

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Parish conference meets on the 3rd Monday of the month 7.30pm Emmaus Room
St Gabriel's Parish Centre.
New members are always welcome.
Emergency Assistance 1800 305 330

LEGION OF MARY

Our Parish Legion of Mary invites families to welcome the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima for a week of family prayer.
Contact Maureen O'Dwyer 9460 8520

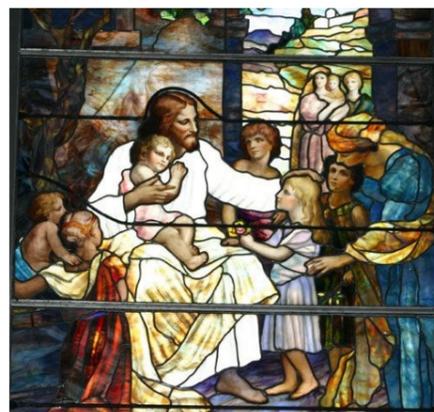
ST GABRIEL'S PIETY STALL

St Paul's Sunday Missal \$35
St Paul's Weekday Missal \$60
My Simple Mass book \$8 (children)
My Little Missal \$8 (children)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time B
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
James 3:16-4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Today's readings highlight the battle between good and evil. The virtuous person in today's First Reading, and Jesus in the Gospel, both suffer greatly at the hands of the godless. But as James notes in today's Second Reading, and as we see in Jesus' disciples, the battle between good and evil is waged within each one of us as well. While we give thanks to God for the good within us, we also acknowledge the part of ourself that is drawn to evil and humbly seek God's mercy.



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time B
Numbers 11:25-29
James 5:1-6
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

May They Rest in Peace

RECENTLY DECEASED
Pam Bowes

HEAVENLY PROTECTORS 1



On September 29 we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Archangels: Michael, Raphael and Gabriel. Then on October 2 we celebrate the memorial of the Guardian Angels. Given that the Church calls us to remember and honour angels, this might be a good time to look at what the Bible says about them.

Angels are spiritual creatures created by God to be his servants. One of their main tasks is to serve as messengers, for this is what the name "angel" means. They also praise God, strengthen and protect humans, etc. In the earlier parts of the Old Testament the status and role of angels are a bit confused. They are at times called "Sons of God." It is almost as if the authors were not sure if they were minor gods or something else. Furthermore, there are times when it is not really clear if the text is talking about God or an angel. This is the case of when Jacob wrestled with a mysterious figure of his way back to his homeland.

But as time went on the picture of angels became clearer. An angel announced the birth of Samson to his mother. An angel brought plague upon the land when King David sinned by taking a census of his people (implying that the people belonged to him and not to God). An angel protected Daniel in the Lion's Den (Dn 6).

Already in the Old Testament there is a division between those angels who serve the will of God and those who rebelled against God. The leader of this rebellion was Lucifer, and he and his followers were cast into hell. These fallen angels are called demons or evil spirits. They seek to destroy the beauty of what God has created, especially by turning human beings away from their creator. We see this in the story of Eve's temptation in the garden.

Three great protectors against these forces of evil are the Archangels: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Each of their names refers to God in some way. Michael means, "Who is like God". Gabriel means "God is a mighty warrior" whereas Raphael means "God heals".

Michael is considered to be the leader of the spiritual forces of heaven (Dn 10; Rev 12). Gabriel is the archangel who encounters first Zechariah and then the Blessed Virgin Mary to announce the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus. Raphael guides Tobias on his journey to his homeland, and also heals Tobias, Tobias' father, of his blindness.

Messenger of St Anthony September 2021

St Michael, Who is like God, defend us
St Gabriel, Strength of God, protect us
St Raphael, Healing of God, walk with us



Partnered Parishes of St Gabriel Reservoir & St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East

Parish Priest: Fr Gregory Pritchard
Parish Office: 1 Viola Street Reservoir 3073
Mon/Tue/Thur 8:30am—12:30pm Fri 8am—3pm
Phone: 9460 6036
Email: reservoir@cam.org.au / reservoir@cam.org.au
www.stgabrielsreservoir.org



St. Gabriel's Church
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073

St Stephen's Church
71 Whitelaw St Reservoir East 3073

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time B
19.09.2021

**CHURCHES ARE CLOSED
DURING LOCKDOWN**

Sunday Mass

from

St Patrick's Cathedral

11am

Channel 44

melbournecatholic.org.au

Daily Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral

Prayer of the Day

Daily readings

**St Pius of Pietrelcina
Thursday 23 September**

St Pius (1887-1968), better known as Padre Pio, was born in Pietrelcina in Campania (Italy) and joined the Capuchin community at Morcone. Ordained in 1910, he moved six years later to San Giovanni Rotondo. Bearing the wounds of Christ's passion on his body (known as stigmata), he became famous for his ministry in the confessional, his spiritual direction and his miracles. In 1956 he opened the 'Home to Relieve Suffering' near his friary. Despite his popularity, he faced much opposition, even from Church authorities. He was canonized in 2002.

BAPTISMS

Sundays 11:30am
by appointment
Covid-19 restrictions apply.

WEDDINGS

At least six months notice.
No Sunday weddings.
Covid-19 restrictions apply.

The partnered parishes of St Gabriel Reservoir and St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East are committed:
- to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community;
- 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 parishioners on request from the Parish office.

PARISH LIFE

Thanks to members of Parish Thanksgiving who have received phone calls from members of our Parish Finance Committee. We weren't chasing Thanksgiving, but rather reaching out to say 'hello', to maintain parish links, and to offer all the help we can, support one another in prayer, faith and friendship. Parishioners have reported that they are keeping up with Sunday Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral and on RAI.

Baptism families 2021 have also received a letter and an article *The Good Enough Family* (Messenger of St Anthony, September 2021)

The feast of St Gabriel falls on Wednesday 29 September. Our parish bulletin includes a 2 part article on the angels and archangels this weekend and next.

MenALIVE offers weekly refuel! each Tuesday 7.30pm on zoom us02web.zoom.us/j/87979703609
This time spent with men throughout Australia and New Zealand to review next Sunday's Mass readings using the SOAP method: Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer. Parish men are encouraged to be part of this initiative following on from our well attended National Catholic Mens Gathering on 31 July 2021.

The annual Father's Day Appeal provides support to our retired and sick priests. An envelope is included in your Thanksgiving series. The Appeal envelope can also be obtained at the newsletter stand at the front door of St Gabriel's presbytery. Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible. Post the envelope or place it in the slot at St Gabriel's presbytery. Donations can also be made at: www.cam.org.au/foundation

Sincere thanks to our parishioners who continue to support our parish, collecting a Parish Bulletin and leaving Parish Thanksgiving and clergy support at St Gabriel's presbytery. The Parish bulletin can also be found on our website: www.stgabrielsreservoir.org

Thanksgiving contribution by direct debit

St Gabriel's Church account
BSB: 083-347 account: 639372585

St Stephen's Church account
BSB: 083-347 account: 145763498