

**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 Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday 9am - 3pm
0487 116 154 reservoir@cam.org.au**

**St Joseph the Worker Wednesday & Friday 9am- 3pm
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**

**Exultation of the Holy Cross
14 September 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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays 8.30am

St Gabriel's & St Joseph the Worker Churches

Fridays 8.30am

St Raphael's Church

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**



**On weekend 27-28 September
we celebrate the feasts
of Sts Gabriel and Raphael**

**Parishioners are invited to host morning tea/sausage sizzle
at St Gabriel's Church Reservoir (Sunday 9am Mass) and
St Raphael's Church West Preston
(Sunday 10.30am Mass)**

**If you would like to help,
please contact the Parish Office
0487 116 154 reservoir@cam.org.au**

Parish staff Liza Powell and Liz Pistoni attend Parish Administration Day Wednesday 17 September.

Fr Pritchard, Fr Jossy and Deacon Correya attend Clergy Workshop Thursday 25 September.

**Please note: 8.30am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir;
NO Mass St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North.**

Rosters for readers and ministers of Holy Communion St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North in preparation. It is necessary that all Parish Volunteers hold a current Working With Children Check WWCC. Sincere thanks to all who have provided a copy of their WWCC/VIT card to the Parish Office. These Safeguarding team and Parish coordinators will contact those who are yet to provide this check and provide all assistance. Thank you for your ready cooperation!

At the Preparation of the Gifts at 6.30pm Vigil Mass St Stephen's Reservoir East and Sunday 9am St Gabriel's Reservoir, Colin Jenkins will play *Intrada Lift High the Cross*, specially composed by Jan Noordzij organist St Michael's Church Antwerp Belgium for today's feast of the Exultation of the Cross. We acknowledge the good work of those who provide music ministry in our partnered parishes!

ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP

Hello Dolly

Rehearsals Sundays 6pm

St Gabriel's Parish Hall Reservoir

Enquiries: Judy judeome@hotmail.com

STELLA MARIS FESTA

Friday 17 October 7pm Mass & refreshments
St Joseph the Worker Church Reservoir North

Saturday 18 October 6pm Dinner Dance
Le Grande Reception Epping.

Members \$85, non members \$90, children \$40

Sunday 19 October

St Joseph the Worker Church & Hall Reservoir North
2.30pm Mass 4pm procession 6pm MMG Concert Band

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

20th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday 11 October

6pm Praise & Worship

6.30pm Mass, Refreshments

Wednesdays 1.30pm

St Raphael's Church Preston West

Enquiries: Marijana 0422 340 675

CATHOLIC MEN FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne 10am
melbournemensrosarycrusade.com



Srs Josefina and May Flor provide **Sacramental Journey**, preparation for the Sacraments for children who do not attend Catholic schools. St Gabriel's Parish Centre (rear St Gabriel's Church) Mondays 4.30pm-5.30pm.

First Reconciliation Saturday 4 October 11am

St Gabriel's Church Reservoir

First Holy Communion Saturday 4 October 6.30pm

St Stephen of Hungary Church reservoir East

First Holy Communion Saturday 11 October 5pm

St Joseph the Worker Church Reservoir North

Parish RCIA Thursdays 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir. Our key text is YOUCAT. RCIA leaders are invited to attend Regional Network Gathering St Francis of Assisi Parish Mill Park Wednesday 8 October.

Young Parishioners meet Sunday 5 October St Gabriel's Parish Centre 10.30am—12noon lunch included \$10 working \$5 non working / student. David Schutz presents Jesus in the letters of St Paul. David presented a very informative and engaging account of Jesus in the Gospels in April. This year's presentations conclude on Sunday 2 November. Looking at the Holy Trinity and the heresy of Arianism, resolved at the Council of Nicaea 325.

New Life: Life in the Spirit Seminar

9 weeks commences Tuesday 16 September 7.30pm-9pm

St Oliver's Parish Centre 1 Landells Rd Pasco Vale

Enquiries: Marthese 0421 815 369 *mtemm@hotmail.com*

Path of Miracles

Hauntingly beautiful contemporary choral work inspired by the Camino de Santiago

Friday 19 September 7.30pm

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

music@cam.org.au 9926 5760

Parish Lunch

Thursday 2 October 12 noon

Darebin RSL 402 Bell St Preston

Register: foyer St Raphael's church West Preston

March for the Babies

Saturday 11 October 1pm

Assemble Treasury Gardens
cnr Spring St & Wellington Pde
marchforthebabies.com

Christus Rex Pilgrimage

Thursday 23— Sunday 26 October.

St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat
to Sacred Heart Cathedral Bendigo.
Information/register: *crex.org*

Columban Calendar 2026 \$10 Majellan Christmas Cards \$8

Available at Piety Stall

St Gabriel's & St Raphael's

Multicultural Dementia Care & Support

Free, safe, engaging space for participants, practical education for carers, and opportunities to build social connections. Next local group starts 19 September Donald St Community Hall, Preston *amcservices.org.au* 9689 9170

Homily of Pope Leo XIV
Canonisation of Sts Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis
Sunday 7 September 2025

Dear brothers and sisters,
in the first reading we heard a question: "Lord, who would have known your will if you yourself had not given wisdom and sent down your holy spirit from on high?" (Wis 9:17). We heard it after two young blessed, Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis, were proclaimed saints, and this is providential.

In the Book of Wisdom, this question is attributed to a young man like them: King Solomon. When his father David died, he realized that he had many things at his disposal: power, wealth, health, youth, beauty, a kingdom. But this great abundance of means had caused a question to arise in his heart: "What must I do so that nothing is lost?" And he understood that the only way to find an answer was to ask God for an even greater gift: his wisdom, so that he could understand his plans and adhere faithfully to them. He realized, indeed, that in this way all things would find their place in the Lord's great plan.

Yes, because the greatest risk in life is to waste it outside of God's plan. Jesus, too, in the Gospel, speaks to us of a plan to which we must adhere until the end. He says: "Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple"; and he adds: "None of you can be my disciple who does not renounce all that he has". In other words, he calls us to launch ourselves without hesitation into the adventure He proposes to us, with the intelligence and strength that come from His Spirit and that we can embrace to the extent that we strip ourselves of ourselves, of the things and ideas to which we are attached, and listen to His word. Many young people, throughout the centuries, have had to face this decisive moment in life.

Let us think of St Francis of Assisi: like Solomon, he too was young and rich, and thirsty for glory and fame. That is why he went off to war, hoping to be named a "knight" and to be clothed with honours. But Jesus appeared to him along the way and made him reflect on what he was doing. Restored to his senses, he asked God a simple question: "Lord, what do you want me to do?" And from there, retracing his steps, he began to write a different story: the marvelous story of holiness that we all know, stripping himself of everything to follow Christ, living in poverty and preferring love for his brothers, especially the weakest and least, to the gold, silver, and precious fabrics of his father.

And how many other saints could we recall! Sometimes we portray them as great figures, forgetting that for them it all began when, while still young, they answered "yes" to God and gave themselves to Him completely, holding nothing back. In this regard, St Augustine recounts that, in the "most tortuous and tangled knot" of his life, a voice, deep within, said to him: "I want only You." And in this way, God gave him a new direction, a new path, a new logic, in which nothing of his existence was lost.

In this context, we contemplate today St Pier Giorgio Frassati and St Carlo Acutis: a young man from the beginning of the 20th century and a teenager of our time, both in love with Jesus and willing to give everything for Him. Pier Giorgio found the Lord through school and church groups—Catholic Action, the Conferences of Saint Vincent de Paul, Italian Catholic University Federation, the Third Order of St Dominic—and bore witness to this through his joy for life and for being a Christian in prayer, friendship, and charity.

So much so that, seeing him travel the streets of Turin with carts full of aid for the poor, his friends called him "Frassati Transport Company."

Even today, Pier Giorgio's life represents a light for lay spirituality. For him, faith was not a private devotion; driven by the power of the Gospel and his membership in church associations, he was generously committed to society, made his contribution in political life, and devoted himself ardently to serving the poor.

Carlo, for his part, found Jesus in his family, thanks to his parents, André and Antonia—present here today with his two siblings, Francesca and Michele—and later, he too, at school, and above all in the sacraments celebrated in the parish community. In this way, he grew up naturally integrating prayer, sports, study, and charity into his childhood and adolescence. Both Pier Giorgio and Carlo cultivated love for God and their brothers and sisters through simple means, accessible to all: daily Mass, prayer, and especially Eucharistic adoration. Carlo said: "When we stand before the sun, we tan. When we stand before Jesus in the Eucharist, we become saints," and also: "Sadness is turning one's gaze inward; happiness is turning one's gaze toward God. Conversion is nothing other than shifting one's gaze from below to above. A simple movement of the eyes is enough."

Another essential thing for them was frequent confession. Carlo wrote: "The only thing we should truly fear is sin"; and he marvelled because—in his own words—"people are so concerned about the beauty of their own bodies, but they are not concerned, on the other hand, about the beauty of their own souls."

Both also had a great devotion to the saints and to the Virgin Mary, and generously practiced charity. Pier Giorgio said: "Around the poor and the sick, I see a light that we do not have." He called charity "the foundation of our religion" and, like Carlo, practiced it above all through small, concrete, and often hidden gestures, living what Pope Francis has called "the holiness 'next door'". Even when illness struck them and their young lives deteriorated, it did not stop them or prevent them from loving, from offering themselves to God, from blessing him and from asking him for themselves and for everyone. One day Pier Giorgio said: "The day of my death will be the most beautiful day of my life"; and in his last photo, which portrays him while climbing a mountain in Val di Lanzo, with his face turned towards the goal, he had written: "Towards the top". On the other hand, Carlo, when he was even younger, liked to say that heaven has always been waiting for us, and that to love tomorrow is to bear our best fruit today.

Sts Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to waste our lives, but to direct them upward and make them a masterpiece. They encourage us with their words: "Not I, but God," said Carlo. And Pier Giorgio: "If you have God at the centre of all your actions, then you will reach the end." This is the simple but sure formula of their holiness. And it is also the testimony we are called to imitate to enjoy life to the fullest and go to meet the Lord at the feast in heaven.

Faithful Manhood II
is held over until next weekend

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

We should glory
in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation,
life and resurrection, through whom
we are saved and delivered.

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.' At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 89(90):3-6, 12-14, 17

**R: Do not forget
the works of the Lord!**

Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **R**

When he slew them
then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that
God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **R**

But the words they spoke
were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **R**

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have
stirred up his rage. **R**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2: 6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ,
and we praise you,

because by your cross
you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!



GOSPEL

John 3: 13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

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

When I am lifted up from the earth,
I will draw everyone to myself,
says the Lord.



Recently Deceased

Fr Andrew Wise,

Grazia Lagreca, Matteo Villani,
Immacolata Caruso, Maggie Nachar,
Joseph Assouf, Antonietta De Santo,

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Bruno & Francesca Multari,
Domenico Alagna, Jim Healy,
Antonio Caputo, Luigi Cavedon
Carmelo & Giuseppe Pino
Pasquale & Michael Butera
Liberio & Francesco Santopietro,
Giuseppe & Domenico Mammone,
Pasquale Timpano

Next weekend

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16: 1-13

Processional Hymn CWB 400

Hail, Redeemer, King divine!
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine,
King, whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace. *Refrain*

Refrain; Angels, saints and nations sing:
"Praised be Jesus Christ, our King;
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary."

King, whose name creation thrills,
rule our minds, our hearts, our wills;
till in peace, each nation rings
with thy praises, King of kings. *Refrain*

King most holy, King of truth,
guide the lowly guide the youth;
Christ, thou King of glory bright,
be to us eternal light. *Refrain*

Shepherd King, from mountains steep,
homeward bring the wand 'ring sheep;
shelter in one royal fold
states and nations, new and old. *Refrain*

Liturgy of the Word

Numbers 21:4-9 Philippians 2:6-11 John 3:13-17

Psalm Response

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross
you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!



We celebrate the cross, an instrument of death, because by it we pass from death to life. Jesus shows this by comparing his crucifixion to the bronze serpent. After Israel had sinned in the desert, God punished the people with deadly serpents. Yet when they repented and he showed them mercy, he did not take away the serpents. Instead, he erected an image of that punishment. If a bitten Israelite looked upon a bronze serpent, he would live.

Similarly, Adam's sin and our personal sins merit death. But we fix our eyes on the crucified Lord who was "obedient unto death, even death on a cross." For "just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

Holy Communion 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!

Recessional Hymn CWB 399

Christ, our Lord, the Prince of ages,
Christ, the nations' glorious King,
whom we praise with exultation,
saints and angels answering,
to your throne with true devotion,
hearts and minds and senses bring.

Come, O Lord, and claim your kingdom,
rebel hearts your grace can gain;
bend the stubborn will of rulers
who from homage still refrain:
in the home, as in the city,
be supreme, O Christ, and reign.

On our own dear land, Australia,
let the light of mercy shine,
that, in holy Church, united,
all may know the saving sign:
Christ, up on the Cross uplifted,
drawing all with love divine!

Recently Deceased

Fr Andrew Wise,

Grazia Lagreca, Matteo Villani,
Immacolata Caruso, Maggie Nachar,
Joseph Assouf, Antonietta De Santo,

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