

## 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., Fri. at 9 a.m.

Wed. at 11 a.m.

**ST STEPHEN'S:** Mass Wed. at 9:30 a.m.

Mass Keon Park Thurs. at 11a.m.

## FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

*Orario sante messe feriali*

**Mon.** St Therese of the Child Jesus, *virgin, doctor*  
**No Mass**

**Tues.** The Holy Guardian Angels  
*Intention:* **No Mass**

**Wed.** 26th Week of Ordinary Time  
*Intention:*

**Thurs.** St Francis of Assisi  
*Intention:*

**Fri.** 26th Week of Ordinary Time  
*Intention:*

**Sat.** 26th 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 Hactor



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**- 30.09.2018 -**  
26a 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

Today's gospel reading from Mark has a lesson as telling today as it was when Jesus was instructing his disciples. The seriousness that characterises groups upholding a religious tradition often becomes exclusive and intolerant. The apostle John reports disapprovingly that they had seen a man 'casting out devils' in the name of Jesus. How precious in the memory of Christian faith is the Lord's response. Authentic faith and discipleship must reflect the inclusive ways of God, proclaimed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: 'Love your enemies ... you must set no bounds to your love, just as your heavenly Father set none to his'. 'Anyone who is not against us if for us' – words filled with wisdom and generosity. The Lord is at work in every human heart, and who are we to make judgments that may obstruct the mysterious purposes of God?

The rest of the reading provides an important complement to the great lesson concerning outsiders that has just been given. Those who are within the community of faith have a great responsibility to uphold and protect the truth and values of the Gospel – 'these little one who have faith' are not the children in the community, but members of the community who may be led astray. What are we to make of Jesus' drastic advice to 'cut off' bodily members that may 'cause sin'? If they refer to person morality – the more frequently heard interpretation – they are a reminder that faithful discipleship may call for heroically painful decisions. There is a strong case, however, for an interpretation of these words as following on from reference to the 'little ones'. In this interpretation they would refer to exclusion from the community, of persons who would corrupt the faith of insecure believers.

The first reading from Numbers provides a remarkable parallel to the gospel text. Now it is Joshua – the leader who was to succeed Moses and lead the Israelites into their Promised Land – who reacts in too exclusive a fashion. The response of Moses has a timelessness that is breathtaking; it sums up the ideal that should animate any leader of God's people: 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!' Prophets are those who speak out in God's name, pointing the way forward to God's people. Vatican II stressed the need to foster such gifts of the Spirit in the Church.

The reading from James reminds us of another exclusiveness, the sense of power and difference that can close off wealthy people from their fellow human beings. Our passage follows an ironic description of the plans of the wealthy. In the spirit of old Israel's Wisdom tradition, it goes on to declare that these grand plans will have no lasting outcome. It is not rich people in the Christian community who are being referred to, but the wealthy and unscrupulous of the surrounding society. Even so, they carry an implicit reminder for believers of the Saviour's words: 'It is harder for someone rich to enter the kingdom of Heaven', see also Paul's rebuke to an early Christian community in which the behaviour of the wealthy was forming 'factions'.

John Thornhill s m

## TODAY'S MASS

**First Reading:** *Numbers 11:25-29* Joshua's misplaced zeal manifests itself in jealousy of others who prophesy without permission. Moses says he wishes all God's people could prophesy.

**Psalm Response:** **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

**Second Reading:** *James 5:1-6* "An answer for the rich," says James in this letter. Those he seems to have in mind are those who are focused on themselves and what they have earned.

**Gospel Acc:** **Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Your word, O Lord, is truth:**  
**make us holy in the truth.**  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Reading:** *Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48* There is no room for jealousy in discipleship. Those follow Jesus are called to recognise the giftedness of others.



## NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time—27a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario

*Genesis 2:18-24; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16*

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

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY** with the focus: *A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land.* The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

**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](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

**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.

**MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE** – Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. Email: [somml@bigpond.com](mailto:somml@bigpond.com) (preferred for contact)

Website: [www.mercyworks.org.au](http://www.mercyworks.org.au) Tel: 9326 1895  
**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.

**RETREAT FOR THE FEMININE HEART**— Fr Larry Richards speaks directly to the heart, as human beings and as children of God. In this retreat for women, Fr Larry will speak to two issues of significance for the feminine heart: surrender to the Holy Spirit and Jesus' words 'Let your heart not be troubled'. Friday 12 October, 9 a. m. –1 p.m. Stella Maris Catholic Church, 2 Charlotte Road, Beaumaris Cost: \$15 Register: [parousiamedia.com/events](http://parousiamedia.com/events)

**A VOCATION VIEW:** *Some people do not respond to God's call because they feel they are not worthy to do God's work. And they are not—nobody is! But God still calls. There is enough ministry for many more. Answer God's call.*



### Dates for your Diary

#### Wed. 3 October

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

#### Sun. 7 October

Life, Marriage & Family Sunday

### PARISHES STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

A reminder that our Parishes Stewardship Program commences next week – with our **Welcome Weekend**. The Program recognizes that 'Parishes are the Heart-beat of the Church' and will challenge us to reflect on what it means to be a member of our parish community.

So much has been accomplished with parishioners that have gone before us and we now invite all parishioners to help us to breathe new life into our Parish by getting involved in all aspects of our Program. These coming weeks there will be handouts at Mass and speakers and we invite you to 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*



In Sunday School one day, they were teaching the kids how God created everything—including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially interested when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week, his mother noticed him lying down, as if he was ill, and asked: "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny answered: "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm about to have a wife."

## PARISHES' INFORMATION



### ROSTERS FOR 06 / 07 OCTOBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. P. Bettin /H. Nowak  
D. Nosedo / M. Bettin / L. Lilburne  
8:30 a.m. L. Carusi / L. Scardamaglia

**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 past days, I have just completed an Apostolic Journey to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, on the occasion of the centenary of the independence of these Baltic countries. One hundred years, half of which they lived under the yoke of Occupations, first the Nazi and then the Soviet. They are people that have suffered much and, because of this, the Lord has looked at them with predilection. I'm certain of this. I thank the Presidents of the three Republics and the civil Authorities for the exquisite reception I received. I thank the Bishops and all those that collaborated to prepare and carry out this eclesial event.

My visit happened in a rather changed context from that which St. John Paul II found. My mission was to proclaim anew the joy of the Gospel and the revolution of tenderness, of mercy, because freedom isn't enough to give meaning and fullness of life, without love, the love that always comes from God. The Gospel, which in the time of trial gives strength and encourages the struggle for liberation, in the time of freedom is light for the daily journey of people, of families, of the society, and salt that gives flavour to ordinary life and preserves it from the corruption of mediocrity and egoisms.

In Lithuania, Catholics are the majority, whereas in Latvia and Estonia Lutherans and Orthodox prevail; however, many have distanced themselves from religious life. Therefore, the challenge is that of reinforcing communion among all Christians, already developed during the harsh period of persecution. In fact, the ecumenical dimension was intrinsic to this trip, and found expression in the moment of prayer at the Cathedral of Riga and in the meeting with young people in Tallinn...Concrete charity is always a living sign of the Gospel. Even where secularization is strongest, God speaks with the language of love, of healing, of free service for those in need. And then hearts open, and miracles happen: new life springs in the deserts... The years pass, regimes pass, but above the Gate of Dawn of Vilnius, Mary, Mother of Mercy, continues to watch over her people, as sign of sure hope and consolation (cf. Second Ecumenical Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*, 68)... In the three Eucharistic celebrations the holy faithful People of God journeying in those lands renewed their "yes" to Christ, our hope. They renewed it with Mary, who always shows herself Mother of her children, especially those suffering most; they renewed it as chosen, priestly and holy people in whose heart God reawakens the grace of Baptism. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters of Lithuania, of Latvia and of Estonia.

*Excerpt from Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience, 26 Sep.*

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$265

Presbytery: \$269

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

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** follows the 9 a.m. Mass this Fri. 5 Oct. to conclude at 11 a.m.



**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** resumes on 11 October.

**IF YOU ARE VISITING THE PARISH** and want to make a contribution please use the stamped envelopes *Parish Offering* in the narthex.

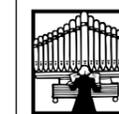
#### A Prayer in Time of Drought

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:** Angela Milici

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Giovanni Ziino (10 a.m. Mass), RosaRita DeSantis & Thomas DeSantis



## Music at Mass



10 a.m.

**Entrance:** AOV 188  
**Psalm Response:** CWB 425 (old edition)  
**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Prep. Of Gifts:** AOV 86  
**Communion:** AOV 185  
AOV129  
**Final Hymn:** AOV 182  
**Ordinary:** Freedom

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$785

Presbytery Envelopes: \$397

Loose: \$399

*Weekly Average  
as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

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