

**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 Kizhakkethalackal,
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**

**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C
23 March 2025**

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Gabriel's Church

9am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

St Stephen of Hungary Church

9.30am Tuesday

St Joseph the Worker Church

9.15am Wednesday & Thursday

St Raphael's Church

9.15am Friday

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 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.

Next Sunday is *Laetare* - the joyful 4th Sunday of Lent. We anticipate Christ's victory over sin and death. Rose vestments. Flowers. Music and song. We celebrate the day also with the joy of parish life shared together: Everest Gelato at St Joseph the Worker; coffee and cake at St Stephen of Hungary; Fresh Roast Mobile Café at St Gabriel's; morning tea after Mass at St Raphael's. The Holy Spirit tests and calls our RCIA catechumens and candidates in the second Scrutiny.

Sincere thanks to parishioners who make an active contribution to our Partnered Parishes:

- Gardens & grounds : Ange Braysha, Andrew Dos Santos, Wendy Healy, Gary O'Dwyer, Breda Young-Gee (St Gabriel's); Gerard Brick (gardens and grounds St Raphael's); St Joseph the Worker maintenance team.
- Parish men & friends attended Mass on St Joseph's day (19/3). Matthew McDonald gave a fine presentation *Becoming a man of God*. Men's dinners will commence soon. Thanks to St Monica's College for their support.
- 22 parishioners enjoyed Parish Lunch Darebin RSL Thursday 13 March.
- Parish ladies participated in a Lenten Retreat, hosted by the Catholic Womens League St Roch's Glen Iris (15/3)
- St Monica's College Epping celebrated Catholic Education Week with a College Conversation on the history, shared links and goals of St Stephen's Parish/School and St Monica's (20/3).

The Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary will arrive among us on Wednesday 2 April. This is great news! They will take up residence at St Raphael's presbytery. Mother Nemia OP will accompany 3 Sisters: Sr Josefina, Sr May Flor & Sr Jessica. 2 Sisters will be engaged by St Raphael's school and St Monica's College. 1 Sister will support parish life in the partnership. Parishioners are invited to help the Sisters settle in to their new home by providing gift cards from Coles, Woolworths, IGA, Officeworks, Bunnings or cash donations. These can be placed in the weekend collection in an envelope marked "Dominican Sisters".

Mass is celebrated at **St Stephen's church Reservoir East** Saturday 6.30pm and Tuesday 9.30am. Year 8 students attend Tuesday Mass. Supported by Reservoir Conference members, Deacon Correya is promoting Mini Vinnies. St Monica's College cleans St Stephen's church and maintains the grounds.

Parishioners are invited to join the **altar linen roster** at St Gabriel's Reservoir, St Raphael's West Preston & St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North. We also invite St Raphael's parishioners to volunteer to visit the **sick and housebound** in West Preston and to bring Holy Communion.

Please contact the Parish office: 0487 116 154

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.
- 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:
www.RadioMaria.org.au
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

YOUNG PARISHIONERS

Sunday 6 April 10.30am
St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir
David Schutz ANIMA Education presents
Jesus in the Gospels
Light lunch \$10 working /\$5 non working / student

SAFEGUARDING

Our partnered parishes Safeguarding team invites Parish volunteers to face to face **Safeguarding training** Monday 5 May 2pm and Wednesday 21 May 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir. Child safety posters have been placed on the notice boards of our churches and in the sacristies. All parish volunteers and employees must hold a current Working with Children Check or equivalent. This is required by Victorian State law and mandated by the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Sincere thanks to all who have obtained a WWCC and provided a copy to the parish office.

FESTA SANTA MARIA DI POMPEII

Fr Raymond Bugeja will celebrate 2pm Mass Sunday 4 May. He will also commemorate his 40th ordination anniversary. Refreshments. St Raphael's Church Preston West. Enquiries: Mario 0410 033 642

PARISH RCIA

Thursdays 7pm
St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir.

Recently Deceased

Maria Antonia Russo, Julienne Cendron,
Amato Puli'uvea, Mary Galea, Saveria Tulino

Anniversary of Death & Remembrance

Angela Puccio – Peta, Domenica Liuzzi, Liuzzi Family
Stefano, Saveria & Giuseppe D'Agostino,
Carolina, Angelo & Angelina Gentile
Piccone Family, Di Guglielmo Family

**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

4th Sunday of Lent Yr C

Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Nowhere did Jesus express more beautifully what happens in the sacrament of Penance than in the parable of the Prodigal Son: We go astray, we are lost and can no longer cope. Yet our Father waits for us with great, indeed, infinite longing; he forgives us when we come back; he takes us in again, forgives our sins. Jesus himself forgave the sins of many individuals; it was more important to him than working miracles. He regarded this as the great sign of the dawning of the kingdom of God, in which all wounds are healed and all tears are wiped away. Jesus forgave sins in the power of the Holy Spirit, and he handed that power on to his Apostles. We fall into the arms of our heavenly Father when we go to a priest and confess.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Wednesdays of Lent

8.30am St Joseph the Worker
includes devotional prayers
7pm St Raphael's
includes Night Prayer and Benediction

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 Reservoir North



Renewal of Baptism

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 and receive the sprinkling with Easter water.

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

Cathedral Jubilee Events

- * Sick & Healthcare workers 6 April
- * Children, families, elderly, grandparents 1 June
- * Priests, Bishops & Seminarians 23-26 June
- * Youth 3 August * All Nations 5 October
- * Religious 9 October * The Poor 16 November
- * Prisoners 14 December *
- Close of Jubilee of Hope 28 December



Walk with Mary

TODAY 23 March 2pm
St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne
Prayers, Mass, Procession
thecombedsocietiesofmary.com

*Hail, O Queen of heaven enthroned.
Hail, by angels mistress owned.
Root of Jesse, Gate of morn
Whence the world's true light was born:
Glorious Virgin, joy to thee,
Loveliest whom in heaven they see;
Fairest thou, where all are fair,
Plead with Christ our souls to spare.*

Jesus concludes his call to repentance with a parable about a barren fig tree. The owner of the tree, after three years without any fruit, decides to cut it down. The gardener intervenes, however: "Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down". The crowd listening to this parable likely recalled that Israel was called "the vineyard of the Lord," which "yields its fruit in season". They knew God was looking for his people to bear fruit in good deeds, but Jesus reminded them that God was also willing to show patience to sinners. In his mercy, he would "cultivate" and "nourish" them while he delayed their day of reckoning. We all know that God is patient, but we don't know when our day of reckoning will come. Look what happened to the Galican Jews that Pilate killed. The people who heard of this tragedy asked Jesus what these victims had done to deserve such a fate. Were they being punished for their sin? Jesus refutes this logic and reminds his listeners that they were no greater sinners than anyone else. Instead, he warns, this tragedy should urge us all to repent. God calls us not only to repent, but to "produce good fruits as evidence of [our] repentance" as well. This fruitfulness lies at the heart of Lent: Repent and be faithful to the gospel. The good news is that we are not left to bear fruit on our own. Jesus, our faithful Gardener, is here to help us face the areas of our lives that need repentance. He will tend the soil of our hearts, prune the branches that lead us to sin, and pour out his grace to help us grow. WAU.ORG

CHRISM MASS

Tuesday 15 April 10am St Patrick's Cathedral
During the Chrism Mass Archbishop Comensoli blesses the Oil for the sick and the Oil of catechumens, and consecrates the Sacred Chrism. These Holy Oils are used in the church's ministry throughout the year. The priests present renew the promises of ordination.

ALPHA

St Luke's Lalor
commences Friday 2 May
12 weeks
melcatholic.org/s/lalor

St Francis Assisi Mill Park
commences Thursday 8 May
10 weeks
melcatholic.org/s/millpark



LENTEN RETREAT WITH MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE PROCLAIM TEAM

St Damian's Church
5 Settlement Road Bundoora
Saturday 5 April
9.15am Mass followed by sessions,
Eucharistic Exposition & Benediction
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Concludes at 3:30 PM.
Morning Tea and Lunch provided

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-8,13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This,' he added, 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102(103):1-4,6-8,11

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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to
Moses and his deeds
to Israel's sons. **R**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are
high above the earth
so strong is his love
for those who fear him. **R**

SECOND READING

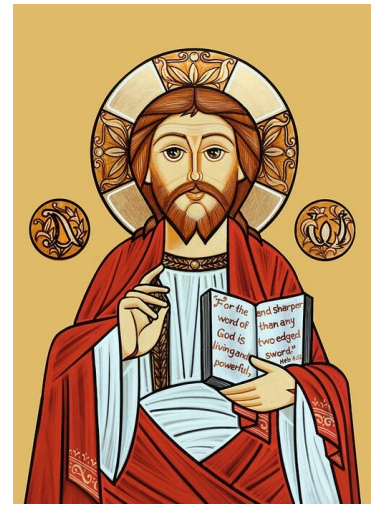
1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!



GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord
**All: Praise to you
Lord Jesus Christ**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
Blessed are they
who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

Processional Hymn CWB 512

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast".

I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live."

I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright."

I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till traveling days are done.

Liturgy of the Word

Exodus 3:1-8,13-15 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12 Luke 13:1-9

Psalm Response

The Lord is kind and merciful

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!

THE FIRST SCRUTINY

The Church, like a mother, helps the catechumens on their journey by means of suitable liturgical rites, which purify the catechumens little by little and strengthen them with God's blessing.

RCIA n75

After the Homily, the candidates and their sponsors come forward and stand before the Celebrant.



Intercessions for the Elect
Prayer of Exorcism Laying on of hands
Anointing with the Oil of Catechumens
Presentation of a Bible
Profession of Faith

Preparation of the Gifts GA 324

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

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

Holy Communion AOV 90

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I who make the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Chorus: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for
love alone. I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send? *Chorus*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide 'til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? *Chorus*

Recessional Hymn AOV 137

God of Abraham lead us,
lead us to your kingdom
Into fruitfulness lead us,
lead us together,
lead us to freedom.

God of Miriam lead us,
lead us to your kingdom
Into songs of hope lead us,
lead us together,
lead us to freedom.

God of Mary lead us,
lead us to your kingdom
Into trusting you lead us,
lead us together,
lead us to freedom.

Through the word that is spoken,
lead us to your kingdom
Through the bread that is broken,
lead us together,
lead us to freedom now.