

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

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

The Spirit of God is present and active in the world. Wherever we see good we know that God's Spirit is at work. The Spirit works in surprising ways. It is sometimes through the least important member of a community that the Spirit speaks. May bigotry and prejudice never blind us to the workings of God in our Church and in our world.



NEXT SUNDAY—DOMENICA PROSSIMA

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time B
Genesis 2:18-24
Hebrews 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16

May They Rest In Peace

RECENTLY DECEASED

Gregory Smith
John Dal Santo
Patrizia Falco

ANNIVERSARY

Jim Healy

HEAVENLY PROTECTORS 2

Angels are even more common in the New Testament, especially the writings of Luke (the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles).

An angel announces the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus. Angels proclaim the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. An angel strengthens Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In Acts of the Apostles, angels liberate Peter and John from prison. They lead Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch. An angel comforts Paul when he is on a ship in danger of sinking.

In Matthew, an angel appears to Joseph in a dream to tell him to welcome Mary and her unborn child into his care. An angel also appeared to him to tell him to take Mary and baby Jesus into Egypt to escape from the wicked plans of King Herod to kill the child.

All of the Gospels have angels at the resurrection of Jesus. Interestingly, the number and description of the angel messengers differs in each of the Gospels. In John there are two angels who announce to Mary Magdalene that Jesus had risen. Two is the number needed to give witness in the Old Testament. In Matthew there is one angel who announces to the two women that Jesus had risen. Since there were already two women to give witness, one angel was enough for the announcement. In Mark there is one young man dressed in white who announces the resurrection. While this is obviously an angel. Mark calls him a young man to recall the young man who ran away from the soldiers in the garden of Gethsemane.

Finally, in Luke there are two men. Luke presents three separate resurrection scenes outlining our faith life: at first we hear about our faith from others, then, like the road to Emmaus we meet God in word and sacrament, and finally we see him face to face (like the disciples to whom Jesus appeared). Since the scene of the women at the tomb represents our first stages in faith instruction, the angels are called men because we usually learn about our faith from humans and not directly from heavenly creatures.

One especially consoling image presented in the Gospels concerning angels is that of the guardian angel (Mt 18,10). Jesus promises his disciples that each of his little ones is accompanied by an angel which looks upon the face of God. We are never alone. God always has someone watching over us.

One of the difficulties of the early Church concerning angels was what rank they should be considered to have. They are totally spiritual creatures, and in the Greek world the spiritual was considered to be much superior to the physical. Given this, the early Christians had to ask whether the angels were superior to Jesus. He, after all, was incarnate. Might he be inferior to the angels?

This is why the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of Jesus being superior to the angels. In Ephesians, Jesus is said to be raised above every Principality, Power and dominion (the names of three of the choirs of angels). In the Book of Revelation, the visionary is told not to worship the angels (Rev 19:10 & 22:9). Thus, angels are servants of God who are messengers, guides and helpers. They worship the almighty God, and they enter into our world to protect us. May we always love and honour them.

Messenger of St Anthony September 2021

God our Father, in a wonderful way you guide the work of all your creatures. May St Gabriel, the archangel whom you chose to announce the mystery of the Incarnation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, keep us free from harm and help us to grow strong in faith. Under his watchful care, may we advance along the way of salvation, and generously use our talents, gifts, and vision, in the service of our parish, and to the honour and glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time B
26.09.2021

**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 Lawrence Ruiz and Companions
Tuesday 28 September**

The Filipino layman, Lorenzo Ruiz, and fifteen companions were martyred at Nagasaki by the Japanese in 1637 and were canonized by Pope John Paul II in Manila, October 18 1987. Lorenzo was of Chinese origin and lived in Binondo, the Chinese section of Manila. He was the father of a family and he went to Japan with the Dominican missionaries in order to avoid arrest for a crime of which he was accused. All 16 martyrs were either members of the Dominican Order or in some way associated with it. When the news of their martyrdom reached Manila on December 27 1637, a solemn *Te Deum* was sung in the church of Santo Domingo.

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

The feast of St Gabriel falls on Wednesday 29 September. Our parish bulletin includes a second article on the Angels and Archangels this weekend

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. It seems that about 1500 men participated in the National Catholic Mens Gathering on 31 July at 46 sites across Australia and New Zealand along with us at St Gabriel's Reservoir.

Statues of St Joseph are available at reduced prices from Fidelity Books & Pieties www.fidelitybooks.com.au tel: 9578 2706. A lovely addition to your home prayer table, private prayer corner, office or gift. All statues come boxed
[5-STR516] 12cm \$9
[5-STR816] 20cm \$18
[5-STR1216] 30cm \$30

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

MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI

Spiritual wellbeing is as important as psychological and physical wellbeing. Lockdown has affected Victorians deeply, no less for the thousands of people of faith who have not been able to attend worship or receive the sacraments of the Church. We have been very flexible throughout this pandemic, but are urging Government and health authorities to make clear what the end goal is after we hit 80% full vaccination status. It would be a tragedy if two classes of citizens, the vaccinated and the unvaccinated, were to emerge and be entrenched as we look towards a COVID-normal goal. In our faith tradition, all the available vaccines in Australia are permissible to receive, and our clergy and people are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated. We believe we can achieve ways that allow both vaccinated and unvaccinated people to worship in-person safely, and are working with other faith leaders to bring those proposals to the table.