

**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 Josy 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**

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Yr C 28 September 2025**

**WEEKDAY MASSES
30 September—3 October**

St Gabriel's Church

9am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

St Joseph the Worker Church

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

St Raphael's Church

9.15am Friday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 1 October 8.30am

St Gabriel's & St Joseph the Worker Churches

Friday 3 October 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



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.

**We celebrate the feast
of St Gabriel
Morning tea/ Sausage Sizzle
St Gabriel's Church Reservoir
Sunday 9am Mass**



Gabriel is the messenger of God's Incarnation. He knocks at Mary's door and, through him, God himself asks Mary for her "yes" to the proposal to become the Mother of the Redeemer: of giving her human flesh to the eternal Word of God. The Lord knocks again and again at the door of the human heart. In the Book of Revelation he says to the "angel" of the Church of Laodicea and, through him, to the people of all times: Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. The Lord is at the door-at the door of the world and at the door of every individual heart. He knocks to be let in: the Incarnation of God, his taking flesh, must continue until the end of time. Today too he needs people who, so to speak, make their own flesh available to him. Pope Benedict +2005

Fr Pritchard will attend Jubilee celebrations of the **Australian Confraternity of Catholic Clergy** Sydney 6-10 October. Please note changes to the daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration program.

A **new lectionary** based on the *Revised New Jerusalem Bible* is to be introduced in Australian Catholic churches. Rev Dr Trevor Tibbertsma presents online *Exploring the New Translation of the Lectionary* Tuesday 14 October 7–8.30pm. Parish readers are invited to participate in this presentation.

Parish men are invited to attend **National menALIVE gathering MAX2025** Edmund Rice Centre Lower Plenty 10-12 October. The theme for MAX2025 is "MOUNTAINS" – a strong image of the challenges men face, and the heights to which God calls us in life and faith. Participants will be inspired and encouraged through: engaging talks and real-life stories; honest panel discussions and small group sharing; quiet times of prayer and reflection; genuine fellowship with other men of faith. Unique opportunity for men to step away from daily pressures, rediscover God's call, and return home renewed in their mission as husbands, fathers, and men of faith. menalivevic.au/max-25

Young Parishioners meet NEXT 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.

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

New Life: Life in the Spirit Seminar

Tuesdays 7.30pm-9pm 9 weeks
St Oliver's Parish Centre 1 Landells Rd Pasco Vale
Enquiries: Marthese 0421 815 369
mtemm@hotmail.com

Sacramental Journey

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 Lunch

Thursday 2 October 12 noon
Darebin RSL 402 Bell St Preston
Register: foyer St Raphael's church West Preston

Jubilee of Migrants: Missionaries of Hope

Weekend 4-5 October
Loyola College 325 Grimshaw St Watsonia &
St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne
melbournecatholic.org/jubilee

Parish RCIA resumes Thursday 9 October 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir. RCIA leaders are invited to attend Regional Network Gathering St Francis of Assisi Parish Mill Park Wednesday 8 October.

March for the Babies

Saturday 11 October 1pm
Assemble Treasury Gardens
cnr Spring St & Wellington Pde
marchforthebabies.com

Song of this Land

St Patrick's Cathedral Sunday 12 October
2.30pm Multicultural Rosary. 3pm concert.
music@cam.org.au.

Nicolas Tonti-Filipinni Oration

Friday 17 October 6pm Mass 7pm Oration
St John's Church & Catholic Leadership Centre
576-594 Victoria Pde East Melbourne
Trybooking.com/events/landing/1445697

Annual Mission Fair

Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver
154 Cotham Rd Kew
Saturday 18 October 9am – 2.30 pm
Enquiries: 9817 3715

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



Christianity's Sczert Formula I

How do you react when you're confronted with death, misery, contagion, threats to your own health, to your own life? For a group that began by having its leader publicly executed, and that was derided as contemptible, weird, incomprehensible and bizarre, the early Christians, to the astonishment and chagrin of the civil authorities, eventually earned a good, indeed stellar, reputation.

Two recurring events, periodic, dramatic, unavoidable in Roman life, caused this change.

One was the contrasting Christian and pagan response to plagues. The other was the episodic but sometimes intense persecution that Christians endured. At first, Christians weren't very popular with the broad public at all. They just seemed too weird to credit - worshipping a crucified Jewish rabbi, talking about eating the dead rabbi's flesh and drinking his blood, all the strange business about appealing to women and slaves. The public initially thought they were just another oddball sect of Judaism. Then they started to recruit in substantial numbers, and although they had no influence on law or politics there was something offensive about the way they went on.

The periodic plagues that ravaged the Greco-Roman world were spectacularly deadly, destructive and terrifying. Not only did they kill so many people, they seemed to destroy the principle of human solidarity and whatever edifice of existential meaning paganism provided.

Pagan gods didn't really care how human beings interacted with each other. They cared only that sacrifices be made to them and rituals and obeisance be performed. In exchange, they favoured Rome. The plagues blew that understanding apart.

There were lots of epidemics in the ancient world, but there were two major historic plagues in the first centuries after Christianity was established. The first, sometimes called the Galen plague after the Greek physician, Galen of Pergamon, who chronicled it, began in 165, probably with soldiers, and killed millions. No one knows for sure how many died, perhaps 10 per cent of the entire population.

The Cyprian Plague, named after the North African bishop Cyprian of Carthage, began in 251 and also killed millions. At its height 5000 people a day died in Rome. It ran for 20 years.

Edward Gibbon, author of the 18th-century classic, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, held Christianity and all religion in contempt as superstition. However, he acknowledged the success of Christianity and offered five reasons: Christian zeal; the belief in the afterlife and heaven; Christians' virtues, especially charity; miracles; and Christian unity in presenting their world view.

Historian John Dickson, in his entertaining *Bullies and Saints*, points out that the Greco-Roman world had no principle of welfare, health policy or even universal charity among its major thought systems. Neither Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Seneca, Epictetus nor Plutarch included charity as part of their major moral discourses.

Greg Sheridan Weekend Australian August 30-31 2025

Faithful Manhood III

A Lutheran minister before entering the Catholic Church, Dr Peter Holmes now works in counselling and teaching. He has lectured in Scripture and Theology and recently completed his PhD on the theology of masculinity. Peter is married with eight children, and lives in Sydney, Australia.

*How would you interpret
Some of the more difficult parts of the Bible
that talk about the relationship
between men and women?*

Spousal love is a key example. I began this journey looking for a Bible verse to tell my wife she needed to "lift her game." I wanted to justify making demands - but quickly realized Christian teaching offers no support for that. Scripture never permits a man to use a woman or seek gratification at her expense. In Ephesians, when Paul tells husbands to love their wives, he refers to a love that saves, purifies, and restores - modelled on Christ's redemptive, self-sacrificial love. This kind of love is the opposite of how masculinity is often portrayed today. It is generous, forgiving, and focused on helping the other thrive. From that perspective, worldly versions of masculinity fall away. True masculinity is about having the strength and character to be a constant, uplifting presence for one's spouse and children.

*What do you think
are some of the things the modern world
gets right and wrong in how it reflects on masculinity?*

There are two major criticisms of masculinity: patriarchy, which seeks to control and infantilize, and toxic masculinity, where men dominate and exploit women for their own gain. In reaction to these, the common response has been to condemn strength and masculinity as negative. While these issues are real, the solution isn't to eliminate fathers or masculinity. The true antidote is for fathers to love as God the Father does, and for husbands to love as Christ loves the Church. The title of my book reflects how masculinity, having been so undervalued, needs redeeming. But when connected to God's love, it becomes redemptive. Men are built to strive for purpose, yet many feel lost. The key is to move beyond the damaging stereotype of traditional masculinity and embrace self-sacrificial love, expressed differently by men and women in their distinct roles.

Messenger of St Anthony September 2025

These words of Erica Kirk,
wife of the late Charlie Kirk,
give us a lot of encouragement
and a pathway:

*Choose prayer,
choose courage,
choose beauty,
choose adventure,
choose a life of faith.
Most importantly, choose Christ.*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according
to the bounty of your mercy.

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1,4-7

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria, those famous men of this first of nations to whom the House of Israel goes as client. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145(146):7-10

**R: Praise the Lord,
my soul**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up
those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:11-16

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at

the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich
but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours." 'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

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

Remember your word
to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort
when I am brought low.

Recently Deceased

Grazia Lagreca, Venera Taranto,
Caterina Cerra,
Giovanna Caruso

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Anita Lucia Csar

Next weekend 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4
2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14
Luke 17:5-10

Processional Hymn

Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass 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*

Sunday 9am Mass

Hail to our Patron holy
Archangel from on High
Sent to a Maiden lowly
Bright as the morning sky.
God's Holy Will for Mary
He came on earth to tell;
All hail God's Holy angel
All hail St Gabriel!

Long years the world awaited
God's promise to unfold,
Inspired words had stated
And prophesies foretold
That by a Virgin Mother
With us our God would dwell
God's grace restored in Jesus
All hail St Gabriel!

Herald to God's own Mother,
our heavenly patron strong,
with Christ the Lord our brother,
inspire our joyful song;
may Mary's prayers maternal,
help us to seek God's will,
lead us to life eternal,
All hail St Gabriel!

St Gabriel, our patron,
Through you our praises bring
To God almighty Father
And Jesus Christ, our King,
and to the Holy Spirit,
Who through, like you we be,
The bearers of the Good News
That sets all people free.

Liturgy of the Word

Amos 6:1,4-7 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Luke 16:19-31

Psalm Response

Praise the Lord, my soul

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

Preparation of the Gifts CWB 595

Refrain: Seek, O seek the Lord, while He is near;
trust Him, speak to him in prayer, and he will hear.

God, be with us in our lives,
direct us in our calling;
break the snares the world contrives,
keep us from falling. *Refrain*

God, increase in us the life
that Christ by dying gave us.
Though we faint with mortal strife
his blood will save us. *Refrain*

Strengthen in our hearts the love
we owe to one another.
How can we love God above
and not our brother? *Refrain*

Holy Communion 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.

Recessional Hymn CWB 407

Gentle Virgin Mother,
blest above all other,
guiding star of ocean,
lead us to salvation.

Now with Gabriel's blessing,
we, your grace confessing,
offer you our greeting,
for your peace entreating.

Teach us, maiden lowly,
to be pure and holy,
so by your endeavour,
we rejoice for ever.

* * *

Recently Deceased

Grazia Lagreca, Venera Taranto,
Caterina Cerra, Giovanna Caruso

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Anita Lucia Csar

Pastors of Reservoir

Fr Patrick Ryan, Fr Edmund Nowlan,
Fr John Phelan, Msgr Aldo Rebeschini

Next weekend

2th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14 Luke 17:5-10