

### 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:** No Mass Wed. at 9:30 a.m.  
No Mass Keon Park Thurs. at 11a.m.

### FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

*Orario sante messe feriali*

**Mon.** 34th Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

**Tues.** 34th Week of Ordinary Time

*Intention:*

**Wed.** 34th Week of Ordinary Time **No Mass**

*Intention:*

**Thurs.** 34th Week of Ordinary Time

*Intention: Denise Nagalingum—Anniversary*

**Fri.** St Andrew, apostle

*Intention: Peter Chetcuti—Anniv.*

**Sat.** 34th 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



### Solemnity of Christ the King

**- 25.11.2018 -**

**Cristo Rè**

Today's feast is a relative newcomer to the Church's liturgy – established by Pius XI, last century, as the Church's response to the emergence of totalitarian regimes. There is a certain irony in the fact that when it was established earthly kings and queens had become little more than figureheads. The gospels of the liturgies of this feast in the three year cycle, however, make it clear that this symbolic theme can still invite us to deepen our appreciation of the role of the Saviour in the designs of God. The first and second readings – from the prophecy of Daniel, concerning 'the Son of Man', and a reading from the Apocalypse proclaiming the fulfilment of the prophecy in Christ – remind us of the deep roots this theme has in the Scriptures. This year's gospel reading from John takes us to the heart of the drama being enacted before the Roman governor – as, according to the words of Jesus at the Supper, the 'Son of Man' is being 'glorified', and in him God is being glorified. Jesus will reign, but he assures Pilate that his kingdom – 'not of this world' – is not in competition with the earthly powers Pilate represents. He will establish God's reign, not by power and violence, but by bringing his 'truth' to the world, the truth that is one of the principal themes of John's gospel ('Father, consecrate my disciples in the truth, your word is truth'; 'I AM truth and life'). This truth is a sharing in the wisdom of the Father, the personal truth in which we come to know who we are in the plan of God, the truth that 'sets us free'. The Kingdom announced and inaugurated by Jesus is a renewed creation, ruled by the ways of God – shaping all things, liberating them and leading them to their fullness. When Jesus teaches that this reign of God has already begun in a hidden way he is telling us that we can know something of this final achievement of God, when the truth he has brought to the world shapes our lives. The exchange between Jesus and Pilate also makes it clear that the execution of Jesus is a consequence of his rejection by the establishment of the Jewish nation. In John's gospel, this conflict is described in terms of the 'truth' that he has brought from his Father: 'It is because I speak the truth that you cannot believe me'. He has urged his people to find again their true calling in the designs of God, to be 'a light to the nations', showing the world the life and joy of a people living according to the ways they have learned from his Father.

John's gospel, as we have seen, portrays Jesus as reigning on the Cross. His exchange with Pilate echoes through the continuing narrative, 'Here is your king', Pilate declares; the governor's 'notice' reads 'King of the Jews'; Jesus entrusts the beloved disciple – standing for us all – to his mother; 'the blood and water' from his side are solemnly proclaimed as a blessing upon us all. What Jesus foretold early in his ministry has been realized: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life'. The symbol of kingship may have become archaic, but what it speaks of in the Scriptures, concerning the role of the Saviour in reign of God, has an everlasting relevance, far removed from the politics of this world.

John Thornhill sm

### St Gabriel's 1 Viola Street, Reservoir 3073

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**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 MASS

**First Reading:** Daniel 7:13-14 *The prophet Daniel sees a new king coming in glory.*

**Psalm Response:** **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

**Second Reading:** Apocalypse 1:5-8 *Jesus Christ will gather all people into his embrace of mercy when he comes in glory.*

**Gospel Acc:** **Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father;**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Reading:** John 18:33-37 *Jesus is a witness to the gift of the kingdom of God. We catch glimpses of this kingdom when we see people living the values of justice, love, truth and peace.*

### NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

**First Sunday of Advent—1a Domenica di Avvento** **Readings: Year C**  
*Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36*

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

**ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP PRODUCTION** of *CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG* will perform in the Parish/School hall on Tues. 27 November, Thurs. & Fri. 29 & 30 November at 7:30 p.m. and Sat. 1 December at 4:00 p.m. Tickets from [www.trybooking.com/XTFT](http://www.trybooking.com/XTFT) Try Booking Website or Contact: Judy O'Meara 0488 580 145.

**RED WEDNESDAY AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**  
**Wednesday 28 November, 7:30 p.m.** 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. Red Wednesday is a global movement to stand in solidarity with those who, even in the 21st century, are imprisoned, persecuted, tortured or murdered for their peacefully-held religious faith. Aid to the Church in Need, together with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, invites you to Stand Up for Faith and Freedom. Please join us at St Patrick's Cathedral, which will be floodlit in red for the first time as a visible sign of solidarity with those facing persecution. Inquiries: [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) **ALL WELCOME.**  
**ORGAN RECITAL** after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday 2 December with Colin Jenkins, organist. The recital is free (and will run for 25 minutes) and will be followed by refreshments in the parish centre. Cost: Free.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AND READERS** please advise the Parish office of your availability for Christmas Masses as soon as possible.

**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)

**LOURDES DAY MASS**—A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy, with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes. On this occasion we celebrate Our Lady's appearance to a young girl, Bernadette, in 1858 in Lourdes, France. Through a set of private revelations, Mary revealed herself as 'the Immaculate Conception'. Sat. 1 December, 10:30 a.m. St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place East Melbourne.

**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.

### Christmas Mass Times

#### Monday 24th December

St Stephen's 6.00 p.m. Carols 5.30 p.m.  
 St Gabriel's 8.00 p.m. Carols 7.30 p.m.

#### Tuesday 25th December

St Stephen's 8.30 a.m.  
 St Gabriel's 8.30 a.m. & 10 a.m.

**A VOCATION VIEW:** *'Christ is King ... the faithful Witness. He loved us ...and made us a line of priests, prophets and kings to serve God His Father. Who are we to be called forth as the priests of tomorrow—prayerful men—leaders, ready to preach the Word of God.'*



### Dates for your Diary

**Tues. 27 November**—St Gabriel's Theatre Group Production of Chitty-Chitty Bang, Bang commences.

**Sun. 2 Dec.**

1st Sunday of Advent (Year C)  
 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection

Our meetings on the Decalogue lead us today to the last Commandment. We heard it at the opening. These are not only the last words of the text but much more: they are the fulfillment of the journey through the Decalogue, touching the heart of all that has been given to us in it. In fact, in hindsight, they don't add a new content: the indications "do not covet the wife [ . . . ] or anything that belongs to your neighbor" is at least latent in the Commandments on adultery and on theft; what, then, is the function of these words? Is it a summary? Is it something more? Let us keep very present that all the Commandments have the task to indicate the boundary of life, the limit beyond which man destroys himself and his neighbor, spoiling his relationship with God. If you go beyond, you destroy yourself; you also destroy the relationship with God and the relationship with others. The Commandments point this out. Highlighted through this last Word is the fact that all transgressions stem from a common interior root: evil desires. All sins are born from a wicked desire — all. The heart begins to move there, and one enters that wave and ends up in a transgression. But not a formal, legal transgression: it's a transgression that wounds oneself and others. The Lord Jesus says it simply in the Gospel: "From within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, fornication, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a man" (Mark 7:21-23).

We understand, therefore, that the whole journey undertaken in the Decalogue would be of no use if it didn't arrive at touching this level: man's heart. From where are all these awful things born? The Decalogue is lucid and profound on this aspect: the point of arrival — the last Commandment — of this journey is the heart and if this, if the heart isn't freed, the rest is of little use. This is the challenge: to free the heart from all these wicked and awful things. God's precepts can be reduced to being only the beautiful facade of a life, which in any case remains an existence of slaves and not of children. Often, behind the Pharisaic mask of asphyxiating correctness, something awful and unresolved hides.

Instead, we must let ourselves be unmasked by these Commandments on desire because they show us our poverty, in order to lead us to a holy humiliation. Each one of us can ask him/herself: but what ugly desires come often to me? Envy,  
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Three men had travelled all day and were tired; they checked into a hotel, only to discover that their room was on the 45th floor and the lifts were all 'out of order'. The first man suggested that they do something to take their minds off the climb. And so, he would tell jokes for 15 floors, the second would sing for the next 15, and the third man would complete their climb while telling sad stories. And so they began their climb. The first man told jokes for 15 floors, the second sang, and the third told sad stories. When they reached the 45th floor the third man told the saddest of his stories. He said: "Guys, I am sad to tell you that I left the key at reception."

## PARISHES' INFORMATION



### ROSTERS FOR 1 / 2 DECEMBER Readers & Extraordinary Ministers

6 p.m. B. Harris / L. Lilburne  
 L. Tafalo / M. Garcia / D. Nosedo

8:30 a.m. V. Penisi / 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.

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greed, gossip? — all these things that come to me from within. Each one can ask him/herself and it will do him/her good. Man is in need of this blessed humiliation, that <humiliation> by which he discovers that he cannot free himself on his own; that <humiliation> by which he cries to God to be saved. Saint Paul explains it in an insuperable way, precisely in referring to the Commandment not to covet (Cf. *Romans 7:7-24*). It's vain to think that one can correct oneself without the gift of the Holy Spirit. It's vain to think we can purify our heart in a titanic effort of our will alone: this isn't possible. It's necessary to open oneself to a relationship with God, in truth and in freedom: only thus can our efforts bear fruit because it's the Holy Spirit that leads us forward.

The task of the biblical Law is not to deceive man that a literal obedience will lead him to a doctored salvation and, moreover, unreachable. The task of the Law is to lead man to his truth, namely, to his poverty, which becomes a genuine opening and personal opening to God's mercy, which transforms us and renews us. God is the only one able to renew our heart, on the condition that we open our heart to Him: it's the only condition. He does everything, but we must open our heart to Him. The Last Words of the Decalogue educate all of us to acknowledge ourselves beggars; they help to put us before the disorder of our heart, to stop living egotistically and to become poor in spirit, authentic before the Father, letting ourselves be redeemed by the Son and taught by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Teacher that guides us: we must let ourselves be helped. We are beggars; let us ask for this grace. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven" (*Matthew 5:3*). Yes, blessed are those that stop deceiving themselves, believing that they can save themselves from their weakness without God's mercy, which alone can heal. Only God's mercy heals the heart. Blessed are those that acknowledge their wicked desires and with a repentant and humiliated heart are not before God and other men as just ones but as sinners. What Peter says to the Lord is beautiful: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." This is a beautiful prayer: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

These are the ones who are able to have compassion, who are able to have mercy on others because they experience it in themselves.

*Pope Francis, General Audience, 21 November*

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$388

Presbytery: \$400

**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 6 December.

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

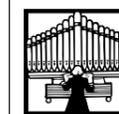


He shall be magnified even to the ends of the earth, and this man shall be our peace.

### May they rest in peace

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Augusto Guardiani

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Nella Spinoso, Phero Tran Huu Thi, Phero Pran Cong Da ng, Phanxico Savie Tran, Anna Vu, Vincent Hoang (6 p.m. Mass), Patrick & Catherine Cunningham (10 a.m. Mass), Denise Nagalingum, Peter Chetcuti (3rd. Ann.), Domenico Antonio & Stefano Licastro



### Music at Mass



10 a.m.

**Entrance:** AOV 179  
**Psalm Response:** CWB 449 (old edition)  
**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Prep. Of Gifts:** AOV 31  
**Communion:** AOV 49  
 AOV 56  
**Final Hymn:** AOV 8  
**Ordinary:** Freedom

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$857

*Weekly Average  
 as at 30.9.17 \$1022*

Presbytery Envelopes: \$378

Loose: \$513

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