

SUNDAY MASSES TIMES

Sat. 6 p.m. Vigil St Stephen's
Sun. 8:30 a.m. (It. & Eng.) St Stephen's
8:30 a.m. (It. & Eng.) St Gabriel's
10 a.m. 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.

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.

ST STEPHEN'S: Mass Wed. at 9:30 a.m.
Mass at Keon Park Thurs. at 11a.m.

FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

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Mon. Ordinary Time 8 **NO MASS**

Tues. Ordinary Time 8 **NO MASS**

Funeral Mass: Antonino (Tony) Morello 9:30 a.m.

Wed. ASH WEDNESDAY

*Masses: 9.30 a.m. St Stephen's
11:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. St Gabriel's:*

Thurs. After Ash Wednesday

Intention:

Fri. After Ash Wednesday

Intention:

Sat. After Ash Wednesday **NO MASS**

Intention:

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Sirach 27:4-7 As a tree's fruit bears witness to the care that has been lavished on it, so a person's speech reveals his or her heart and mind.*

Psalm Response: **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:54-58 Death will be swallowed up in victory, and none of our labours will be in vain.*

Gospel Acc.: **Alleluia, alleluia!**
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: *Luke 6:39-45 The value of a tree is shown by what it produces, and our speech wells up from what is in our hearts.*



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

1st Sunday of Lent—1a Domenica di Quaresima

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

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.



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



St Gabriel's
1 Viola Street, Reservoir, 3073

Ph: 9460 6036
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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.

St Gabriel's Parish Primary School:
237 Spring Street, Reservoir

Learning, Life and Faith!
90 Years Strong!

Ph: 9469 3513
Email: principal@sgrreservoir.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Mark Miatello
Secretary: Mrs Enza Torcasio

St Stephen's
71 Whitelaw Street, Reservoir East, 3073

Ph: 9460 7266
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Parish Secretary:

Mrs Gracie Forde

Office:

Please contact St Gabriel's Parish Office.

St Stephen of Hungary Primary School:
71 Whitelaw Street, Reservoir East

Where every child counts!

Ph: 9460 3566
Fax: 9462 3404
Email: principal@ssreservoir.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Richard Keele
Secretary: Mrs Gracie Forde

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 03.03.2019 -
8a Domenica in Tempo Ordinario

The parables of Jesus recalled in today's gospel are so familiar that they have become proverbial: the blind leading the blind; the splinter in the brother's eye, a tree known by its fruits. Luke wants us to recognise that - as part of the teaching of Jesus - these parables are far more than the expression of homely truths. They certainly do express truths that are applicable to every human situation - continuing the wisdom tradition of old Israel, so wonderfully expressed in the reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus. But the Good News of the Kingdom brought by Jesus (expressed in the teaching to the disciples we have already reflected upon) brings a truth far greater than has ever been expressed before. It is the promise of a new kind of existence, to be found by identifying with the ways of the living God - after the example of the One who is the revelation of the Father.

Luke invites us to find this deeper meaning that these parables had for Jesus. In the light of Jesus' teaching concerning true happiness this deeper meaning is not difficult to grasp. The 'blindness' Jesus warns against, especially for those who are leaders and guides in the community of disciples, is the blindness of those who assume the role of leadership although they have not owned the Saviour as the Light of the world and committed themselves to the new order he has inaugurated with his Law of Love. Disciples who have not made this conversion will see living according to their old ways - placing selfish limits on their practical love for their neighbour - as no more than a tiny 'splinter' obscuring their vision. Such people do not recognise that presenting themselves as disciples of the Lord is kind of 'hypocrisy' - they make this clear by their readiness to point out the more obvious failings of their brothers and sisters. Genuine disciples will be known by their 'fruits': in the witness of the quiet convictions that shape their lives - as, through the gift of Christ's Spirit, the disciple grows 'like his teacher'.

John Thornhill sm

Dear friends, this week the lifting of the suppression order concerning Cardinal George Pell's trial and the sustained media focus has made for a challenging time for the Catholic Church in Melbourne. We will all have different ways of both responding to this news and making sense of it.

For some it heralds another chapter in the already painful journey that Catholics have been a part of over the last few years. Some of us may feel upset and saddened by the news. Some of us may just feel very weary about the way our Church is being portrayed in the media. There are those in our community who have been abused and the story touches on and may re-open already raw wounds. On this the last Sunday prior to Lent we gather around the table of the Lord. We pray that God will continue to journey with us as we search to understand, accept and acknowledge the challenges of our times. We hold in our thoughts and prayers all those who have suffered abuse within the Church.

From Monsignor Bennet VG

GENERAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, NEWS & HUMOUR

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

In the coming weeks, we have the privilege of walking with some of our sisters and brothers who participate in Caritas programs, and who feature in the Project Compassion stories this year. How might we learn about living hope-filled lives in solidarity with one another and for the common good of our one human family? As the season of Lent approaches, we might consider: What could we do to commit ourselves to the flourishing of hope in our time?

"How can we all give Lent 100%?"

SPEAKING AWESOME WORDS is an interactive two-hour training session for lectors/readers. The session is conducted by the Australian Catholic University Centre for Liturgy. Ms Sharon Boyd from the centre will be conducting a session here at St Gabriel's for our lectors/readers on **Tues. 12 March from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** in the church and parish centre. The session is open to 20 participants—**only 6 places left**. This session is this year's Readers' Renewal. Readers from both parishes are strongly encouraged to attend. Please register your name to the parish office 94606036.

WE WELCOME BISHOP TERRY CURTIN—Auxiliary Bishop of our Archdiocese and Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region!

WE WELCOME THE CANDIDATES who will receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation this year, their families, teachers and sponsors. Please pray for their preparation.

DEAR FR. SHANE AND THE PARISHIONERS AT ST. GABRIEL'S & ST. STEPHEN'S, We Little sisters of the Poor at St. Joseph Home take this opportunity to thank you for your warm welcome to your parish last weekend. It was our pleasure to meet you and your Parishioners, many of whom have had contact with us previously. We express our gratitude for their generosity and the total received was \$1,385.65 Once again, be assured of our prayers for you and your Parishioners. Our Mother St. Jeanne Juan said: "We must always say Blessed be God, thank you my God and Glory be to God." "Making the elderly happy that is what it counts." May God Bless you, Sr. Josephine LSOP.

ST MARGARET'S RETIREMENT VILLAGE—currently has one and two bedroom units available. The prices start from \$222,000. Call 8414 6000.

WE WILL MAKE THE WAY OF THE CROSS on the Fridays of Lent at St Gabriel's at 7 p.m. Different parish groups will lead each week.

The Syro-Malabar Community will celebrate Mass and make the Way of the Cross at St Stephen's on the Fridays of Lent at 7 p.m. with the exception of Fri. 5 April.

The Way of the Cross at Stephen's on Fr. 5 April at 7 p.m. led by St Stephen's parishioners.

A VOCATION VIEW: *Since each person speaks from his heart's abundance, let Jesus form your heart and life. Follow him willingly.*



Dates for your Diary

Wed. 6 March

Ash Wednesday (a day of Fast and Abstinence from meat)
Masses: 9:30 a.m. St Stephen's
11:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. St Gabriel's

Fri. 8 March

The Way of the Cross 7 p.m. in St Gabriel's

It seems like winter is going away and so we have returned to the Square. Welcome to the Square! In our course of rediscovery of the "Our Father" prayer, today we will reflect further on the first of its seven invocations, namely, "hallowed be Thy Name."

There are seven requests in the "Our Father," which are easily divisible into two subgroups. The first three have at the center the "Thou" of God the Father; the other four have "us" at the center and our human needs. In the first part Jesus makes us enter in His desires, all addressed to the Father: "hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done"; in the second it's He who enters us and makes Himself interpreter of our needs: daily bread, forgiveness of sin, help in temptation and deliverance from evil.

Here is the matrix of every Christian prayer — I'd say of every human prayer —, which is always made, on one hand, of contemplation of God, of His mystery, of His beauty and goodness and, on the other, of the sincere and courageous request of what we need to live, and live well. Thus, in its simplicity and essentialness, the "Our Father" educates the one who prays it not to multiply vain words because — as Jesus Himself says — "your Father knows what you need before you ask Him" (Matthew 6:8).

When we speak with God, we don't do so to reveal to Him what we have in our heart: He knows it better than we do ourselves! If God is a mystery for us, we, instead, aren't an enigma to His eyes (Cf. Psalm 139:1-4). God is like those mothers who only need one look to understand everything about their children: if they are happy or sad, if they are sincere or are hiding something...

The first step of Christian prayer, therefore, is our giving ourselves to God, to His Providence, it's as if saying: "Lord, You know all, there isn't even a need to tell you my pain. I only ask You to be next to me: You are my hope." It's interesting to note that, in the discourse on the mountain, immediately after transmitting the text of the "Our Father," Jesus exhorts us not to be worried or anxious about things. It seems like a contradiction: first He teaches us to ask for our daily bread and then He says to us: "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" (Matthew 6:31). However, the contradiction is only apparent: a Christian's requests express trust in the Father,

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Little Paddy went to church every Sunday with his mother. One morning in the middle of Mass he complained that he was feeling sick. He whispered to his mother: "I think I'm going to throw up." "Don't worry," she said, "just go to the toilet on the left side of the entrance. When you feel better come back in." Thirty seconds later Paddy was back beside his mother. "Did you go to the toilet?" his mother asked. "No need," said Paddy, "right outside the door was a big box with a sign next to it that said 'For the sick' so I just went there!"

PARISHES' INFORMATION



ROSTERS FOR 9 / 10 MARCH Readers & Special Ministers

6 p.m. L. Lilburne / J. Lilburne
L. Tafolo / B. Harris

8:30 a.m. V. Pennisi / P. Bettin / M. Bettin

ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL ENROLMENTS—'Every Day is Open Day'. If you know of any family who has a child ready for School please let them know about us and encourage them to visit the school!
"Where every child counts."

...cont.

and it is precisely this trust that makes us ask for what we need without anxiety or agitation.

It's because of this that we pray saying: "Hallowed be Thy Name!" Felt, in this request — the first! "Hallowed be Thy Name!" is Jesus' whole admiration for the beauty and grandeur of the Father, and the desire that all recognize Him and love Him for what He really is. And, at the same time, there is the supplication that His Name be sanctified in us, in our family, in our community, in the whole world. It is God who sanctifies, who transforms us with His love, but at the same time it is also we who, with our witness, manifest God's holiness in the world, rendering His Name present. God is holy, but if we, if our life isn't holy, there is a great incoherence! God's holiness must be mirrored in our actions, in our life. "I'm a Christian, God is holy, but I do so many awful things." No, this isn't right. This even does harm; it scandalizes and doesn't help.

God's holiness is an expanding force, and we entreat that the barriers of our world be quickly shattered. When Jesus begins to preach, the first to pay the consequences is in fact the evil that afflicts man. The evil spirits swear: "What have You to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are, the Holy One of God!" (Mark 1:24). Such holiness had never been seen before: not preoccupied with itself but turned to the external. A holiness — that of Jesus — that widens in concentric circles, as when a stone is thrown into a pond. The days of evil are counted — evil isn't eternal —, and evil can no longer hurt us: the strong man has arrived who takes possession of his house (Cf. Mark 3:23-27). And this strong man is Jesus, who gives us also the strength to take possession of our interior house.

Prayer chases away every fear. The Father loves us, the Son raises His arms supporting ours <and> the Spirit works in secret for the redemption of the world. And we? We don't hesitate in uncertainty, but we have a great certainty: God loves me, Jesus gave His life for me! The Spirit is within me. This is the great certain thing. And evil? It's afraid, and this is good.

Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience, 27 Feb.



If you have palm or olive branches from last Palm Sunday please leave them at the presbytery by Monday evening so that they can be burnt for the ashes. Thank you.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$364

New weekly amount pledged: \$356

Presbytery: \$365

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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues this Thurs. 7 March.
THE WAY OF THE CROSS Fri. 8 March at 7 p.m.



The Lenten season has a twofold character: it recalls baptism or prepares for it; it stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican 11

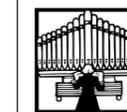
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following: **Prayer; Self-Denial**—Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia; **Helping Others.**

All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252).

May they rest in peace

RECENTLY DECEASED: Alan Steele, Giuseppe Nicolaci, Rosina Cirona, Antonino (Tony) Morello

ANNIVERSARIES: Raffaele Graziano (Month's Mind 10 a.m. Mass), Vincente & Concepcion Canapit



Music at the 6 p.m. & 10 a.m. Masses.



Entrance: CWB 625
Psalm Response: CWB 372 (old ed.)
Gospel Acclamation: CWB 43
Prep. Of Gifts: CWB 456
Communion: CWB 514

Final Hymn: CWB 561

Ordinary: 'Shalom' CWB 27

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$1252

New weekly amount pledged \$1235

Presbytery: \$416

Loose: \$388

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