Processional Hymn

Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness, vanished away,
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face, We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, Gather us in, the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion, lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place, the new light is shining, now is the kingdom now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 55: 6-9 Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 Matthew 20:1-16

Psalm Response

The Lord is near to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Preparation of the Gifts

Refrain: Come to me, all who labour and are heavy burdened, and I shall give you rest.

Take up my yoke and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart.

And you'll find rest for your souls.

Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall never be in need. Fresh and green are the meadows where he gives me rest. *Refrain*

One Licence: A-640406

Holy Communion 1

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all. Refrain

Holy Communion 2

Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence of all that I love here on earth.

All the beauty I see has been given to me, and his giving is gentle as silence.

Ev'ry day, ev'ry hour, ev'ry moment have been blessed by the strength of his love. At the turn of each tide he is there at my side, and his touch is as gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from his presence, and I've walked other paths, other ways.

But I've called on his name in the dark of my shame, and his mercy was gentle as silence.

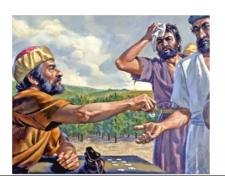
Recessional Hymn

Go now, you are sent forth to live what you proclaim; to show the world you follow Christ in fact, not just in name.

Go now, you are sent forth to walk this troubled earth, to share your faith with everyone and prove your real worth.

Go now, you are sent forth as God's ambassador; by serving him in those we meet, we love him more and more.

Go now, you are sent forth and Christ goes with you too. Today you help his kingdom come in everything you do.





Parish of St Gabriel & St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir - 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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A 24.09.2023

MASS & RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 9am Mass *St Gabriel's*Wednesday 9.30am Mass *St Stephen's*★ Thursday 8.30am Mass *St Gabriel's*★

Friday 29 September

FEAST OF THE HOLY ARCHANGELS

The parishes of St Gabriel—St Stephen of Hungary and St Raphael's West Preston commence formal Partnership. Concelebrated Masses: St Raphael's 8.30am St Gabriel's 10am

Saturday *St Stephen's* 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday St Gabriel's 9am Reconciliation 10am Mass

Thanksgiving & Clergy support by direct debit

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



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

Parishioners and visitors to St Gabriel's Church and parish office may like to park their cars in the church car park.



We celebrate the Feast of St Gabriel next Sunday 1 October Sunday 10am Mass

Fresh Roast Mobile Café after Mass in the Church grounds Parishioners are invited to provide biscuits, cupcakes, slices cannoli or crostoli

The Benedict Conference Truth, Goodness, Beauty

ACU Cathedral Hall Brunswick St Fitzroy Saturday 28 October 10am – 5pm Speakers include Bishop Robert Barron and Prof Tracey Rowland. www.benedictconference.com

Referendum Day Saturday 14 October

St Gabriel's Hall will be a polling place. Sausage sizzle provided by St Gabriel's Theatre Group.

St Stephen's Reservoir East

The fence has now been relocated, providing St Stephen's MACS with 870m² for 40 children, and 830m² car parking etc for St Stephen's Church use. Sincere thanks to Friends for St Stephen's for a successful campaign. There efforts have included a rally, youtube video, letters to Archbishop Comensoli and MACS Ltd. Melbourne Priests have followed this project with considerable interest, as MACS overreach is being experienced all around the Diocese.



Support for Libya & Morocco Caritas.org.au 1800 024 413

ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP

Fiddler on the Roof

Costumes / Set / Rehearsals: Sundays 11am-9pm

St Gabriel's Hall

Enquiries: Judy O'Meara 0488 580 145

judeome@hotmail.com

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

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

Order your 2024 Calendar & Christmas cards at St Gabriel's Piety Stall

Columban Art Calendar \$10 Voce de Padre Pio Calendario Almanacco \$10 Magellan Christmas cards (pack of 10) \$7.50

Orders close Sunday 1 October

LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP

St Raphael's Parish 17 Hardy St, Preston West Wednesdays 1.30pm Contact: Marijana Jurjevic 0422 340 675

RELIC STATUE OF ST JOHN BOSCO

Veneration and Mass celebrated by Archbishop Comensoli Saturday 30 September 11am St Margaret Mary's Church 51 Mitchell St Brunswick North.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

Australian pilgrimage 17-28 October 2023 national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

Saturday 7 October 12.30pm

Join your pro-life friends in Treasury Gardens for a peaceful march through the streets of Melbourne and rally on the steps of Parliament House.

marchforthebabies.com

Jesus told this Gospel parable to help us better understand how generous and merciful God is. But the seeming unfairness of the landowner's decision can still leave us feeling a bit unsettled. We might react differently, however, when we consider the lives of two people who, like the workers in this parable, came to the vineyard later in life

Felix Leseur was raised Catholic in nineteenth-century France but lost his faith in medical school and became an atheist. His wife, Elisabeth, on the other hand, grew closer to God and began praying fervently for her husband's conversion. After her death at the age of 47, Felix began reading her diary. The deep faith he saw there touched him, and he returned to the Lord at the age of 56 and eventually became a priest.

St Angela of Foligno was born in 1248 to a wealthy family in Umbria, Italy. Married at a young age, she revelled in the worldly life and all its trappings. But a series of natural disasters and an ongoing war led her to reexamine her priorities. At the age of 37 - considered midlife for that time—she sought the Lord's mercy in Confession. Then after the premature deaths of her husband, mother, and two children, she gave up all her possessions and became a lay Franciscan.

When we hear about people like Felix and Angela, we don't begrudge them the heavenly reward they are now enjoying. It doesn't matter that they came later to the vineyard. God and his angels in heaven still rejoiced, and so should we anytime we hear of someone turning to God later in life.

God is always inviting people to "go into my vineyard". Today at Mass, pray for the people you know who have not yet accepted his invitation. May they one day receive the reward he so graciously has in store for them! wau.org

Every Christian has the duty to bear witness to the Gospel by his or her own life. But God walks a special path with each person. Some he sends as laymen, so that they might build up the kingdom of God by their family and occupation in the midst of the world. For this purpose, he bestows on them in Baptism and Confirmation all the necessary gifts of the Holy Spirit. Others he entrusts with the pastoral ministry; they are to govern, teach, and sanctify his people. No one can take this duty upon themselves; the Lord himself must send them on his way with his divine power through Holy Orders, so they he can act in the place of Christ and administer the Sacraments.

Next weekend 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Ezekiel 18:25-28 Philippians 2:1-11 Matthew 21:28-32





HEAVENLY PROTECTORS I

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.

The Old Testament

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 on 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).

Evil Spirits

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 Tobiah on his journey to his homeland, and also heals Tobit, Tobiah's father, of his blindness.

Messenger of St Anthony September 2021

Archbishop Comensoli has appointed Frs Simon Grainger and Gregory Pritchard *pastors in solidum* of the **partnered parishes of Reservoir—Reservoir East and Preston West,** commencing Friday 29 September 2023. In this partnership, the Archbishop has appointed Fr Pritchard moderator until Fr Grainger's retirement in October 2024. The 2 priests are called to cooperate in solidarity and unity.

In the next 12 months the 2 priests and parishes must work together for care of souls. Each parish retains its individual status, and must be administered separately (temporal goods, finances). We must work towards a joint Parish Finance Committee and other planning.

Over recent year as Reservoir—Reservoir East and Preston West Parishes have worked together with WYD 2023 and men's ministry; joint meetings of parish finance committees have occurred opportunities must be taken for the priests to celebrate Masses in the 3 churches, and for parishioners to meet and get to know one another.

Both priests made the required Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity on the altar of St Gabriel's Church Reservoir on Tuesday 19 September 2023.



The Sisters of the Good Samaritan, founded by Archbishop John Bede Polding OSB at Sydney in 1857, have been vital and active in Reservoir-Reservoir East, Preston West and nearby Parishes since 1930. Our Parish history records the service of 230 Sisters. In the 1970s they drove the innovative motor mission in local government schools. In 2010 they were recognised with the statue of St Benedict (St Gabriel's Church), Solemn Mass and Vespers celebrated by the Abbot of New Norcia WA, and a festive luncheon. During recent years Srs Zita and Therese have maintained a community in Reservoir. Earlier this year Sister Zita moved to St Joseph's Home Northcote. On Sunday 1 October, Sister Therese will move to Marian House, Northcote. Generations of parishioners owe the Sisters of the Good Samaritan an unpayable debt of gratitude.

Fr Aurelio Fragapane has been appointed assistant Priest to Reservoir—Reservoir East and Preston West Parishes, commencing Wednesday 11 October. He will reside at St Raphael's Presbytery Preston West. His ministry will focus especially on the Italian community, but also include chaplaincy to MACS schools, Parish RCIA and young adults. Fr Fragapane appointment supports the partnership of both Parishes. He is a great blessing among us! Fr Fragapane - a warm welcome!

The Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary hope to visit Melbourne some time in November. Our Parish Finance Committee proposed that Reservoir—Reservoir East and Preston West Parishes assist with their airfares. We hope that they will be with us fr about 10 days, with a week end in each Parish, meetings with Archbishop Comensoli, the Vicar General and other Dominican communities and a tour of Melbourne Catholic sites: St Patricks Cathedral, Mary MacKillop Place, Mary Glowrey Museum.