

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 Tues., 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. 23rd Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

Tues. 23rd Week of Ordinary Time
Intention: Mario Scarmozzino

Wed. 23rd Week of Ordinary Time
Intention: Moira Mullan—Birthday

Thurs. St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor
Intention:

Fri. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Intention:

Sat. Our Lady of Sorrows
Intention: **No Mass**



The Partnered Parishes of
St. Gabriel, Reservoir
and
St Stephen of Hungary, East Reservoir
Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Hctor



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 09.09.2018 -
23a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario

St Gabriel's
1 Viola Street, Reservoir 3073

Ph: 9460 6036
Fax: 9460 4771
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
Email: principal@ssreservoir.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Richard Keele
Secretary: Mrs Gracie Forde

Our readings from the Gospel of Mark make us aware of the way in which this gospel makes use of material concerning the life of Jesus – perhaps supplied in part by the apostle Peter. While he allows the events speak for themselves, Mark's presentation points to implications he wishes to emphasise. Today's reading concerns the healing of a deaf man with a speech impediment. While the healing and the wonder it provoked are described in detail, the fact that Jesus 'ordered them to tell no one' is again emphasised. Mark is maintaining a delicate balance: Jesus was truly a miraculous healer, but Mark wants those who hear the gospel to look beyond this fact to the nature of the mysterious mission Jesus has received from his Father, as the messiah who 'must suffer'.

'Be opened!' These dramatic words of Jesus are the climax of the story. In Mark's text, the Galilean mission of Jesus has ended with rejection by those of his 'home town'. Mark begins his account of the cure by describing the strange route taken by Jesus - through pagan territories – probably pointing to the infant Church's mission to the gentiles and the openness with which that mission to preach the gospel truth was received. We too are invited to reflect upon the importance of openness, and to acknowledge the many ways in which we can be more open to God's call to the fullness of life. For Mark, life and joy will be found by those who become true disciples of the Crucified One, and so enter with him into his glory.

The second reading, from the Letter of James, brings this whole program down to earth. Let us be open and generous to those around us, and not imprisoned in our selfish outlooks, 'making distinctions between classes of people'. Who is not moved to reflect upon assumptions taken for granted, when confronted by the simple example of the 'beautifully dressed' person and the poor person 'in shabby clothes'? But for James this is more than a moral story; it is a story about discipleship – learning, in the company of Jesus, to identify with the ways of God: 'those who are poor according to the world God chose to be rich in faith and to be heirs to the kingdom'.

The first reading from Isaiah – describing the liberating ways of God – comes from the final pages of the first part of the Isaian tradition. It is taken from a passage that proclaims the magnificent future God has in store for Israel. The confidence of the Prophets expectations is amazing – in the continuation of the passage, he foresees God's people 'shouting for joy, their heads crowned with joy unending. We can rejoice, with James, that we know already the mysterious intimations of that future. We are challenged by the prophet's confidence, to become a Church giving the vital witness our troubled world needs, if that world to find hope by being 'open' to God's future.

John Thornhill s m

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Isaiah 35:4-7* *The prophet Isaiah says, "Courage, do not be afraid!" The Lord is coming to save us.*

Psalm Response: **Praise the Lord, my soul!**

Second Reading: *James 2:1-5* *James calls us to be careful not to turn ourselves into judges, judging incorrectly between the rich and the poor.*

Gospel Acc: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: *Mark 7:31-37* Jesus makes the deaf man hear and speak clearly. The people are full of admiration and say, "He has done all things well."



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time—24a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
Isaiah 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

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.

GENERAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, NEWS & HUMOUR

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. 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



Are you a mechanic with a mission? All skills needed! Could you make a wheel difference mentoring local me-

Palms Australia mechanics in Myanmar? Contact Christine on 02 9560 5333. For more mission opportunities, visit palms.org.au/volunteer Can't commit just yet? Check out palms.org.au/encounters

ST MARGARET'S RETIREMENT VILLAGE—currently has one and two bedroom units available. The prices start from \$222,000. If you are interested or have any queries please call Erin on 8414 6000.

ST PADRE PIO'S RELICS TO MELBOURNE—In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Saint Padre Pio's death, some of his relics, accompanied by Fr Gian Maria Di Giorgio from San Giovanni Rotondo Italy, are traveling to Melbourne this month. A public veneration will take place before and after the 10.30am Italian Mass and 12.00pm English. Sun. 30 Sept. at Capuchin Friars St Anthony's Shrine, 182 Power Street, Hawthorn Enquiries: (03) 9819 3775.

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGIUM CHOIR - The St Joseph's Collegium Chamber Choir of young singers will be singing liturgical music from the 16th century to the present day, directed by Anthony Halliday. Sat. 6 October, 6 p.m. St Joseph's Church, corner Melville Road and Hope Street, West Brunswick

MGL SISTERS WEEKEND—The MGL Sisters invite young women to a weekend of talks, sharing, prayer, sisterhood and more to help you discern your vocation and to learn a little more about the life of the MGL Sisters. Saturday 15 to Sunday 16 September, 6 Dunstan Street, North Balwyn Details: melanieedwards77@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF SORROWS AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH—There will be Servite Rosary, holy Mass, procession and Solemn Benediction. Held on the Feast Day of Mater Dolorosa. Saturday 15 September, 2.30 p.m. St Brigid's Church, corner Nicholson Street and Alexandra Parade, North Fitzroy Details: 9347 8191

A VOCATION VIEW: *Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom? Chosen to be rich in faith. So take heart, be not afraid, consider your part in God's kingdom.*



Dates for your Diary

Sun. 9 September
Child Protection Sunday
Sun. 16 September
Social Services Sunday

The journey through the Decalogue takes us today to the Commandment on the day of rest. It seems to be a commandment easy to fulfil, however, it's an erroneous impression. To truly rest isn't simple, because there is false rest and true rest. How to recognize them?

Today's society is thirsty for amusements and vacations. The industry of entertainment is flourishing and advertising designs the ideal world as a great games park where all our entertained. The concept of life dominating today doesn't have its center of gravity in activity and commitment but in evasion. Earn to have a good time, to be satisfied. The model-image is that of a successful person who can allow himself ample and diverse areas of pleasure. However, this mentality makes one slide to the dissatisfaction of an existence anesthetized by amusement that isn't rest, but alienation and flight from reality. Man has never rested as much as today, yet man has never experienced so much emptiness as today! The possibility of having a good time, of going out, cruises, trips, so many things don't give one fullness of heart. What's more, they don't give one rest.

The words of the Decalogue seek and find the heart of the problem, casting a different light on what rest is. The Commandment has a peculiar element: it gives a motivation. Rest in the name of the Lord has a specific motive: "For in six days the Lord made Heaven and earth, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it" (*Exodus 20:11*).

This refers to the end of Creation, when God says: "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good" (*Genesis 1:31*). And then the day of rest began, which is God's joy for all He created. It's the day of contemplation and of blessing.

Therefore, what is rest according to this Commandment? It's the moment of contemplation; it's the moment of praise, not of evasion. It's the time to look at reality and say: how beautiful life is! To rest as flight from reality, the Decalogue opposes rest as blessing of reality. For us Christians, the center of the Lord's day, Sunday, is the Eucharist, which means "thanksgiving." It's the day to say to God: thank you, Lord, for life, for your mercy, for all your gifts. Sunday isn't the day to cancel the other days but to recall them, bless them and make peace with life. How many people who have so many possibilities to amuse themselves, don't live in peace with life! Sunday is the day to make peace with life, saying: life is precious: it's not easy, sometimes it's painful, but it's precious. To be introduced in genuine rest is a work of God in us, but it

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A thief was on trial for stealing a woman's purse. The woman walked into the court room and immediately began pointing angrily at the thief. "That's him!" she yelled. "That's him! That's the man who stole my purse! I saw him clear as day. I would remember that face anywhere." The thief rolled his eyes and shouted back to the woman, "You didn't even see my face, lady, I was wearing a mask!"

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 15 / 16 SEPTEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. L. Lilburne / J. Lilburne
J. Callegari / O. Callegari

8:30 a.m. L. Scardamaglia / V. Divita

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.

PLEASE NOTE the new address for Fr Brian McMahon PE: Justin Villa, Room 3, 2 Caravan St., Balwyn, 3103. Phone: 9816 0133

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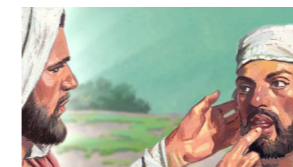
requires removing oneself from malediction and from its fascination (Cf. Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, 83). To bow the heart to unhappiness, in fact, stressing reasons for discontent is very easy. Blessing and joy imply openness to the good, which is an adult movement of the heart. The good is loving and never imposes itself. It's chosen. Peace is chosen; it can't be imposed and isn't found by chance. Distancing himself from the bitter crevices of his heart, man is in need of making peace with that from which he flees. It's necessary to reconcile oneself with one's history, with the facts that aren't accepted, with the difficult parts of one's existence. I ask you: has each one of you been reconciled with his/her history? A question to think about: have I reconciled myself with my history? True peace, in fact, isn't to change one's history but to accept it and value it, as it has been.

How many times we have met sick Christians who have consoled us with a serenity that isn't found in pleasure-seekers and in hedonists! And we have seen humble and poor people rejoice over small graces with a happiness that knew of eternity.

The Lord says in *Deuteronomy*: "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore, choose life, that you and your descendants may live" (30:19). This choice is the Virgin Mary's "fiat", it's openness to the Holy Spirit, who puts us in the steps of Christ, He who entrusts himself to the Father in the most dramatic moment and thus enters the way that leads to resurrection.

When does life become beautiful? When one begins to think well of it, no matter what our history is. When the gift of a doubt makes way <to> that which all is grace.^[1] and that holy thought crumbles the interior wall of dissatisfaction inaugurating genuine rest. Life becomes beautiful when the heart opens to Providence and one truly discovers what the *Psalms* says: "For God alone my soul waits in silence" (62:1). This phrase of the *Psalms* is beautiful: "For God alone my soul waits in silence."

Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience 05 September



COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$383

Presbytery: \$314

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 20 September.

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.**



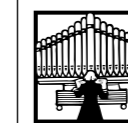
A Prayer in Time of Drought

O God, Lord of all creation,
by whose power the whole earth came to be,
look upon our parched land, we pray,
and bestow upon it abundant rain,
that pastures, fields and paddocks
may by your goodness thrive once more.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May they rest in peace

RECENTLY DECEASED: Betty Ellis, Antonietta Amato, Graham (Charlie) Pertzelt,

ANNIVERSARIES: Renato Antonio Bernar (10 a.m. Mass), Mario Scarmozzino,



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance: CWB 588
Psalm Response: CWB 416 (old edition)
Gospel Acclamation: CWB 43
Prep. Of Gifts: CWB 512
Communion: CWB 470

Final Hymn: CWB 394

Ordinary: Shalom

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$818

*Weekly Average
as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

Presbytery Envelopes: \$395

Loose: \$363 Retirement Fund: \$1214

***Join the campaign! Know the joy of giving**