

Processional Hymn CWB 398

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
let the world know he is your choice.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Oh, magnify the Lord and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for all his saints of ancient days.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Christian women, Christian men,
all the world over, seek again
the way his faithful followed then.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let love's all reconciling might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole Church at last be one.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Liturgy of the Word

We human beings need fuel to keep going. Without food and drink we become weak and eventually die. Our spiritual life also needs fuel, namely the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. We are nourished also by prayer, the Scriptures, the community and by loving others. If we seek this nourishment regularly our light will be shining brightly when Christ comes in glory

Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Psalm Response

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when
the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!



Preparation of the Gifts CWB 251

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.



Holy Communion CWB 455

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else to me Naught to me, save that thou art,
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
be thou my great Father, thy child let me be,
be thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my breast plate. my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou e heav'n -ward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou my Inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
O Sov'reign of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me it's joys after vict'ry is won,
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Recessional Hymn CWB 649

You are the Way: in you alone
from sin and death we rise:
Without your grace we nothing are,
in you all goodness lies

You are the Truth: your Word alone
full wisdom can impart;
Your Word alone transforms the mind
and purifies the heart.

You are the Life: the empty tomb
proclaims your victory.
And those who put their trust in you
shall ever more be free.

You are the Way, the Truth, the Life:
grant us that Way to see,
that Truth to keep, that Life to live,
that we your friends may be.

One Licence: A-640406

Partnered Parishes

**St Gabriel & St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir—Reservoir East
and St Raphael Preston West**

Clergy: Fr G Pritchard, Fr S Grainger, Fr A Fragapane

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

St Raphael's Church
17 Hardy St Preston West 3072

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A 12.11.2023

MASS & RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 9am Mass *St Gabriel's*

Wednesday 9.30am Mass *St Stephen's*

Thursday 9am Mass *St Gabriel's*

Friday 9am Mass *St Gabriel's*

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

Sunday *St Gabriel's*
9am Reconciliation 10am Mass

St Raphael's Preston West
Weekend Masses

Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 9am *Italian* 10.30am Masses

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Wednesday 4pm
Thursday & Friday 8.30am

Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am

Thanksgiving & Clergy support by direct debit

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



***Our Parish is committed
to providing a safe environment for everyone.
Please make sure children are supervised
at all times within church buildings
and on church grounds.***

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

Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary Welcome!

The Sisters visit Reservoir and Preston West 14-26 November. They will spend a weekend in each Parish, and visit Archbishop Comensoli and the Vicar General.

Proclaim 2023 November 16-18

Over 3 days join together with parishes from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne to be inspired, engaged and equipped to proclaim the joy of the Gospel
Register: trybooking.com/events/landing/1131232 use the discount code: [parishmember](#) to access the special registration price for parishioners.
Enquiries: 9926 5761 or proclaim@cam.org.au

Night of Evangelisation

St Luke's Church 1A David Street Lalor
Wednesday 15 November 7pm
Presented by Ron Huntley

Hear Ron speak of how parishes are making disciples and transforming lives around the world, through reliance on the Holy Spirit and great leadership principles. He shares insights into leadership, renewing your perspective, and living a life in pursuit of Jesus and explores disciple-making and raising leaders with the Alpha program to help Catholic parishes become vibrant, mission-focused communities

Parish RCIA & Sacraments

Weekly meetings for our RCIA candidates.
Thursdays 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre

Coffee and cake after Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass 16 December *St Stephen's*

Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens
Sunday 17 December 10 Mass. Coffee Truck after Mass

Registration for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation 2024.
Please email the Parish office.

Parish Young Adults

Parish young adults are invited to a get-together Sunday 3 December 11.30 - 1pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre. Anna Krohn will lead us into Advent & Christmas. Lunch included: \$10 working \$5 student/non-working.

St Gabriel's Gardens and Grounds

Working Bee next Saturday 18 November 9am – 11am
Equipment provided. Contact Ange 0401 858 717

Mens Dinner

Darebin RSL 402 Bell Street Preston
Tuesday 28 November 6.30pm
Register: Tim Rebbechi
RSVP:



ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP

St Gabriel's Parish Hall Reservoir

Tuesday 21 November 7.30pm

Thursday 23 November 7.30pm

Friday 24 November 7.30pm

Saturday 25 November 4pm

Tickets: Adults \$20 Concession \$15

Family (2 adults, 2 or more children) \$60 Under 5 free

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

Calendario Italiano \$10

Majellan Christmas cards \$7.50 10 pack

LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP

St Raphael's Church 17 Hardy St Preston West

End of year Mass Wednesday 15 November

Wednesdays 1.30pm

Contact: Marijana Jurjevic 0422 340 675

NIGHT OF THE WITNESSES

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

Wednesday 22 November 7pm

3 International speakers will share their own story of encountering persecution. aidtochurch.org/notw

ST AMBROSE BRUNSWICK 150 YEARS

Sunday 19 November

10.30am Mass 12 noon Lunch 2pm Concert

In Jesus' time, weddings were events to be anticipated: seven days of nonstop feasting and celebrating. So we can assume that all of the ten young women in today's parable wanted to go to this particular wedding feast. And yet, when the bridegroom was delayed, five of them were not ready. Their lamps died out, and they had no oil to refill them.

Who knows why they weren't prepared? Maybe they were distracted or too busy to make sure their oil flasks were full. But what we do know is that, as a result, they were not where they were supposed to be, and they missed the chance to come into the feast. What a shame! These young women seriously needed to re-examine their priorities!

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, the Church uses our Mass readings to encourage us to examine our own priorities as we await the coming of the Lord. We have been invited to the wedding feast of Jesus, when his Bride, the Church, will be united to him forever. Of course we want to go!

That means we need to make sure our lamps have enough oil. We need to heed Jesus' last words from today's Gospel: "Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour". But it's not about going to a store to stock up on supplies. Staying awake means looking at how we spend our time and making sure that we're putting the Lord first and cultivating our love for Jesus, our Bridegroom.

Look back over this past week. Think about the decisions you made and how they reveal what is important to you. Is there one priority you could reshape that would help you be closer to where you need to be when the Bridegroom returns?

wau.org

ADVENT 2023

Advent commences weekend 2-3 December.

We prepare for Christmas

both at home and in the Church.

- Every family should have a Nativity set along with their Christmas tree.
- Aid to the Church in need provides a beautiful Advent Wreath for the home. This helps each one, young and old, await the coming of the world's True Light: www.thatcatholicshop.com
- Fidelity Books & Pieties has a Catholic Advent Calendar, Nativity sets and other Advent and Christmas items: www.fidelitybooks.com.au
- Majellan Christmas cards available from St Gabriel's Piety Stall \$7.50 pack of 10

**May our dead find peace
in the risen Christ**

Recently Deceased

Sr Zita Duffy SGS

Juliana Mardjetko,

**Next weekend
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

Motherhood: An indispensable role and a great honour I

Being reminded of the dignity of motherhood is powerful. Parenting is not just a private nurturing role, but rather sits in the public and private spheres with the power to renew generations, society and culture.

But where is our culture going regarding motherhood? Negative attitudes dominate in society about the so-called mundane work involved in parenting and the lack of recognition of unpaid work though it is work nonetheless. We also see the poor treatment in financial policy towards the one-third of all families that are bearing over half the newborn population of Australia

Australia has a low birth rate, which is one of the triumphs of radical feminist policies. Not to mention that housing is all but unaffordable and living on one income is full of difficulties. Certainly, there is little to no celebration of mothers' contribution to the common good.

The policies that are needed to help fulfil the radical feminist utopia are:

1. Cheap accessible divorce.
2. Cheap accessible contraception.
3. Cheap accessible abortion.
4. Cheap accessible childcare.
5. Cheap accessible before and after school care.

In summary, the radical feminist ideology says that women must be liberated from the "bonds" of dependency on men (marriage/finances); the "oppression of unplanned pregnancy"; and (if children *are* desired), the outdated expectation of the mother being the primary carer of babies and young children.

Motherhood is transmitted vertically down the family tree. Children learn to make a home, because they had one; children learn to mother and father because they were mothered and fathered. As Anne Lastman has observed: "A mother doesn't mother if she was not mothered."

Nowadays, with much easier access to cheap day care, the common perception is that it would be "bad" not to send your young child to early years "education" for fear of your child falling behind.

The great social experiment of our time is to leave children as young as six weeks to be cared for by strangers. Only time will tell what the deep impact of this lack of one-on-one mother care, attachment disruption. and orphanage-style childcare will have on them as they grow into adults.

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Visit catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer to open an account and for disclosure details, or scan the QR code.



November is a special time to pray for the dead

The November offering envelope can be placed in the weekend collection. Envelopes are available at Church entrances and Presbytery front door with the Parish bulletin. Place your envelope in the weekend collection. Masses for the faithful departed are offered during November.

The Be-Attitudes I

Here are 3 more ways to give ourselves direction and to build a stronger spiritual life

Be skilful

Too many people are careless when troubles come their way. Rather than react, respond skilfully. Allow the difficulty to enlarge and expand you. This is, in fact, what happened to the writer of Psalm 4: "Thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress!" Remember this wisdom from physician author Elizabeth Kubler Ross (1926-2004), who said, "Beautiful people don't just happen. Beautiful people are those who have known defeat, suffering, struggle, loss, and have found their way out of these depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep, loving concern."

Be generous

"A generous man will himself be blessed" is the assurance of Proverbs 22:9. Give to whomever you can, whenever you can, and as much as you can. Take inspiration from a man who practices 'reverse panhandling. At least once a year, California resident Rob Breznsy enjoys standing on the exit ramp of a major highway holding a handful of five-dollar bills and a cardboard sign that reads: *I need to give; I love to help, please take my money.* Each time he does this, he distributes nearly \$1000 to both prosperous and poor motorists alike.

Be patient

This virtue is especially important to exercise when life is awkward and difficult. Consider this biblical exhortation "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land" (Ps 37:3). Focus on the phrase "dwell in the land." A contemporary way of expressing the same view is this: "Bloom where you are planted." Just as a plant can bloom on soil which is rocky and hard, we are instructed to do our best where God has placed us. Don't give in to discouragement. Avoid self-pity.

Be positive

Negativity simply deepens a crisis and results in a downward spiral. Bring to mind the wisdom of the apostle Paul: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about that" (Phil 4:8). Being positive is not only better emotionally, but actually results in physical benefits. A study by the Institute of HeartMath a nonprofit research and education organization discovered that hypertensive patients could lower their blood pressure by practicing 'positive refocusing. In the study, hypertensive patients were taught positive thinking principles. After just 3 months of practice all participants had lower blood pressure. In addition, 12 percent were able to reduce their dose of blood-pressure lowering medication, and one no longer needed the prescription at all.