,
arrive at eternal salvation
through the mysteries in which they share.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer over the Offerings

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good,
and the good of all his holy Church.**

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

Father of holiness and power,
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ, your Son.

For you have blessed this work of our hands
and your presence makes it a house of prayer;
nor do you ever refuse us welcome
when we come in before you as your pilgrim people.

In this house you realise the mystery of your dwelling among us:
for in shaping us here as your holy temple
you enrich your whole Church,
which is the very body of Christ,
and thus bring closer to fulfilment
the vision of your peace,
the heavenly city of Jerusalem.

And so, with all your angels and saints,
who stand in your temple of glory,
we praise you and give you thanks, as we sing:

Holy *(sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer II

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,
the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,
so that they may become for us
the Body and + Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed
and entered willingly into his Passion,
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and eat of it,
for this is my **Body**,
which will be given up for you.

In a similar way, when supper was ended,
he took the chalice
and, once more giving thanks,
he gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it,
for this is the chalice of my **Blood**,
the **Blood** of the new and eternal covenant
which will be poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in memory of me.

The mystery of faith.

(sung) **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,
we offer you, Lord,
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,
giving thanks that you have held us worthy
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

CC₁

Remember, Lord, your Church,
spread throughout the world,
and bring her to the fullness of charity,
together with Leo our Pope, Peter our Archbishop and Thinh our Regional
Bishop and all the clergy.

CC₂

Remember also our brothers and sisters
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,
and all who have died in your mercy:
welcome them into the light of your face.

CC₃

Have mercy on us all, we pray,
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,
with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,
with the blessed Apostles, St. Peter, St. Thomas the Apostle, Mary
Mackillop and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages,
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,
and may praise and glorify you
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

CC_s

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

Amen *(sung)*

Amen, amen, amen!
Amen, amen, amen!

The Communion Rite

Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Sign of Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.
May the Blood of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Communion Song Table of Plenty

Refrain

Come to the feast of heaven and earth!
Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need,
Here at the table of plenty.

O, come and sit at my table
Where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
to share the cup of my love. *(Refrain)*

O, come and eat without money;
Come and drink without price.
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit
with faith and fullness of life. *(Refrain)*

My bread will ever sustain you
through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness
To flood the depths of your soul. *(Refrain)*

Communion Song Do This In Memory of Me

We gather all to hear Your Word
like Jesus showed us
We learn to follow in Your way
like Jesus showed us.

Chorus:

Do this do this do this in memory of me
Do this do this do this in memory of me

We break this bread for all to share
like Jesus showed us
The bread of life to nourish us
like Jesus showed us. *(Chorus)*

We share this cup of wine for all
like Jesus showed us
We celebrate God's greatest gift
like Jesus showed us. *(Chorus)*

We are one body we are one
like Jesus showed us
Together as one we celebrate
like Jesus showed us. *(Chorus)*

Prayer after Communion Bishop Thinh

Let us pray.

Lord,
through these gifts
increase the vision of your truth in our minds.
May we always worship you in the churches of our new parish
and rejoice in your presence with all your saints.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Photo Montage

Address Father Steven

Fr Steven addresses the Assembly.

Following the address, Fr Steven invites everyone to sit and calls Cathy O'Brien to come forward. He also calls Tim Holland, Lino Armiento, Elizabeth Whiting and Rosy Nicolaisen to come forward, representing the four church communities, to collect a Decree from the Seasonal Chapel and stand in front of altar.

Blessing of Decree

*PPPC chairperson reads an extract from the Decree.
After the reading, all present give their assent by responding: Thanks be to God.*

Speaker Cathy O'Brien

In the Decree, Archbishop Comensoli writes:

“That the Parishes of Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek, Immaculate Conception, Greensborough and St Thomas the Apostle, Greensborough North be merged together. I decree that from this extinctive union (merger) of Sacred Heart, Diamond Creek, Immaculate Conception, Greensborough and St Thomas the Apostle Greensborough North, the PARISH OF OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY is established with all the rights, obligations and privileges accorded to it by law.” (8)

“The Second Vatican Council proclaimed that ‘the parish offers an outstanding example of community apostolate, for it gathers into a unity all the human diversities that are found there and inserts them in the universality of the Church.’ I pray that these arrangements that I have decreed will be a rich opportunity for the parishioners of the Parish of Our Lady of the Valley to renew their commitment to the Lord, and to building up his Church. I invoke the blessings of Almighty God on the priests and parishioners of this parish.” (17)

Acclamation

Parishioners indicate their consent saying
Thanks Be to God.

Prayer of Blessing Bishop Thinh

Ever-living God, you gather us together as the
Parish of Our Lady of the Valley
to carry the Gospel of Christ to all people.
Bless the members of these communities of Sacred Heart, St Peter’s,
St Mary’s and St Thomas the Apostle.
Let your Spirit enlighten their minds
and guide all their actions
that they may be renewed in faith,
united in love,
and bring to fulfilment the work of your Church
to your greater honour and glory.

My dear friends let us pause and pray to God our Father
who binds us together in the Holy Spirit
that we may grow in Christ
and give witness to the presence of Christ by lives
manifesting faith, hope and love.

(Pause for silent prayer)

Prayer of Blessing Bishop Thin

Lord God,
in your loving kindness
You sent your Son to be our shepherd and guide
+ Bless these Decrees and the people of this new Parish.
Let your Spirit uphold your people always
and sustain them as they grow in unity.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

Dismissal Bishop Thin

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

The Lord of earth and heaven
has assembled you before him this day
to dedicate this new of parish of Our Lady of the Valley
as communities of prayer and worship.
May he fill you with the blessings of heaven.
Amen.

God the Father wills that all his children
scattered through the world
become one family in his Son.
May he make you his temple,
Amen.

May God free you from every bond of sin,
dwell within you and give you joy.
May you live with him for ever
in the company of all his saints.
Amen.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn Bring Forth the Kingdom

You are salt for the earth, O people:
Salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavour of life, O people:
Life in the Kingdom of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people:
Light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people:
Shine for the Kingdom of God! *(Refrain)*

You are a seed of the Word, O people:
Bring forth the Kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
Grow in the Kingdom of God! *(Refrain)*

We are a blest and a pilgrim people:
Bound for the Kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland:
Love is the Kingdom of God! *(Refrain)*

Procession: Cross bearer, server with cross stand, Decree carriers, Clergy.

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