

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 Thurs. to Sat. 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. 25th Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

Tues. 25th Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**
Intention:

Wed. 25th Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Thurs. St Vincent de Paul, *priest*
Intention:

Fri. 25th Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Sat. **Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**
Intention:



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



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 23.09.2018 -
25a 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

The Galilean ministry of Jesus has ended in rejection. In today's gospel reading Jesus begins to give his whole attention to preparing his disciples for the final rejection that awaits him in Jerusalem – a rejection God will transform into a victory over all evil in the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. In fact, it is describing the selfishness and foolishness good people have to contend with in every age. The existence of real and pervasive evil presents a challenge to Christian faith. The freedom and responsibility that are the hallmarks of our human dignity will often be abused and obstruct the purposes of God. How is God to make creation a final masterpiece, by turning all things to good in the end?

There is something truly prophetic in the reading from Wisdom, because it echoes the Songs in the Book of Isaiah concerning God's Servant: 'the punishment reconciling us fell on him, and we have been healed by his bruises'. These Songs were quoted by Jesus in the synagogue in Nazareth. No doubt they were of great importance to him as his mission unfolded. God's designs have been patiently prepared. Evil is a problem for all of us: we have to contend with disruptive forces – within ourselves, in our dealings with others, in the wide world in which we live. Like the disciples Jesus is instructing, we are still learning how to cope. Those whom Jesus wants to be the bearers of the Good News of God's ways are still lost in their self-centred ambitions. It is a situation that is so typical of our human experience. It leads Jesus to give the disciples a lesson that is at once radical and simple: 'Anyone who wants to be first must become last of all and servant of all'. Perhaps we have here another echo of the Servant Songs that have been mentioned – Jesus himself will be our example in the living out of this truth. Great teacher that he is, Jesus goes on to give the disciples an object lesson - receive those who have nothing to give you in return, like this child I am embracing, he tells them, and you will be true disciples of mine and dear to my Father.

James' letter, as we have said, reflects the ideals of a Jewish community of Christian faith. Their spirituality has its roots in the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament and its call to live in harmony with God's ways. Today's reading shows how well these first Christians have learned the lesson Jesus was teaching the apostles on their way to Jerusalem. We are all challenged to look into our own lives as James names those things that belong to a world shaped by selfishness: 'jealousy and ambition', 'disharmony', 'battles between yourselves', unrealistic desires 'so that you fight to get your way by force'. It is all too familiar. How much more authentic and attractive is the alternative, shaped by God's ways – 'the wisdom that comes from above' – bringing 'peace', 'compassion' and generosity, fairness and straightforwardness. And James' characteristic practicality helps us to relate to this ideal as something within our reach: we must 'pray properly', not seeking through our prayer 'to indulge our own desires', but finding the joy that comes from identifying with the ways of God, after the example of Jesus.

John Thornhill s m

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Wisdom 2:12, 17-20* *Jesus is foreshadowed as the one who will challenge the godless with his virtue.*

Psalm Response: **The Lord upholds my life.**

Second Reading: *James 3:16-4:3* *Proper prayer will unshackle us from our base desires, allowing us to grow in holiness as peacemakers.*

Gospel Acc: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:30-37* *Jesus, predicting his passion and death, instructs his followers that true discipleship lies in humble service.*



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time—26a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

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.

IS GOD DEAD IN THE WEST? Tues. 9 October, 6p.m. for 6:30 p.m. start, Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Please join Greg Sheridan for a discussion, hosted by ACU's PM Glynn Institute, of his new book *God is good for you*, with Virginia Bourke. **RSVP:** pmg@acu.edu.au or (02) 9739 2184.

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.

TRADESPEOPLE 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.

MUSCLE FOR MARRIAGE - Marriage can be tough but like anything worth having, it's worth working for! How do we build the strength and endurance to go the distance? Classical wisdom tells us that character and virtues are the key. Run over four Wednesday evenings in October, Muscle for Marriage will help you build the discipline, courage and wisdom needed to run the race. Wednesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 October, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne Register: www.trybooking.com/WNRRN Cost: \$50 a couple for all four sessions or \$15 a couple for one session (Includes materials and a light wine and cheese supper) Details: Life, Marriage and Family office on 9287 5587 or lmf@cam.org.au

A VOCATION VIEW: *When Jesus says, “If you want 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. 30 September
Social Justice Sunday

Wed. 3 October
Masses of Anointing 9:30 a.m. St Stephen's
11 a.m. St Gabriel's

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM OCTOBER 2018

Our Parish Stewardship Program commences in two weeks – with our **Welcome Weekend**. It has been some time since we have had a Stewardship Program (formerly Thanksgiving Program). The Program recognizes that *‘Parishes are the Heartbeat of the Church’* and will challenge us to reflect on what it means to be a member of our parish community.

We encourage you to be actively involved – read the materials, listen to the speakers and follow the Program on the parish website. Reflect, pray about and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends and fellow parishioners.

PARISH ‘OUR FUTURE’ FORUM

All parishioners are warmly invited to a special forum as part of the Program – the **Our Future Forum** and we ask all parishioners to put aside this date and to attend one of the meetings: **Wednesday 24 October:**

10 a.m. in St Stephen's Church
7 p.m. in the Emmaus Room—St Gabriel's.

This is a great opportunity to make your contribution to the discussion. You will hear about the values we hold dear, our recent achievements and the priorities we have for the future. Full Program details will be available on the dedicated Program page on our parish website – which will be updated regularly throughout the Program.

Stewardship Program Prayer

*Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church.
Through our Baptism we are called to service
and to witness.*

*In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call.
By serving others we follow your example
and proclaim our beliefs.*

*By our Christian generosity we demonstrate
our love and care.*

*Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve,
to grow in faith and service
and to give without counting the cost.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



A father went hunting for his family. He shot a deer and took it home to cook for dinner. Both he and his wife decided not to tell the children what sort of meat they were eating, but would give them a clue and let them guess. The father said: “Well, it's what your Mummy calls me sometimes.” The little daughter screamed to her brother: “Don't eat it. Remember what she shouted at him last week!”

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 29 / 30 SEPTEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. M. Beck / L. Ferronato
H. Nowak / M. Garcia
8:30 a.m. C. Chindamo / E. Palermo

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.

In the journey within the Ten Words, we come today to the Commandment on the father and the mother. It talks about the honor due to parents. What is this “honor”? The Hebrew term indicates the glory, the value, literally the “weight,” the consistency of a reality. It's not a question of exterior ways but of truth. In the Scriptures, to honor God means to recognize His reality, to reckon with His presence. This is expressed also with rites, but above all it implies to give God the just place in one's existence. Therefore, to honor the father and the mother means to recognize their importance also with concrete acts, which express dedication, affection and care. However, it's not only about this.

The Fourth Word has a characteristic: it's the Commandment that contains an outcome. It says, in fact: “Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you; that your days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with you, in the land which the Lord your God gives you” (*Deuteronomy 5:16*). To honor one's parents leads to a long happy life. The word “happiness” in the Decalogue appears only in connection with the relationship with parents...

(... the Fourth Commandment) says even more. It doesn't speak of the parents' goodness; it doesn't require that fathers and mothers be perfect. It speaks of an act of children, regardless of the parents' merits, and it says an extraordinary and liberating thing: even if not all parents are good and not all childhoods are serene, all children can be happy, because the attainment of a full and happy life depends on the just recognition of one who has brought us into the world...

...Regardless of what history man comes from, by this Commandment he receives the direction that leads to Christ: in Him, in fact, the true Father is manifested, who offers us to be “born anew from on high” (Cf. *John 3:3-8*). The enigmas of our lives are illumined when we discover that God has always prepared us for a life as His children, where every act is a mission received from Him...

Honour parents: they have given us life! If you have estranged yourself from your parents, make an effort and go back, go back to them, perhaps they are old . . . They have given you life. And then, among us, there is the habit of saying awful things, also bad language . . . Please, never, never insult other [people's] parents. Never! Never insult the mother; never insult the father. Never! Never! Take up this interior decision today: henceforth I will never insult someone's mother or father. They gave him/her life! They must not be insulted...

Excerpt from Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience, 19 Sep.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$308

Presbytery: \$267

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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION resumes on 11 October.
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.



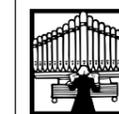
A Prayer in Time of Drought

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: Mark Green

ANNIVERSARIES:



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance: CWB 625
Psalm Response: CWB 422 (*old edition*)
Gospel Acclamation: CWB 43
Prep. Of Gifts: CWB 514
Communion: CWB 595

Final Hymn: CWB 561

Ordinary: *Shalom*

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$810

Presbytery Envelopes: \$291

Loose: \$336

*Weekly Average
as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

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