

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., Tues., at 9 a.m.

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

FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

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Mon. 31st Week of Ordinary Time

Tues. 31st Week of Ordinary Time

Intention:

Wed. 31st Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

Intention:

Thurs. 31st Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

Intention:

Fri. Dedication of the Lateran Basilica **No Mass**

Sat. St Leo the Great, pope, doctor **No Mass**

Intention:



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

Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Hactor



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 04.11.2018 -
31a 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

Jesus approaches the end of his journey. He has already entered Jerusalem when a 'scribe', who is evidently well disposed, asks which is the greatest of the commandments of the Law. As interpreters of the Law, the scribes had listed 613 ordinances calling for observance; it is not surprising that they often discussed their relative importance. This man seeks Jesus' view on the matter. This last exchange Jesus has with the leaders of Israel, in Mark's account, raises an issue important for his disciples. The incident illustrates how Jesus taught with an 'authority' that was different from the approach of the scribes. The scribes backed their interpretation by appealing to the authority of recognised interpreters; the response that Jesus gives is backed by his own authority. He underlines the commandment given in today's reading, familiar to all faithful Jews as part of their daily prayer: 'You must love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength' – in other words, with your whole being; to love anything in preference to the Lord is idolatry. Jesus is calling his hearers back to the radical faith and trust that so often finds expression in the Old Testament – a faith and trust that was a true response to the God who had entered into covenant with the chosen people. Jesus goes on, however, to show great originality and wisdom, by linking the 'first' commandment with a 'second': 'You must love your neighbour as yourself'.

The Covenant was intended to make old Israel 'a light to the nations' – their life, shaped by the ways of God, learned through the covenant relationship, was to be an invitation to all peoples of the earth to find the one, true God – 'The Lord our God is the one Lord' – and the blessings life with God can bring. The Saviour links the two commandments under the rubric of 'love'. The love true believers have for fellow human beings is a love that has been learned from God.

The theme of 'love', so important to every human heart, was soon to emerge, we know, as the very heart of the Gospel, the good news that 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son'. (For Paul, 'Love is the fulfilment of the Law', as we live 'in Christ', God's own love 'has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit'. Similarly, according to John, a 'new commandment' rules our Christian life, 'Love one another just as I have loved you', indeed, John declares, 'God is love'.). The response of the scribe and the praise it won from Jesus, 'You are not far from the kingdom', point towards this fulfilment. Mark is reminding us that not all the leaders of the people were closed to the message of Jesus. Is it not likely that this scribe was soon to share in the faith inaugurated by the Lord's Paschal Mystery? This faith is interpreted in the reading from Hebrews, where Christ's saving work is compared with the role of priests of the Old Testament. But there is also a great contrast. The old role ended with death, and was compromised by sinfulness. The Old Testament ideal of clinging to God with one's whole being must have seemed a daunting, almost impossible one; now however faith in the Paschal Mystery assures us that the risen Saviour - 'holy, innocent and uncontaminated', and 'made perfect for ever' - gives us a share in his life with the Father.

John Thornhill sm

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Moses presents the people with the commandment that sums up the Law of the covenant.*

Psalm Response: **I love you, Lord my strength.**

Second Reading: *Hebrews 7:23-28; Christ is the perfect high priest who remains for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him..*

Gospel Acc: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: *Mark 12:28-34 Jesus highlights the commandment from Deuteronomy as the first of all the commandments, with love of neighbour as the second. There is no law greater than this.*

NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time—32a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
1 Kg 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

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

ENROLMENTS FOR THE OUT OF SCHOOL SACRAMENT PROGRAM FOR 2018 are now open for both Parishes. Please contact Gracie at the Parish office 9460 6036.

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

VILLA MARIA CATHOLIC HOMES—Aged Care | Affordable Housing | Retirement Living | Home Care | Disability and Specialist Education. A Catholic, not-for-profit organisation providing services to more than 7000 people across Victoria. We observe the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church by celebrating the life of individuals and their communities as expressed in their physical, social and spiritual wellbeing. For more information please phone 1800 036 377 or visit www.vmch.com.au

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.

HAMER SINGERS: THE TENDERNESS OF SILENT MINDS—Memories and hopes, laughter and grief, deep anger at what was, exquisite visions of what could be. Extraordinary music by Gustav Mahler, Jóhann Jóhannsson (*The theory of everything*), Sir John Tavener and Arvo Pärt, in the soaring beauty of St Patrick's Cathedral. Sun. 25 November, 3.30 p.m. St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne Bookings: <https://www.hamersingers.com.au/concert-info.html>

MERCY IN THE CITY—To end the Year of Youth, all are welcome to join young people from all over Melbourne for the fourth 'Mercy in the City'. The event will include Adoration followed by a celebration with live music, food and festivities. Sat. 24 November, 7 p.m. Sts Peter and Paul's, 377 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne.

TAIZÉ EVENING PRAYER—Come and share a meal and prayer while Br Matthew from Taizé is visiting Melbourne. A Taizé prayer service will be held at 8 p.m. at the Trinity College Chapel, with singing practice at 7.30pm. Frid. 9 November, 6.30 p.m. Trinity College Chapel, 100 Royal Parade, Parkville
All are welcome to attend. Access via the 19 tram line, along Royal Parade. Cost: dinner \$5 per person
Enquiries: taize.melbourne@gmail.com

A VOCATION VIEW: *We remember the countless multitude of men and women who are now in heaven. We continue to be inspired by the qualities they revealed in their lives: a concern for justice, gentleness, purity of heart, mercy and courage.*



Dates for your Diary

Sun. 11 November

Annual Collection of the Deaf Apostolate

Today I would like to complete the catechesis on the Sixth Word of the Decalogue — "Do not commit adultery" —, evidencing that the faithful love of Christ is light to live the beauty of human affectivity. In fact, our affective dimension is a *call to love*, which is manifested in fidelity, in hospitality, and in mercy. This is very important. How does love manifest itself? In fidelity, in hospitality, and in mercy.

Not forgotten, however, is that this Commandment refers explicitly to marital fidelity and, therefore, it's good to reflect in greater depth on the *spousal* meaning. This passage of Scripture, this passage of the Letter of Saint Paul, is revolutionary! To think, with the anthropology of that time, and to say that a husband must love his wife as Christ loves the Church: but it's a revolution! Perhaps, at that time, it was the most revolutionary thing said about marriage. Ever on the path of love, we can ask ourselves: to whom is this command of fidelity addressed — only to spouses? In reality, this command is for all; it's a paternal Word of God addressed to every man and woman.

Let us recall that the way of human maturation is the course of love itself, which goes from *receiving care* to the capacity of *offering care*, from *receiving life* to the capacity of *giving life*.

To become adult men and women means to be able to live the *spousal and parental* attitude, which manifests itself in the various situations of life, such as the capacity to take on oneself the burden of another and to love him without ambiguity. Therefore, it's a global attitude of the person that is able to assume the reality and is able to enter into a profound relationship with others.

Who, then, is the adulterer, the lustful, the unfaithful one? It is an immature person, who has his life for himself and interprets situations on the basis of his own wellbeing and his own contentment. Therefore, to *get married*, it's not enough to celebrate the marriage! One must undertake a journey from the "I" to the "We," from thinking of oneself to thinking of two, from living alone to living in two: it's a good journey; it's a beautiful journey. When we succeed in de-centering ourselves, then every act is *spousal*: we work, we talk, we decide, we encounter others with a welcoming and oblation attitude.

cont. next column



Whilst on tour of Mt. Vesuvius, a famous active volcano, two Americans were with a group, looking over the rim. One of them exclaimed: "My God! It sure is deep and hot! It just reminds you of hell, doesn't it?" A local guide, hearing the remark, whispered to a man next to him: "Man, these Americans! They've been everywhere!"

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 10 / 11 NOVEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. J. Lillburn / P. Bettin
M. Bettin / D. Noseda

8:30 a.m. C. Chindamo / 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.

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In this sense, every Christian vocation — now we can extend the perspective somewhat, and say that every Christian vocation is, in this sense, *spousal*. The priesthood is so because it is the call, in Christ and in the Church, to serve a community with all the affection, concrete care and wisdom that the Lord gives. Aspirants to the *role* of the priest are of no use to the Church — no, they are of no use; it's best that they stay at home —, but men are useful whose heart the Holy Spirit touches with a love without reservations for the Bride of Christ. In the priesthood, the People of God are loved with all the pater-nity, the tenderness and the strength of a husband and a father. Thus *consecrated virginity* in Christ is also lived with fidelity and joy as a spousal and fecund relationship of maternity and paternity.

I repeat: every Christian vocation is spousal because it is a fruit of the bond of love in which we are all regenerated, the bond of love with Christ, as the passage of Saint Paul, read at the beginning, reminds us. From *its* fidelity, from *its* tenderness, from *is* generosity we look with faith at marriage and at every vocation, and we understand the full meaning of sexuality.

The human creature, in its inseparable unity of spirit and body, and in its masculine and feminine polarity, is a very good reality, destined to love and to be loved and, in genuine love, there is no room for lust and for superficiality. Men and women deserve more than this!

Therefore, the Word "*Do not commit adultery*," although in a negative way, orients us to our original call, namely, to full and faithful spousal love, which Jesus Christ has revealed and given to us (Cf. *Romans 12:1*).

Pope Francis meeting with Catholics, Rome, 1 November

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.*

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$263

Presbytery: \$325

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 15 November.



2019 COLUMBAN CALENDARS are now available from the Piety stall at \$9 each. **MAJELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS** are also available for \$7—pack of 10.

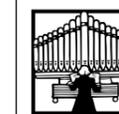
A Prayer in Time of Drought

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: Fr Leo Patrick Griffin PE, Annunziata Macrì (*in Italy 8:30 a.m. Mass*), Rosa Cerra, Christopher Hill

ANNIVERSARIES: John Demanuele



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance: CWB 520
Psalm Response: CWB 436 (*old edition*)
Gospel Acclamation: CWB 43
Prep. Of Gifts: CWB 443
Communion: CWB 638

Final Hymn: CWB 503

Ordinary: ICEL

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$893

*Weekly Average
as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

Presbytery Envelopes: \$413

Loose: \$376

**Respond to our Stewardship Program!
Know the joy of giving**