

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 Fri. 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—

Orario sante messe feriali

Mon. St Josaphat, *bishop, martyr* **No Mass**

Tues. 32nd Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**
Intention:

Wed. 32nd Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**
Intention:

Thurs. 32nd Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**
Intention:

Fri. 32nd Week of Ordinary Time
Intention:

Sat. St Elizabeth of Hungary, *religious* **No Mass**
Intention:



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



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 11.11.2018 -
32nd 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 reading from Mark's gospel reminds us what a great teacher Jesus was. The object lesson he gives, as he watches people making their donations, is one of the best remembered stories of the world's religious traditions – the 'widow's mite' has become proverbial. Mark sharpens the lesson by linking this incident with what Jesus has to say about 'scribes' who 'swallow the property of widows while making a show of lengthy prayers'. The situation of widows was insecure. The 'scribes', so often mentioned in the gospels, were interpreters of the Law of old Israel – the lawyers of the day. They benefited as trustees for the estates of widows, and a reputation for piety could be good for business. Jesus' words, of course, have a lesson for all of us – people who make a selfish show of their piety, instead of making it a 'secret' they share with their heavenly Father (Mt 5:6), give Christianity a bad name. Mark gives the little widow a privileged place in his telling of the story of Jesus. Having entered Jerusalem to meet his fate, Jesus is giving his final instructions concerning the discipleship to which he is calling those who wish to follow him. Using the widow's example, he goes to the very heart of the matter – a giving that counts. Is there any more telling way of expressing the fundamental truth, that as responsible persons we are made in the image of God, than by unselfish giving to others? The most precious things in life - in our family, in the community in which we live – come through the selfless generosity with which we give to others. We know from experience that it is a giving that costs us something that brings real happiness to ourselves and to those around us. Mark is linking the generous giving of the widow with the great drama of God's generosity soon to take place – as Jesus gives himself into the hands of his Father for the sake of the whole human family. Our liturgy takes up Mark's lesson. Today's reading from Hebrews – a central passage in this great treatise – explains how the ritual of old Israel was only a foreshadowing of the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. The old sacrifices, offered time and again - in a 'man made' temple that was only a model of God's dwelling place, and making use of the blood of animals - have now given way to the world's final act of worship. The Saviour enters 'the actual presence of God on our behalf', making a gift of himself 'once and for all'. He shows us how true it is that a giving that really counts brings true blessings – in his total gift of himself he has become the source of all the blessings that will fill our eternity.

John Thornhill sm

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16 God rewards the widow who cares for Elijah.

Psalm Response: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28 Christ's sacrifice has dealt with sin and death once and for all.

Gospel Acc: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Mark 12:38-44

Jesus uses the poor widow's generosity to teach us that to be his disciples we are called to give ourselves totally.



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time—33a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario
Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32

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

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC DEAF APOSTOLATE will be taken up at all Masses this weekend. We welcome Lizzie Moloney & Christine Elder who will speak to us of the work of the John Pierce Centre.

WE WELCOME BACK Fr Brian McDermott who will celebrate all Masses this weekend.

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

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.

WIDENING THE DOOR OF HOPE— A Response to the Victorian Assisted Dying Legislation.

Tuesday 20th November 2018, 7.30 p.m. start, 7.30 p.m. light refreshments, Venue: Mercy Theatre, Australian Catholic University, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, (enter via Young Street). Orators: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Michael, Dr Stephen Parnis, RSVP / Inquiries: by Fri. 16th November 2018 justice@cam.org.au or 9926 5727 cam.org.au/justice.fb.com/camjusticepeace

YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION INFORMATION NIGHT— Study Theology as an undergraduate or postgraduate student for credit. Or choose to enrol for your own interest, without completing essays for credit. All are welcome to come along and find out more. Feel free to bring a friend. No booking required. FEE HELP available. Tuesday 13 November, 7.30 p.m. –8.30 p.m. YTU Study Centre, 34 Bedford Street, Box Hill Enquiries: admin@ytu.edu.au

A VOCATION VIEW: *Jesus says when we give alms we "do not sound a trumpet before (us)" According to St Ambrose, "God does not consider what one gives but what one keeps." Could it be that we give too little and keep too much?*



Dates for your Diary

Sun. 11 November

Annual Collection of the Deaf Apostolate

In the parable of the Gospel, we heard that the bridesmaids, all ten of them, "went forth to meet the bridegroom". For all of us, life is a constant call to *go forth*: from our mother's womb, from the house where we are born, from infancy to youth, from youth to adulthood, all the way to our going forth from this world. For ministers of the Gospel too, life is in constant movement, as we go forth from our family home to wherever the Church sends us, from one variety of service to another. We are always on the move, until we make our final journey.

The Gospel shows us the meaning of this constant wayfaring that is life: it is a *going forth to meet the Bridegroom*. This is what life is meant to be lived for: the call that resounds in the night, according to the Gospel, and which we will hear at the hour of our death: "Here is the Bridegroom! Come out to meet him!". The encounter with Jesus, the Bridegroom who "loved the Church and gave himself up for her", gives meaning and direction to our lives. That and nothing more. It is the finale that illuminates everything that preceded it. Just as the seeding is judged by the harvest, so the journey of life is shaped by its ultimate goal.

If our life is a journey to meet the Bridegroom, it is also the time we have been granted *to grow in love*. Every day of our lives is a preparation for the wedding banquet, a great period of betrothal. Let us ask ourselves: do I live like someone preparing to meet the Bridegroom? In the ministry, amid all our meetings, activities and paperwork, we must never lose sight of the one thread that holds the entire fabric together: our expectation of the Bridegroom. The centre of it all can only be a heart in love with the Lord. Only in this way will the visible body of our ministry be sustained by an invisible soul. Here we begin to realize what the Apostle tells us in the second reading: "We look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal". Let us not keep our gaze fixed on earthly affairs, but look beyond them. It is true when they say that the really important things are invisible to our eyes. The really important thing in life is hearing the voice of the Bridegroom. That voice asks us daily to catch sight of the Lord who comes, and to make our every activity a means of preparation for his wedding banquet.

We are reminded of this by what the Gospel tells is the one essential thing for the bridesmaids awaiting the

....continued...



A lady drove through an intersection and the speed-camera flashed. She knew that she was not speeding, so to test the accuracy of the camera she drove through again more slowly. Again the camera flashed. She drove through again three more times and each time the camera flashed. She wrote a letter to Vic Roads and the Traffic Police pointing out that the camera was faulty. She received a response. She was fined five times for not wearing a seat belt!

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 10 / 11 NOVEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. J. Borja / B Harris
L. Tafalo / M. Garcia

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

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.

.... cont. from previous page

wedding banquet. It is not their gowns, or their lamps, but rather the oil kept in small jars. Here we see a first feature of oil: *it is not impressive*. It remains hidden; it does not appear, yet without it there is no light. What does this suggest to us? That in the Lord's eyes what matters is not appearances but the heart. Everything that the world runs after and then parades – honours, power, appearances, glory – passes away and leaves nothing behind. Detachment from worldly appearances is essential to our preparation for heaven. We need to say no to the "cosmetic culture" that tells us to worry about how we look. Instead of our outward appearance that passes away, we should purify and keep custody of our heart, our inner self, which is precious in the eyes of God. Along with this first feature – not to be flashy but essential – there is another aspect of oil: *it exists in order to be consumed*. Only when it is burned does it spread light. Our lives are like that: they radiate light only if they are consumed, if they spend themselves in service. The secret to live is to live to serve. Service is the ticket to be presented at the door of the eternal wedding banquet. Whatever will remain of life, at the doorstep of eternity, is not what we gained but what we gave away. The meaning of life is found in our response to God's offer of love. And that response is made up of true love, self-giving and service. Serving others involved a cost, since it involves spending ourselves, letting ourselves be consumed. In our ministry, those who do not live to serve do not de-serve to

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.

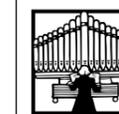
Those who hold on too tightly to their lives will lose them. Let us ask for grace to renew daily our first love with the Lord, lest its flame die out. It is a great temptation to sink into a life without love, which ends up being like an empty vase, a snuffed lamp. If we do not invest in love, life will stifle it. Those called to God's wedding feast cannot be content with a sedentary, flat and humdrum life that plods on without enthusiasm, seeking petty satisfactions and pursuing fleeting rewards. As we pray for the Cardinals and Bishops who have passed away in this last year, let us beg the intercession of all those who lived unassuming lives, content to prepare daily to meet the Lord. Instead, let us desire to look farther ahead, to the wedding banquet that awaits us. A life burning with desire for God and trained by love will be prepared to enter the chamber of the Bridegroom, and this, forever.

Vatican Basilica, Altar of the Chair of Saint Peter

May they rest in peace

RECENTLY DECEASED: Theresa Bittar, Nadir Boscolo

ANNIVERSARIES:



Music at Mass



10 a.m.

Entrance:	CWB	A 6
Psalm Response:	CWB	416 (old edition)
Gospel Acclamation	CWB	
Prep. Of Gifts:	CWB	A 7
Communion:	CWB	A 9, A 4
Final Hymn:	CWB	A 8
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**