

## 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:** Tues., Thurs., Fri. at 9 a.m.

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

### FERIALS, FEASTS & INTENTIONS—

*Orario sante messe feriali*

**Mon.** 1st Week of Lent **NO MASS**

*Intention:*

**Tues.** 1st Week of Lent

*Intention:* Anna & Josip Tot, Mate & Loredana Skleplic

**Wed.** 1st Week of Lent

*Intention:*

**Thurs.** 1st Week of Lent

*Intention:*

**Fri.** 1st Week of Lent

*Intention:*

**Sat.** 1st Week of Lent **NO MASS**

*Intention:*

## TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 26:4-10* Moses instructs the people to give an account of their heritage as they bring their offering to God.

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

Second Reading: *Romans 10:8-13* Confession of faith in Christ brings the assurance of salvation.

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

Gospel Reading: *Luke 4:1-13* Tempted by the devil, Jesus stands firm in his trust in God.



### NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

**2nd Sunday of Lent—2a Domenica di Quaresima**

*Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36*

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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  
**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.

**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  
**Fax:** 9460 7650  
**Email:** reservoir@cam.org.au

#### 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

**1st Sunday of Lent**  
**- 10.03.2019 -**  
**1a Domenica di Quaresima**

As we begin the journey towards our Easter celebration, today's gospel reading from Luke sets us on our way. For Luke, Jesus' temptations in the wilderness point to the terrible conflict that awaits him at the end of the public life - when 'at his appointed time' the devil returns to frustrate the Saviour's work. In Luke's account, the last temptation takes place in Jerusalem - Jesus' final conflict with the forces of evil will take place in the holy city.

A great realism runs through the biblical story. God's final purposes for the human family and for the whole of creation will only be realised through the Saviour's defeat of the forces of evil. We do not need to be persuaded that evil forces are work in our world - selfish abuse of the freedom given to God's creatures; but also the destructiveness caused by the blindness of those who have lost their way in a darkened world. Today's gospel presents the conflict of Jesus with the forces of evil as a very personal one. Perhaps this presentation is a summary of the teaching in which - drawing on the experience of a life shared with us - Jesus warned his disciples of the temptations that would call them away from their commitment to follow him. They will be tempted to give false gods the place the one true God should have in their lives: creature comforts and possessions; power abused for selfish advantage; a 'religious' complacency that presumes on God's favours without a genuine commitment to the ways of God.

In the gospel accounts, the temptations of Jesus are closely linked with his baptism by John: 'Filled with Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there'. In the Jordan he showed that he had thrown in his lot with struggling humanity - 'put to the test in exactly the same way as ourselves, apart from sin' (Hebrews 4:15). By his example, and finally through the power of his Paschal Mystery, he would make himself the 'Way' to the fullness of life for a lost world. Our reading from Paul to the Romans celebrates this triumphant outcome.

As we reflect upon the conversion to which the Church invites us during our Lenten journey, the Lord's example should be our inspiration. The temptations he faced encourage us to look beyond superficial problems in our lives and characters, and to face up to the root causes of these failings - the false gods that so easily seduce our divided human hearts. Today's liturgy brings us another valuable lesson. The Word of God is a power for good in the lives of those who know and love the Scriptures. The words of Scripture with which Jesus confronts the tempter come from the book of Deuteronomy. Paul cites this same book (30:14) as he proclaims the Church's faith in the risen Lord. This book is one of the high points of the Old Testament. In today's first reading it gives us a summary of Old Testament faith in the God's faithfulness - a faithfulness that is finally expressed in the Paschal Mystery.

John Thornhill sm

## GENERAL MEETINGS, EVENTS, NEWS & HUMOUR



### PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

#### WEEK 1: DETERMINATION GIVE LENT 100%

Life in her village in north-western Zimbabwe wasn't easy for 12 year old Thandolwayo. Thandolwayo lives with her grandparents and attends the local school which has just 35 students.

Every morning she walked 7 kilometres and risks being attacked by crocodiles as she collected contaminated water for her family. Thanks to Caritas' support, water is now on tap in the village, benefitting the whole community.

**GIVE LENT 100%**  
www.caritas.org.au 1800 024 413



**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 5 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.

**THE PARISHES' PICNIC IS NEXT SUNDAY** at Hawkstowe Park (Melway 183 H8) off Plenty Road from 12 Noon. All are welcome. Please park in the upper car-park and come to the area behind the home-stand.

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

**RISE: LET THERE BE LIGHT**—AOY is the major sponsor and coordinator of a collection of youth groups, schools and communities around Melbourne that are hosting a one-day event for young people aged from Year 9 to 25 years to discover and deepen in Christ and to celebrate their faith. Rise 2019 will have a festival-like atmosphere and will include opportunities for young people to experience the arts, live music, prayer, social time and workshops based on a variety of topics. Saturday 23 March, 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Penola Catholic College, 29 Gibson Street, Broadmeadows Registrations: <https://risemelbourne.com/>

**LIVE-IN WEEKEND RETREAT WITH FR TONY MCSWEENEY AND FR FRANCIS DENTON**— This retreat is organised by the Legion of Mary, Melbourne Senatus, and is open to everyone. Cost: \$190 includes 2 nights' accommodation and all meals. Fri. to Sun. 29 March to 31 March. Pallotti College, 80 McNamaras Road, Millgrove Enquiries and registrations: Caroline Fernandez on 0423 838 756 or [smtcsf@gmail.com](mailto:smtcsf@gmail.com)

**OZ ROSARY: Weekend of the Feast of the Patroness of Australia.** Pray for Australia. This year we are praying in particular for our political leaders & leaders of our Church, our cardinals, bishops and priests, continued prayers are for youth and families. Fri. 24 to Sun. 26 May Enquiries: [ozrosary53@gmail.com](mailto:ozrosary53@gmail.com) or Jane Chifley on 0476 535 595

**A VOCATION VIEW:** *The world tempts us to grab all we can. Even food becomes more when it is given than when it is taken. Follow Jesus: be a giver.*



### Dates for your Diary

#### Tues. 12 March

Readers Renewal Meeting—Speaking Awesome Words 6.30—8.30 p.m. St Gabriel's Church

#### Sun. 17 March

Parish Picnic at Hawkstowe Park

When we pray the "Our Father," the second invocation with which we address God is "Thy Kingdom come" (*Matthew* 6:10). After having prayed that His Name be hallowed, the believer expresses the desire that the coming of His Kingdom be hastened. This desire gushes forth, so to speak, from Christ's heart itself, who began His preaching in Galilee proclaiming: "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." These words are not at all a threat; on the contrary, they are a happy proclamation, a message of joy. Jesus doesn't want to push people to convert by sowing fear of God's impending judgment or the sense of guilt for the evil committed. Jesus doesn't proselytize: He simply proclaims. On the contrary, what He brings is the Good News of salvation, and from it, He calls to conversion. Each one is invited to believe in the "Gospel": God's lordship made itself close to His children. This is the Gospel: God's lordship made itself close to His children. And Jesus proclaims this wonderful thing, this grace: God, the Father, loves us, He is close to us and He teaches us to walk on the path of holiness.

The signs of the coming of this Kingdom are many, and all are positive. Jesus begins His ministry by taking care of the sick, be it in body or in soul, of those that experienced social exclusion — such as lepers —, of sinners regarded with contempt by all, also of those were greater sinners than them but feigned to be just. And what does Jesus call these? "Hypocrites." Jesus Himself points out these signs, the signs of the Kingdom of God: "the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have Good News preached to them" (*Matthew* 11:5).

"Thy Kingdom come!" a Christian repeats insistently when he prays the "Our Father." Jesus came, but the world is still marked by sin, populated by so many suffering people, by persons who don't reconcile themselves and don't forgive, by wars and by so many forms of exploitation. We think of child trafficking, for example. All these facts are proof that Christ's victory has not yet been completely implemented: so many men and women still live with their heart closed. It's especially in these situations that the second invocation of the "Our Father" emerges on a Christian's lips: "Thy Kingdom come!" Which is as if to say: "Father, we need You! Jesus, we need

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A man bought a chainsaw from a dealer and was assured that it would cut down 100 trees before it needed a service. The man rose early the next morning and started clearing the trees but for all his efforts he only felled two. The next morning he rose even earlier and toiled till dusk but he could only manage five trees. Somewhat aggrieved he took the chainsaw back to the dealer and said: "There's something wrong with this saw, it doesn't cut anywhere near what you said!" The dealer took it, started it up said, "There doesn't seem to be anything wrong with it, sir." "What's that noise?" asked the man.

## PARISHES' INFORMATION



### ROSTERS FOR 16 / 17 MARCH

#### Readers & Special Ministers

6 p.m. J. Borja / L. Piazza

M. Garzia / L. Ferronato

8:30 a.m. L. Scardamaglia / G. Tieri

**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."

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You to be Lord in our midst everywhere and forever!" "Thy Kingdom come, You be in our midst." Sometimes we ask ourselves: why is this Kingdom realized so slowly? Jesus likes to talk of His victory with the language of parables. For instance, He says that the Kingdom of God is like a field where the good seed and the weeds grow together: the worst error would be to want to intervene immediately, extirpating from the world those that seem to us weeds. God isn't like us; God has patience. It's not with violence that the Kingdom is established in the world: His style of propagation is meekness (Cf. *Matthew* 13:24-30).

God's Kingdom is certainly a great force, the greatest there is, but not according to the world's criteria; that's why it seems that it never has the absolute majority. It's as the leaven that is mixed into the flour: it seems to disappear yet it is precisely what makes the dough ferment (Cf. *Matthew* 13:33). Or it's like a grain of mustard seed, so small, almost invisible, but which bears in itself the explosive force of nature, and once grown, it becomes the largest of all the trees of the vegetable garden (Cf. *Matthew* 13:31-32).

In this "destiny" of the Kingdom of God, the connection can be intuited with Jesus' life: for His contemporaries, He was also a weak sign, an almost unknown event to the official historians of the time. He described Himself as "a grain of wheat," which dies in the earth, but only thus can it bear "much fruit" (Cf. *John* 12:24). The symbol of the seed is eloquent: one day the farmer sinks it in the earth (a gesture that seems like a burial). And then he "sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows, he knows not how" (*Mark* 4:27). A seed that sprouts is more God's work than that of the man who sowed it (Cf. *Mark* 4:27). God always precedes us; God always surprises us. Thanks to Him, after the night of Good Friday there is a dawn of Resurrection able to illuminate the whole world with hope.

"Thy Kingdom come!" We sow this word in the midst of our sins and our failures. We give it to persons that are defeated and bowed down by life, to those that have tasted more hatred than love, those who have lived useless days without understanding why. We give it to those that have fought for justice, to all the martyrs of history, and to those that have concluded that they fought for nothing and that evil dominates in this world. We will then hear the "Our Father" prayer hope,

cont. next column ...

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** continues this Thurs. 14 March.

**THE WAY OF THE CROSS** this Fri. 15 March at 7 p.m., will be lead by the Legion of Mary.



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respond. It will repeat for the umpteenth time those words of the same that the Spirit has placed as seal of all the Sacred Scriptures: "Surely I am coming soon!" This is the Lord's answer. "I am coming soon." Amen. And the Lord's Church answers: "Come, Lord Jesus" (Cf. *Revelation* 2:20). "Thy Kingdom come" is as if saying "Come, Lord Jesus." And Jesus says: I am coming soon." And Jesus comes, in His own way, but every day. We trust in this. And when we pray the "Our Father" we always say: "Thy Kingdom come," to hear in our heart: "Surely, surely I am coming soon."

Pope Francis, Wednesday General Audience, 6 March

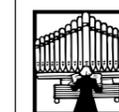
**God does not punish people for what they would have done, but for what they do."**

St Thomas Aquinas (13C.)

May they rest in peace

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Emilio Meco (*Month's Mind* 8:30 a.m. Mass), Attilio, Carlo & Anna De Martinis (6 p.m. Mass), Anna & Josip Tot, Mate & Loredana Sklepik



Music at the 10 a.m. Mass



Entrance: AOV 76  
Psalm Response: CWB 203 (old ed.)  
Gospel Acclamation:  
Prep. Of Gifts: AOV 30  
Communion: AOV 64  
AOV 56  
Final Hymn: AOV 137

Ordinary: Freedom

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanks. Envelopes: \$917 *New weekly amount pledged \$1235*

Presbytery: \$435

Loose: \$635

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

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK—THANK YOU!

Thanksgiving: \$316 *New weekly amount pledges: \$356*

Presbytery: \$294

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