

SUNDAY MASSES TIMES

Sat. 6 p.m. Vigil St Stephen's
Sun. 8:30 a.m. (It. & Eng.) St Gabriel's
10 a.m. St Stephen's
St Gabriel's

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

(Confessions)

St Gabriel's

Sat. at 9:45 a.m.

St Stephen's

Sat. at 5:30 p.m.

BAPTISMS

by prior arrangement

St Gabriel's

1st & 3rd Sundays of the month at 11:30 a.m.

St Stephen's

by prior arrangement

MARRIAGES

by prior arrangement

(at least six months notice is required.)

No Sunday weddings.)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

(this week)

ST GABRIEL'S Mon., Thurs., Fri. at 9 a.m.

ST STEPHEN'S: Mass Wed. at 9:30 a.m.
No Mass Keon Park Thurs. at 11a.m.

FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

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Mon. St Monica **No Mass**

Tues. St Augustine, *bishop, doctor*
Intention:

Wed. The Passion of St John the Baptist
Intention:

Thurs. 21st Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Fri. 21st Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Sat. 21st Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**



The Partnered Parishes of
St. Gabriel, Reservoir
and
St Stephen of Hungary, East Reservoir

Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Hctor



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 26.08.2018 -
21a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario

St Gabriel's
1 Viola Street, Reservoir 3073

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Email: reservoir@cam.org.au
Website: www.stgabrielsreservoir.org

Parish Secretaries:

Mrs Gracie Forde
Mr Hung Chau

Office Hours:

Mon. & Tues. 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m.—3 p.m.

School:

237 Spring Street, Reservoir

Ph: 9469 3513
Email: principal@sgreservoir.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Mark Miatello
Secretary: Mrs Enza Torcasio

St Stephen's
71 Whitelaw Street, Reservoir East, 3073

Ph: 9460 7266
Fax: 9460 7650
Email: reservoir@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Gracie Forde

Office Hours:

Please contact St Gabriel's Parish Office for all enquiries until further notice.

School:

71 Whitelaw Street, Reservoir East

Ph: 9460 3566
Fax: 9462 3404
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Principal: Mr Richard Keele
Secretary: Mrs Gracie Forde

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; At Shechem, in central Israel, the assembled people formally renew the covenant and profess total loyalty to the Lord.

Psalm Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32; Paul urges that the relationships within marriage should reflect the love that Christ has for his Church.

Gospel Acc: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Your words, Lord are spirit and life:
You have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: John 6:60-69 Some disciples reject Jesus' teaching, but Peter, spokes man for the Twelve, boldly declares: "Jesus, who (apart from you) shall we go to?"



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time—22 Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Parishes of St Gabriel, Reservoir and St Stephen, East Reservoir, are committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the 2001 legislation of the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments. A copy of the Parishes' Privacy Policy is available to any Parishioner by contacting the respective Parish Offices.

Today's first reading from Joshua reminds us of the Old Testament framework that has provided the background for the meditation in John's gospel on the Eucharistic mystery. Joshua assembles 'all the tribes of Israel'. Their long journey to the Promised Land has united them; but as they now begin life in their new land they must declare their loyalty to the Lord, who has cared for them despite their constant rebellion and complaints. Some among 'the followers of Jesus' find the faith he is offering them 'intolerable'. Aware of their 'complaining', he is again insistent, telling them that their faith will be asked to accept far more than this – when his Paschal Mystery is realised: 'It is the Spirit that gives life', he tells them, recalling his words to Nicodemus, when he told him that we must be 'born from above, from the Spirit' if we are to find faith in him: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man'.

The violent language and the dramatic and tragic outcome of this exchange – 'many of his disciples went away and accompanied him no more' - make it clear to us that this meditation is a response to disputes which are threatening to divide the community which gave us this gospel.

We know from the other gospels that Peter speaks in the name of the disciples of Jesus, in confessing that Jesus is the messiah through whom Israel's hopes will be fulfilled. The hesitation of the waverers is countered finally by Peter's confession. His words have sustained the Church in its Eucharistic life down through the centuries: "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life; you are the Holy One of God".

The Eucharist is the sacrament that makes present and active in our midst the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. In the passage with which we conclude our readings from the letter to the Ephesians we see how central our sacramental sharing in the Paschal Mystery was for the communities cared for by St Paul. (The structure of the family in contemporary society is taken for granted in this exhortation – something which should not distract us from the deep truths expressed in this text.) The Ephesians are urged to live their family life inspired by the unselfish example of Christ. In the 'mystery' realised in Christ's death and resurrection, the Lord has united believers to himself in a union so intimate and personal that it may be compared to the marital union – through this union the Saviour and his Church become 'one body'. He is a loving Bridegroom who cares for his Bride, especially through the great sacraments, Baptism and the Eucharist: he 'washes her with a form of words'; and he 'feeds' the Church and sustains it.

John Thornhill s m

GENERAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, NEWS & HUMOUR

SAINT GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP— Auditions for "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" will be held in St. Gabriel's Hall **TODAY** at 6 p.m. All ages and abilities welcome. Our attitude is "If you walk in the door - you're in the show"!! Rehearsals continue each Sunday evening from 6-8:30 p.m. until performances in the last week of November. Find us on Facebook or call Judy 0488580145.

ORGAN RECITAL AFTER 10 A.M. MASS TODAY with Colin Jenkins. This short recital will be followed by a light lunch in the Bethany Room. Cost: Free.

RCIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE - Evangelisation and the RCIA, Melbourne 11-13 October 2018, Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne. A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR PARISH TO ENLIVEN YOUR RCIA TEAM OR SET UP A NEW ONE. Keynote Speakers: Shane Dwyer- Director National Centre for Evangelisation; Dr Elio Capra SDB- Catholic Theological College; Louise Campbell- Director National Liturgy Office, New Zealand. For more information go to: <http://www.cianetwork.net> or email: treasurer-cianetwork@outlook.com Places are limited and can now be secured through Trybooking.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 – Listen to what the Spirit is saying. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

THEOLOGY @ THE PUB—Join Simon Carrington who will present 'How to get the most out of Mass'. Simon has been active in youth ministry for several years, with a passionate focus on St Pope John Paul II's theology of the body, apologetics and evangelisation. Monday 3 Sept., dinner and drinks from 6.30pm, talk commences at 7.30 p.m., European Bier Cafe, Rooftop Bar, 120 Exhibition Street, Melbourne Web: <https://www.theologyatthepub.com.au/>

THE SENATE has decided to debate the Restoring Territory Rights (Assisted Suicide Legislation) Bill 2015 on 14, 15 and 16 August, to allow territories the right to make laws on euthanasia. If the bill passes, it will effectively mean euthanasia will be legalised in the ACT and perhaps also in the Northern Territory. **Write to senators to oppose euthanasia.** TODAY and ask them to protect vulnerable people by voting against the Bill. Visit the HOPE website to send your message <http://www.noethanasia.org.au/sign>

A VOCATION VIEW: Jesus, teach us about life everlasting: "Your words Lord are spirit and life ..." It is this that gives us hope when we despair, a way of living when we stray from God's way. "The words I have spoken are spirit and they are life." It is God's words that we need to hear to lift our spirit and give life. Pray for vocations.



Dates for your Diary

Sun. 26 August

National Day for Migrants and Refugees
Auditions for 2018 St Gabriel's Theatre Group
Production at 6 p.m. Parish/School Hall Viola Street

Sun. 2 September

Father's Day and Priests Retirement Collection

Continuing the catecheses on the Commandments, today we reflect on the Commandment "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" (Exodus 20:7). We rightly read this Word as an invitation not to offend God's name and to avoid using it inopportune. This clear meaning prepares us to reflect further on these precious words, of not using the name of God in vain—inopportune. Let us listen to them better. The version "You shall not take" translates an expression that means literally, in Hebrew and in Greek, "Do not take upon yourself, do not bear." The expression "in vain" is clearer and it means: "void, vainly." It refers to an empty shell, to a form deprived of content. It's the characteristic of hypocrisy, of formalism and of lies, of using words or using the name of God, but emptily, without truth.

A name in the Bible is the profound truth of things and especially of people. A name often represents a mission. For instance: Abraham in Genesis (Cf. 17:5) and Simon Peter in the Gospels (Cf. John 1:42) received a new name to point out the change of direction of their life. And to truly know the name of God leads to the transformation of one's life: from the moment Moses knows the name of God his story changes (Cf. Exodus 3:13-15).

In the Hebrew rites, the name of God is proclaimed solemnly on the Day of the Great Pardon, and the people are forgiven because, through the name, one is in contact with very life of God, who is mercy.

So "to take upon yourself the name of God" means to assume upon ourselves His reality, to enter into an intense relationship, into a close relationship with Him. For us Christians, this Commandment is a reminder to remember that we are baptized "in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit," as we affirm every time we make the sign of the cross on ourselves, to live our daily action in heartfelt and real communion with God, namely, in His love. And on this <question>, of making the sign of the cross, I would like to confirm once again: teach the children to make the sign of the cross. Have you seen how children make it? Children are told: "Make the sign of the cross," and they do something that they don't know what it is. They don't know how to make the sign of the cross! Teach them to make it in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. It's a child's first act of faith. It's a task for you, a task to do: to teach children to make the sign of the cross.

We can ask ourselves: is it possible to take upon oneself the name of God in a hypocritical way, as a formality, in a

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A man in his early sixties made an appointment with his GP. He said to the doctor, "My right knee is very painful, I can hardly put any weight on it." The doctor thoroughly examined the knee and replied, "It's nothing serious, just the result of old age." The man protested, "I cannot accept that diagnosis." The GP replied, "Why?" The man responded, "I have another knee which is perfectly fine, and they are both the same age!"

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 1 / 2 SEPTEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. L. Ferronato / B. Harris
H. Nowak / L. Lilburne / M. Garcia
8:30 a.m. P. Maucerie / C. Carnovale

PLEASE NOTE that the Wednesday Morning Mass at St Stephen's will be at **9:30 a.m.**

ST STEPHEN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS - 'EVERY DAY IS OPEN DAY' — If you know of any family who has a child ready to start School in 2019 please let them know and encourage them to visit the school.

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vacuum? Unfortunately, the answer is positive: yes, it's possible. One can live a false relationship with God. Jesus said it of those Doctors of the Law; they did things, but they didn't do what God wanted. They talked about God, but they didn't do the Will of God. And the counsel that Jesus gives is: "Do what they say, but not what they do." One can live a false relationship with God, as those people. And this Word of the Decalogue is in fact an invitation to a relationship with God that isn't false, <that is> without hypocrisy, a relationship in which we entrust ourselves to Him with all that we are. At the end, until the day in which we don't risk existence with the Lord, experiencing that life is found in Him, we only engage in theories.

This is the Christianity that touches hearts. Why are Saints so able to touch hearts? Because Saints don't just talk but move! Our heart is moved when a holy person speaks to us, says things to us. And they are able, because in the Saints we see what our heart profoundly desires: authenticity, true relationships, <and> radicalism. And this is also seen in those "next-door saints: who are, for instance, the many parents that give their children the example of a coherent, simple, honest and generous life.

If Christians are multiplied who taken upon themselves the name of God without falsity — thus practicing the first question of the Our Father, "hallowed be your name" — the proclamation of the Church is more heeded and more credible. 444If our concrete life manifests the name of God, we see how beautiful Baptism is and what a great gift the Eucharist is! — as the sublime union there is between our body and the Body of Christ: Christ in us and we in Him! United! This isn't hypocrisy; this is truth. This isn't to speak or pray as a parrot, this is to pray with the heart, to love the Lord.

From the Cross of Christ and thereafter, no one can be scornful of himself and think badly of his existence — no one and never! No matter what we have done, because the name of each one of us is on Christ's shoulders, He carries us! It's worthwhile to take the name of God upon ourselves because He has taken charge of our name until the end, also of the evil that is in us. He has taken charge of it to forgive us, to put His love in our heart. Therefore in the Commandment God proclaims: "take Me upon yourself, because I have taken you upon myself."

Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience 22 August

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$262

Presbytery: \$218

Thanksgiving Collection is the 'life-blood' of the parish because it is regular income. Consider joining and showing your support!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues on 30 August.



NEW MEMBERS TO THE THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN are welcome. **SOME VISITORS or PARISHIONERS** may wish to make a contribution to the Parish Offering but without signing up to the envelope system. Please use the envelopes marked **PARISH OFFERING ST GABRIEL'S RESERVOIR**.

John Giddens retired from the St Gabriel's Finance Committee in March of this year. We thank him for his many years of loyal and dedicated service, not just to the Finance Committee but in the credit union and in so many ways in Parish Life. I am most grateful for John's guidance, wise judgement and considered advice. We wish both John and Shirley every blessing for the future.

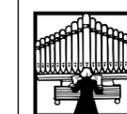
Fr Shane Hocter

IN PREPARATION for the Parishes' Renewal Programme in October you are invited at Masses this weekend to complete a census card if you have not already done so. Thank you!!

May they rest in peace

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jack Romeril, Bernardina Valentino (*in Italy*), Fr Joseph Dargan PE, Fr Tom Brophy PE

ANNIVERSARIES:



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance: CWB 586
Psalm Response: CWB 332 (*old edition*)
Gospel Acclamation: CWB 43
Prep. Of Gifts: CWB 549
Communion: CWB 651

Final Hymn: CWB 494

Ordinary: Shalom

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$802

Weekly Average
as at 30.9.17 \$1022

Presbytery Envelopes: \$360

Loose: \$315

***Join the campaign! Know the joy of giving and spreading the Good News!**