

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

**St Raphael Preston West,
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North**
Clergy: Fr G Pritchard, Fr Jossy Kuriakose, Dcn F Correya
Parish Office Hours:
St Gabriel's 1 Viola St Reservoir 3073
Tues & Wed 9am—1pm Thurs & Fri 9am—3pm
0487 116 154 reservoir@cam.org.au
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North Wed & Fri 9am –5pm
9460 3013 reservoirnorth@cam.org.au

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
St Joseph the Worker Church
79 Wilson Blvd Reservoir North 3073

**7TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C
23 FEBRUARY 2025**

WEEKDAY MASSES

9am Tuesday & Wednesday *St Gabriel's*
9.15am Thursday *St Joseph the Worker*
9.15am Friday *St Raphael's*

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4pm Reconciliation
5pm Vigil Mass
*1st Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass
Maltese Reservoir North*

Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
*Reservoir East
Reconciliation on request*

Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Preston West

Sunday 8am Reconciliation
9am Mass English/Italian
Reservoir North

Sunday 8am Reconciliation *Reservoir*
9am Mass *Reservoir*

Sunday 10.30am Mass *Preston West*
English/Italian

**Thanksgiving & Clergy support
by direct debit**

St Gabriel's & St Stephen's Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 639372585
St Raphael's Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 643968007
St Joseph the Worker Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 645772382



Our Partnered Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of everyone including children and vulnerable adults. Please make sure children are supervised at all times within church buildings and on church grounds.



**ASH WEDNESDAY 5 March
Masses**

**9.15am St Joseph the Worker
9.15am St Raphael's
7pm St Gabriel's**

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of
fasting and abstinence from meat**

Sincere thanks to members of our Partnered Parishes who serve as **readers and ministers of Holy Communion**. They participated together with Frs Pritchard and Kuriakose and Deacon Correya at a fruitful formation evening Tuesday 18 February.

Deacon Correya and parish representatives from St Gabriel's, St Stephen's, St Raphael's & St Joseph the Worker have been invited to attend **Leading in Hope: Vital Parishes** Catholic Leadership Centre East Melbourne Saturday 22 February.

Deacon Correya and his family attend the **Jubilee of Permanent Deacons** St Patrick's Cathedral 11am Solemn Mass and lunch with Archbishop Comensoli Sunday 23 February.

Both priests met with **principals and RELs** from St Gabriel's, St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker schools Tuesday 18 February.

Both Frs Pritchard & Kuriakose will attend the diocesan **clergy workshop** Thursday 27 February.

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.
- Our Parish St Vincent de Paul Conference is now responding to welfare calls from Preston West. Members of our Partnered Parishes are warmly invited to join the Society in its mission of charity and outreach.
*Contact Conference president Andrew Dos Santos
reservoir.conf.pres@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*

LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP

Wednesdays 1.30pm
St Raphael's Church Preston West
Enquiries: Marijana 0422 340 675

ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP

Auditions: Sunday 31 August 6pm
Rehearsals commence 31 August
Enquiries: Judy judeome@hotmail.com

CARMELITE NUNS TASMANIA

6331 3585 launcestoncarmel.com
** scapulars * prayer requests
* enrol in Our Lady's Perpetual Lamp*

RADIO MARIA AUSTRALIA

Tune in live via:
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Digital Radio: 202.928
Apple or Google Play App: Radio Maria Play

CATHOLIC MEN FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne 10am
melbournemensrosarycrusade.com

ST MONICA'S COLLEGE EPPING

- ◆ Apply now for Year 7 2027
registrar@stmonicas-epping.com
- ◆ Mornings at St Monica's *stmonicas-epping.com/enrolments/book-a-tour/*
- ◆ Grades 4-6 Information Evening Wednesday 2 April
www.trybooking.com/cxjbd

The New Law practices the acts of religion: almsgiving, prayer and fasting, directing them to the "Father who sees in secret," in contrast with the desire to "be seen by men." Its prayer is the Our Father. The Law of the Gospel requires us to make the decisive choice between "the two ways" and to put into practice the words of the Lord. It is summed up in the Golden Rule, "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; this is the law and the prophets". The entire Law of the Gospel is contained in the "new commandment" of Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us. The New Law is the grace of the Holy Spirit received by faith in Christ, operating through charity. It finds expression above all in the Lord's Sermon on the Mount and uses the sacraments to communicate grace to us.

Catechism 1969, 1970, 1983

PARISH RCIA

Thursdays 7pm
St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir.
Rite of Election
Sunday 9 March 3pm St Patrick's Cathedral

YOUNG PARISHIONERS

NEXT Sunday 2 March 10.30am
St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir
Anna Krohn presents *What is a Council?*
Light lunch
\$10 working / \$5 non-working/student

A program of speakers will present on the Jubilee of Hope and the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea (325), one of the first major councils in the history of the Church. Convened by the Emperor Constantine, the Council promulgated teaching on the person of Christ, the mystery of the Trinity and Our Lady. It mandated the weekly recitation of the Creed at Mass and sought to unify the celebration of Easter between East and West. Interestingly, this year Easter is observed on the same Sunday by all Christians. Members of our Partnered Parishes are invited to join young parishioners on the first Sunday of the month 10.30am St Gabriel's Parish Centre.

Recently Deceased

Fr Joseph Martins, Kevin Ryan,
Rocco Pintimalli, Domenico Mollica

Anniversary of Death & Remembrance

Virginia Sofia Rosa, Luciano Pighin, Maria Meco,
Giovanni Calvi, Laura Pasquale Mariani,
Lorenzo Rachele Pacella, Ilde Liberatore Ciamacco,
Marianna De Leo

*Names to be included in prayers for the dead
must be registered by phone or email
with the Parish Office by Thursday 12 noon*

Next weekend

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C

Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays 8.30am *St Joseph the Worker*

Wednesdays* 7pm *St Raphael's*

includes Night Prayer and Benediction

**except Wednesday 19 March*

WAY OF THE CROSS / VIA CRUCIS Fridays of Lent

8.30am *St Gabriel's Reservoir*

8.30am *St Raphael's Preston West*

7pm *St Joseph the Worker*

St Luke's Parish Lalor presents Fr Rob Galea Friday 14 March 2025

Join St Luke's Parish for an incredible night with Fr Robert Galea, filled with uplifting praise, inspiring music and powerful talks, all for the glory and honour of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

www.melbcatholic.org/s/lalor

SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

St Gabriel's Church & Parish Centre Reservoir

Wednesday 19 March 7pm Mass

Presentation by Matt McDonald

Becoming a man of God

*A special evening for men -
married, single, widowed.*

Pizzas & refreshments \$10

Veritatis Publishing presents

a display of books and resources

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT LAETARE

*We celebrate the joyful Sunday of Lent
at weekend Masses 22-23 March*

*St Joseph the Worker
Everest Gelato*

*St Stephen of Hungary
Coffee and cake*

*St Gabriel's
Fresh Roast Mobile Cafe*

LENT 2025 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

*For 40 days receive a short, practical, inspiring video
in your in box every morning. Make this Lenten journey
more powerful and prayerful.*

This program is free.

BruceDownes.org/Lent

JUBILEE OF HOPE IV

When Pope Francis first announced the Jubilee, he wanted to give it an emphasis of hope. In his letter that constituted the Jubilee Year he emphasized a verse of the Letter to the Romans, which promises us that "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5). Few could deny that our world is in desperate need of hope. Wars seem to be growing on every side. The Holy Father has often said that it is as if we are already in a Third World War, but instead of being a formal worldwide war, this new World War manifests itself piecemeal. In addition to this, so many, many times we seem to come across bad news: scandals in the Church; many people wounded by discrimination and hatred; suffering because of the absence of our loved ones from our parishes. So let us all enter into this Jubilee Year making space for the hope that Pope Francis invites us to embrace!

The Holy Father reminds us that Christian hope is rooted in the saving work of Christ. In particular he reminds us that we participate in that work by the grace of our baptism. He proclaims that "the death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope," and he asks each of us to meditate on this great Sacrament during the Jubilee Year. Here the Pope mentions "the tradition of building baptismal fonts in the shape of an octagon, as seen in many ancient baptisteries, like that of St John Lateran in Rome. This was intended to symbolize that Baptism is the dawn of the 'eighth day,' the day of the resurrection, a day that transcends the normal, weekly passage of time, opening it to the dimension of eternity and to life everlasting: the goal to which we tend on our earthly pilgrimage."

On a practical note, the Jubilee Year officially started in Rome on Christmas Eve. On the local diocesan level, it will begin on the Feast of the Holy Family (December 29). It will finish in Rome on the Feast of the Epiphany in January 2026 and in the local dioceses on the Feast of the Holy Family 2025.

Pope Francis invites all the faithful to renew their baptismal call by visiting their place of baptism and renewing the promises of baptism at the font. At Easter all Christians renew the promises of baptism with the sprinkling of Easter water.

Lenten Retreat, led by Fr Rojan George VC
*St Oliver Plunkett Church
1 Landells Rd Pasco Vale
March 10, 11, 12 7pm-9pm*

Northern Region Pilgrim places
*St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne
St Mary's Star of the Sea West Melbourne
St Luke's Church Lalor
St Mary MacKillop Church Keilor Downs*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. In the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. He called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 102(103):1-4,8,10,12-13

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

R

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you
with love and compassion.

R

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us

according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R**

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity
on those who fear him. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be

pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord

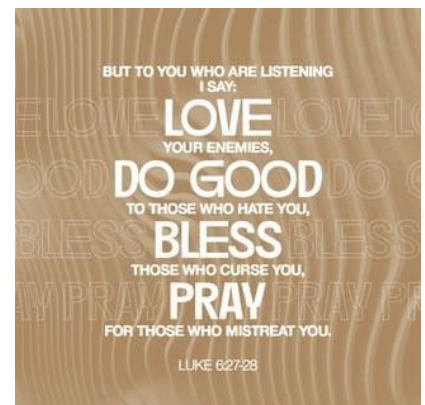
**All: Praise to you
Lord Jesus Christ**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lord, I have come to believe that
you are the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
who is coming into this world.



Processional Hymn AOV 179

Blest be the Lord, blest be the Lord,
The God of mercy, the God who saves.
I shall not fear the dark of night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day.

He will release me from the nets of all my foes.
He will protect me from their wicked hands.
Beneath the shadow of His wings
I will rejoice To find a dwelling place secure.

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand-alone before the light of day.
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down,
No evil settle in my soul.

Although a thousand strong have fallen at my side,
I'll not be shaken with the Lord at hand.
His faithful love is all the armor that I need
To wage my battle with the foe.

Liturgy of the Word

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23
1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Psalm Response

The Lord is kind and merciful

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!



Preparation of the Gifts

Bless the Lord, my soul
and bless God's holy name

Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life

Holy Communion CWB 443

Refrain: A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall others know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

By this shall others know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another. *Refrain*

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing. *Refrain*

True love is patient, nor arrogant nor boastful;
Love bears all things, love is eternal.

True love is patient, nor arrogant nor boastful;
Love bears all things, love is eternal. *Refrain*

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.
Abide in me: I will be with you.

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.
Abide in me: I will be with you. *Refrain*

Recessional Hymn C10

How can there be peace in this life?
Who can lend a hand, in this land of strife?
Who will bring Good News?
Who'll speak my Word?
On whom can I depend – is it you, my friend?

Chorus

I heard the Lord, he was calling me,
I heard him call my name, Can it be true?
Can this really mean he's chosen me
To be a Prophet of Hope?

We will bring new hope, we'll give our lives
God will be our strength, be our shield, our guide.

Gathered as one, people unite,
We will live in peace, we will live for life. *Chorus*