

Processional Hymn CWB 504

Holy God, we praise thy name,
Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth your sceptre claim,
all in heav'n above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain,
everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim
in unceasing chorus praising
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord!

Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name thee,
while in essence only one,
undivided God we claim thee,
and adoring bend the knee,
while we own the mystery.

Liturgy of the Word

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29
Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24 Luke 14:1,7-14

Psalm Response

God, in your goodness,
you have made a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Take my yoke upon you; learn from me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

In today's Gospel Jesus offers some wise advice on table etiquette. For Luke, the story has implications for the relationship of the rich to the poor who gather for the Eucharistic banquet. Only if all members are treated with equal dignity can it truly be called the Lord's Supper. Parishes prosper when all are treated equally regardless of how much each can put on the collection plate.

Preparation of the Gifts GA 324

Ubi caritas et amor,
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

Living charity and steadfast love,
Living charity shows the heart of God.

Next weekend 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Wisdom 9:13-18
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

*Our dear departed
called to the heavenly Jerusalem*

Recently Deceased

Sr Val Deakin SGS, Francesca Antonucci,
Nathalie Nagalingum

Anniversary of death

Mario Federico, Joe & Lorenza Deguara,
Francesca Antonucci



Holy Communion CWB 461

Brother, sister let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

Recessional Hymn CWB 583

Praise the Lord, you heav'ns, adore him;
praise him, angels in the height;
sun and moon, rejoice before him;
praise him, all you stars and light.
Praise the Lord, for he has spoken;
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
laws which never shall be broken,
for their guidance he has made.

Praise the Lord, who is all glorious;
never shall his promise fail;
God has made his saints victorious,
sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation.
Hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim;
heav'n and earth and all creation
praise and glorify his name.

Worship, honour, glory, blessing,
Lord, we offer as our gift.
Young and old, your praise expressing,
our glad songs to you we lift.
All the saints in heav'n adore you,
we would join their glad acclaim;
as your angels serve before you,
so on earth we praise your name.

One Licence: A-640406



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

Parish Priest: Fr Gregory Pritchard
Parish Office: 1 Viola Street Reservoir 3073
Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am—12:30pm Friday 9am—3pm
Phone: 9460 6036
Email: 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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 28.08.2022

**Please hand sanitise
at entry & Holy Communion
Face masks
recommended indoors**

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 9am *St Gabriel's*
Wednesday 9.30am *St Stephen's*
Thursday 9am *St Gabriel's*
Friday 9am *St Gabriel's*

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday *St Stephen's*
5pm Reconciliation 6pm Vigil Mass
Sunday *St Gabriel's*
9am Reconciliation 10am Mass

Thanksgiving and Clergy support offering by direct debit

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

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



**Our Parish is committed
to the safety, wellbeing and dignity
of all children and vulnerable adults**

Archbishop Comensoli has approved the **amalgamation of St Gabriel's & St Stephen's parishes**, having advice from the College of Consultors and the Council of Priests. Parishes will be suppressed and a new parish established. The Archbishop asks that we propose a name for our new parish. We need to do this remembering that in 3-5 years time Reservoir and Reservoir East will be part of a mission cluster embracing neighbouring parishes eg. Reservoir North, West Preston, Preston East.

In light of this, may I suggest that we retain the patronage of St Gabriel & St Stephen of Hungary with the designation "Reservoir-Reservoir East". In the near future we will be asked to consider a name for our mission area. Please let me know what you think.

Weekly meetings for our **RCIA** candidates commence Thursday 25 August 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre. All are welcome to use these meetings as a way to refresh our faith and to support our candidates. Our basic text will be YOUCAT: Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church, presented by Pope Benedict XVI at World Youth Day Madrid (Spain) 2011.

Our **Parish Thanksgiving** renewal will now take place in November. During October we will update our parish census database. Sincere thanks to all who support our parish and priests in regular Thanksgiving.

Fathers Day falls next Sunday 4 September. 3 candidates (St Gabriel's MACS) will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation

St Gabriel's Church, Sunday 10am Mass.
The **Fathers Day Appeal for Sick and Retired Priests**

will be taken up at weekend Masses.

Due to health / family reasons, a number of our **Church Gardening Team** can no longer help with the maintenance of the Church gardens. Anyone who has 2 hours to spare a month is welcome to join the team. No experience needed. Everyone is welcome. Tools and gloves provided. The next working bee is Saturday 3 September 9-11am. Information: Ange Braysha 0401 858 717

St Gabriel's Theatre Group welcomes adults and children of all ages and abilities to audition for the 2022 production *Peter Pan* Sunday 28 August 6pm St Gabriel's Parish Hall. Family groups welcome. Come along or phone Judy 0488 580 145.

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers! Our campaign begins 8 September and runs until 6 November. With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 co-ordinated campaigns:

- Over 20,000 babies saved from abortion
- Over 200 abortion workers converted
- Over 100 abortion centres closed

Here's how to take part:

- Vigil location: Wellington Parade, East Melbourne, near Jolimont Station (NB the vigil site is at the marked 'exclusion zone'.)
- Vigil hours: 8 am to 8 pm daily

Contact: Kathy Clubb 0450 464 786
kathy.clubb@gmail.com
www.40daysforlife.com/Melbourne

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

- Donation boxes are below statue of St Joseph in St Gabriel's Church, and near baptismal font in St Stephen's Church.

- **Vinnies Reservoir 10 Edwardes St Reservoir**
1300 736 933 vinnies.org.au/getinvolved
volunteer@svdp-vic.org.au

Vinnies Reservoir welcomes Uni students for placement, year 10+ for work experience, and Duke of Edinburgh award applicants. Volunteers needed 7 days 9am to 12pm

LEGION OF MARY

- Our Parish praesidium (group), dedicated to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, meets every Monday 1.30pm Bethany Room St Gabriel's Parish Centre. *New members are always welcome.*

- Our Parish Legion of Mary invites families to welcome the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima for a week of family prayer.

- *Enquiries Maureen O'Dwyer 9460 8520*

ST GABRIEL'S PIETY STALL

St Paul's Holy Week Missal \$10
St Paul's Sunday Missal \$35
St Paul's Weekday Missal \$60
New Order of Mass \$7
My Simple Mass book \$8 (*children*)
My Little Missal \$8 (*children*)
Baptism Candles & Stoles \$15

LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP

St Raphael's Parish 17 Hardy St, Preston West
Wednesdays 1.30pm
Contact: Nikki Daniel 9470 5840

A wise man once said that humility isn't thinking less of yourself; it's thinking of yourself less. That's what both Sirach and Jesus tell us in today's readings. Humility helps us take the spotlight off ourselves. And when we stop putting ourselves first, we become more open to the people around us.

That's what makes humility a key to healthy relationships. It helps us in two ways: we see people differently, and they see us differently. In our first reading, Sirach noticed this link (see 3:17-18). That's why he counselled his son to conduct his affairs with humility. Humble people are better able to see the needs, desires, and struggles of the people around them. Not only that, but there's something attractive about a person who doesn't put himself first. It makes people want to try to connect with them.

Jesus said something similar in his parable about taking the lowest place at a banquet. As we take our attention off what we think we deserve or what we think will make us look good, we stop trying to claim recognition for ourselves. That makes us better able to treat other people with respect and honour. And that opens us to the love that God wants to flow between us.

Perhaps you are tempted to think that a humble person is someone who lets other people walk all over them. And who wants to be like that? The truth is, true humility requires great strength. Choosing to put other people ahead of yourself goes against a lot of ingrained habits and self-interest. But it will make you free to love the people around you. And you'll find that this kind of love opens up a curious dynamic: the more you give it away, the more it comes back to you. wau.org



Weekend 1—2 October Legion of Mary Pilgrim statue

The Parish pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be blessed at weekend Masses. Parishioners are invited to register for the Pilgrim statue to visit your home for family prayer.

Parish Thanksgiving Renewal

Parish Census Update *Weekends October 8-9, 15-16*
Renewal *Weekends November 5-6, 12-13*

Sunday 19 March 2023

Afternoon presented by sapientiaproject.com

Weekend 22-23 April 2023

Legion of Mary membership weekend

Weekend 13-14 May 2023

Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

Weekend 10-11 June 2023

Blessing of St Anthony's bread

Weekend 15-16 July 2023

Clothing with Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt Carmel

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

The Catholic Landscape

Rise of 'no religion' doesn't reveal truth on ground

There has been some discussion this week about the issue of religion and the census, specifically the rise of those ticking "no religion". This is important for several reasons, from statistical byplay to questioning what is really happening on the ground with the growth of secularisation of Australian society.

Is the rise of "no religion" in the census being propelled by indifference, agnosticism or true atheism, and what of the role of religious institutions in Australia?

First, it has to be remembered that although the number ticking the "no religion" box has increased, no religion as a first option was introduced only in 2016 after agitation by people who didn't want it at the bottom of the list of religions but as a stand-alone category because, whatever cultural religious grouping people might have previously ticked, no religion reflected more accurately their religious involvement. It was given a specific category of its own.

But with people such as militant atheist comic Tim Minchin weighing in with advice to tick the box, it seemed suspiciously like militant secularism was at least one impetus for the change.

Demographers including Bernard Salt expected this change alone would cause the numbers identifying as "no religion" to rise. They were right. Salt said in *The Australian* in 2016: "It is not that there is a sudden increase in godlessness, it is simply there is a mechanism to capture what is already there in the community."

However, this does not tell us what people really think about religion and who is interested in the spiritual dimension of life. Nor does ticking "no religion" tell us about their involvement with religious organisations such as schools, hospitals and, in the case of one person I know who did tick no religion, a church-run soup kitchen. It just tells us there is a disengagement from identification with and practice of religion, especially organised religion. So, before atheists and anti-God readers start seizing on this as a sign that Australians are finally rejecting God by rejecting organised religion, it has to be emphasised that the census does not capture belief.

Belief, whether it is based in a religious tradition and practice, or is much vaguer and perhaps shifting, is not the same as religion. "No religion" is sometimes the fall back for this "spiritual but not religious" attitude. What is more, other parts of the census should ring a warning bell that rejoicing over the decline of religion, especially Christianity, might be premature. The loudest clanging bell is the diversity of our immigrants, many of whom do practice religion.

Heated discussion has centred on the loss of numbers of people in church pews, indicating a decline in Christianity. But despite the lack of practising Christians, the combined Christian-identifying population is still 44 per cent. Catholics still make up the biggest number at 5.1 million, 20 per cent of the total population - down from 22.6 per cent in 2016. So in sheer numbers Christianity, and Catholicism in particular, is still strong as a percentage of the population.

The census statistics also prove that Catholics are entrenched in Australian society at all levels with indicators such as home ownership and level of education. But the really important point is not just in these numbers. It is something the census does not capture the quality of Catholicism. The practising Catholic population looks very different from a generation ago

The National Centre for Pastoral Research, funded by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, is one of the few Catholic research sources that give a picture of the Catholic social profile in Australia, and it confirms a growing trend in suburban pockets balancing the smaller overall numbers in churches. Where the people at mass were once the offspring of the Irish and Mediterranean diaspora, the faces at mass are now brown, black and Asian. They have children, they are very devout and involved, and they tend to make up in quality what practising Catholicism lacks in quantity.

At present this is a niche phenomenon, in large parishes with diverse ethnic populations such as Liverpool and Parramatta in Sydney's west, with groups from The Philippines, Vietnam and India. The number of Catholics born in The Philippines last year is only 3.3 per cent of Catholics. However, Filipino Catholics are among the most active of all practising Australian Catholics. It is a bit of a joke among older stalwarts that if you have a Filipino family in your parish the rest of us don't have to do anything.

Likewise, Vietnamese Catholics who are devout and involved have provided an unrepresentative number of candidates for the priesthood, and there is now an ethnic Vietnamese Bishop of Parramatta. Indians, Chinese, these people are the new ethnic face and force of Australian Catholicism and Christianity in general as more Pentecostals arrive in Australia. Islam is strong in Australia and be coming stronger.

The church and religion in general in Australia are going through another generational change, as the census shows. Time will tell whether the shifts represent a spiritual renaissance, or spiritual drought. But the census can't capture that. The Weekend Australian 2-3/7/22

St Vincent de Paul Reservoir

Our Parish St Vincent de Paul Conference meets monthly at St Gabriel's Parish Centre. Conference members visit families and those in need in Reservoir and Reservoir East. There is also a Vinnie's store 10 Edwardes Street Reservoir. They invite volunteers to assist in the store 7 days, 9am-12noon.

In the year 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022, the parish conference made 521 calls (41 new requests for assistance), including 839 adults and 479 children. They distributed Coles vouchers (\$52,000); Vinnie vouchers (\$12,600); and provided furniture and bills relief (\$19,787). Sincere thanks to Parishioners who contributed \$2,210 to the Winter Appeal.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Legion of Mary

Our Parish Presidium meets each Monday in St Gabriel's Parish Centre. From August 2021-2022 the Legion of Mary made 42 home visits, 83 visits with Holy Communion, and 24 visits to Parish nursing homes. The Presidium visits families prior to Baptism, and assists at the celebration. 36 families welcomed Our Lady's Statue: The Presidium opens the piety stall at St Gabriel's Church. Phone calls were made during COVID-19 lockdown.

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin Ireland on 7 September 1921. It is a lay Catholic organisation whose members serve the church on a voluntary basis in almost every country. The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation with Mary in the apostolate of the Church.