

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.
Mass Keon Park Thurs. at 11a.m.

FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

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Mon. 24th Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

Tues. 24th Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Wed. 24th Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Thurs. Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, *priest, martyr*
Intention:

Fri. St Matthew, *apostle, evangelist*
Intention:

Sat. 24th Week of Ordinary Time
Intention: **No Mass**



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



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 16.09.2018 -
24a 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
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Principal: Mr Richard Keele
Secretary: Mrs Gracie Forde

Today's reading from Mark is the climax to which his presentation of the life of Jesus to this point has been leading. The mission of Jesus has been rejected and misunderstood. It is essential to God's designs that the disciples of Jesus do not misunderstand the mission that has brought the Son forth from the Father to bring healing to a lost world.

The 'who' question is central to our human existence: 'Who are you, my companion on the journey of life?' 'Who am I?' These questions, if we face their implications, confront us with the depths and mystery of our common humanity. Jesus called himself, 'the Son of Man', a title that affirmed his sharing in our human condition. When the 'who' question is addressed to him we find not only the mysterious depths of our common humanity, but also the mystery of the generous designs of God, conceived with the Son and the Holy Spirit, in the depths of the divine eternity. Discipleship is learning, in the course of our lives, the answer to the 'who' question we address to the Saviour - who has made himself our ever-present companion. Like Peter, we shall find that we are forced to re-evaluate our most basic assumptions in the light of the ways of God we learn from Jesus.

Jesus is 'the Christ', the messiah in whom Israel's hopes are centred. He begins to teach his disciples 'quite openly' what lay ahead of them in Jerusalem. He is not the political saviour so ardently hoped for in popular expectations: the 'Son of Man' will be 'rejected' - 'put to death' even. Peter's brave act of faith must be further clarified. Mark's gospel does not spare Peter - perhaps because this community has already heard of Peter's humiliations from Peter himself. Jesus addresses Peter as 'Satan', obstructing God's plan. That plan, Jesus explains, has been foreshadowed in two themes of Israel's hopes, the 'Suffering Servant' and the 'Son of Man'. Both of these themes envisage a mysterious personage who will fulfil the destiny of Israel - the first bringing healing for the world's self-inflicted suffering by sharing in that suffering himself; the other bringing all peoples together under the beneficent reign of God's ways.

Jesus emphatically spells out the demands of discipleship: sharing in his responsibility for the human family, even if it means sharing his 'cross'; living 'for the sake of the gospel', the Good News of the generous future God has in store for struggling humanity.

Once again, the reading from James speaks in very practical terms. His discussion of 'faith', that is 'quite dead' if it has no 'good works' to show, is familiar. It is possible that James is responding to a self-serving misinterpretation of Paul's teaching that 'we are justified by faith'. True discipleship, as Jesus reminds Peter, proves itself in a generosity that has been learned in the presence of the Crucified Saviour.

John Thornhill s m

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Isaiah 50:5-9; To carry the cross is not to be weak but to be strong.*

Psalm Response: **I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

Second Reading: *James 2:14-18 Good works come from faith, like heat comes from fire.*

Gospel Acc: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: *Mark 8:27-35 It is only by his death and resurrection that Jesus can show who he really is.*



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time—25a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

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

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



Palms Australia

Are you a mechanic with a mission? All skills needed! Could you make a wheel difference mentoring local 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 PADRE PIO'S RELICS TO MELBOURNE—In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Saint Padre Pio's death, 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 10:30 a.m. Italian Mass and 12:00 p.m. 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

THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER will hold their annual Mission Fair on Sat. 13 Oct. 9—3 p.m. at 154 Cotham Road, Kew. This year the proceeds will go to help provide Primary Education and health services for 150 poor girls and 150 poor boys in the Catholic Sohag Diocese, Egypt. Enquiries: 9817 3715.

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.

TRADEPEOPLE AND SKILLED PARISHIONERS—We are currently composing a list of parishioners with special trades and skills for the information of other parishioners and so that they can employ your services. If you wish to be on the list please contact St Gabriel's Parish Office: 94606036.

WORLD ROSARY DAY—Countries around the world are joining to hold Rosary Rallies to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The World Rosary started on 15 August (Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) with a '54-day Novena' that will continue until the feast of the Holy Rosary on 7 October. Each nation has been asked to pray for its own intentions on the day. The Australian intentions are family, rekindling of faith and continued Godly protection. Sun. 7 October. Details: Jane from OzRosary on 0476 535 59 or <http://holyleagueofnations.com> Register: <https://ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53/contact-us-and-participate>

A VOCATION VIEW: *When Jesus says, "If you wish to rank first, you must remain the last one of all and the servant of all," many people could immediately turn and walk away. Are you willing to serve as Jesus did?*



Dates for your Diary

Sun. 16 September
Social Services Sunday
Fri. 21 September
Term 3 concludes

In today's catechesis we turn again to the third Commandment, that of the day of rest. The Decalogue, promulgated in the Book of *Exodus*, is repeated in the Book of *Deuteronomy* in an almost identical manner, with the exception of this Third Word, where a precious difference appears: whereas in *Exodus* the reason for rest is the blessing of Creation, in *Deuteronomy*, instead, the end of slavery is commemorated. On this day the slave must rest as his master, to celebrate the memory of the Passover of liberation.

In fact slaves, by definition, can't rest. However, so many types of slavery exist, be they interior or exterior. There are the external constrictions such as oppressions, lives kidnapped by violence and by other types of injustice. Then there are the interior prisons, which are, for example, psychological blockages, complexes, limitations of character and others. Is there rest in these conditions? In any case, can an imprisoned or oppressed man be free? And can a person tormented by interior difficulties be free?

In fact, there are persons that, even in prison, live great freedom of spirit. We think, for example, of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, or of Cardinal Van Thuan, who transformed dark oppressions into places of light. There are as well persons marked by great interior fragilities that, however, know the rest of mercy and are able to transmit it. God's mercy liberates us. And when one encounters God's mercy, one has great interior freedom and one is also capable of transmitting it. Therefore, it's very important to open oneself to God's mercy so as not to be slaves of ourselves.

So, what is true freedom? Does it consist, perhaps, in the freedom of choice? This is certainly a part of freedom, and we commit ourselves so that it's assured to every man and woman (Cf. Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*, 73). However, we know well that to be able to do what one wants isn't enough to be truly free, and not even happy. True freedom is much more.

In fact, there is a slavery that chains more than a prison, more than a panic crisis, more than an imposition of any kind: the slavery of one's ego. There are those people that spend the whole day looking at themselves in the mirror to see the ego. And one's ego has a higher stature than one's body. They are slaves of the ego. The ego can become a tormentor that tortures man wherever he is and procures for him the most profound oppression, that which is called "sin," which isn't the

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A lady was listening to the radio and heard that a car was spotted driving down the wrong side of the freeway to Geelong. Knowing that her elderly husband was heading down that way on business she called him on his mobile. "Keep a look-out, darling," she said, "there's a car driving erratically down the wrong side of the freeway." "Don't I know it," he replied, "there are dozens of them."

The closest a person ever comes to perfection is when he fills out a job application form.

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 22 / 23 SEPTEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. J. Borja / L. Piazza
B. Harris / L. Tafolo
8:30 a.m. G. Tieri / P. Bettin / M. Bettin

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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trivial violation of a code, but failure of the existence and condition of slaves (Cf. *John* 8:34). In the end, sin is to say and do ego. "I want to do this and I don't care if there's a limit, if there is a Commandment, I don't even care if there is love."

Regarding the ego, for example, we think of human passions: the greedy, the lustful, the avaricious, the irascible, the envious, the slothful, the arrogant — and so on — are slaves of their vices, which tyrannize and torment them. There is no truce for the greedy, because the throat is the hypocrisy of the stomach, which is full but which makes us think that it's empty. The hypocritical stomach makes us greedy. We are slaves of a hypocritical stomach. There is no truce for the greedy and the lustful that must live of pleasure; the anxiety of possession destroys the greedy, always piling up money, hurting others; the fire of wrath and the worm of envy ruins relationships. Writers say that envy makes the body and soul yellow, as when a person has hepatitis: he/she becomes yellow. The envious have a yellow soul, because they can never have the freshness of the health of the soul. Envy destroys. The sloth that dodges all labour makes one incapable of living. Egocentrism — that ego of which I spoke — arrogant, excavates a profound trench between oneself and others.

Dear brothers and sisters, who then is the real slave? Who is he that knows not rest? Who is incapable of loving! And all these vices, these sins, this egoism distance us from love and make us incapable of loving. We are slaves of ourselves and we can't love, because love is always towards others.

The Third Commandment, which invites to celebrate liberation in rest, is for us Christians a prophesy of the Lord Jesus, who breaks the interior slavery of sin to render man capable of loving. True love is true freedom: it detaches from possession, rebuilds relationships, is able to welcome and value one's neighbour, transforms every effort into joyful gift and renders one capable of communion. Love renders one free even in prison, even if one is weak and limited.

This is the freedom we receive from our Redeemer, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience 12 September

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$234

Presbytery: \$270

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

WE WELCOME into the Church and our Parish Family **Charlotte Frances Talarico** whose baptism we celebrate today. **ADULT FAITH FORMATION** continues on 20 September.



NEW MEMBERS TO THE THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN are welcome. If you are visiting the parish and want to make a contribution please use the stamped envelopes *Parish Offering*, in the narthex.

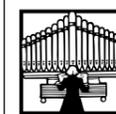
A Prayer in Time of Drought

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: Bob Doyle

ANNIVERSARIES: Bartolo La Greca, Bernardo Romeo, Gigi & Mirella Cassucia (8:30 a.m. Mass St Gab.), Jim Healy, Cristoforo Vespucci, Rita Zannella, Eileen & Jim Nankervis, Doug McClure, Michael Gangi, Rosa Saitta



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance: AOV 28
Psalm Response: CWB 419 (old edition)
Gospel Acclamation
Prep. Of Gifts: Sheet B 9
Communion: AOV 65
Sheet B 5
Final Hymn: Sheet B 10
Ordinary: Freedom

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$1139

*Weekly Average
as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

Presbytery Envelopes: \$501

Loose: \$369 Retirement Fund (extra): \$500

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