

**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**

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Yr C 12 October 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**



***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.***

**LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP**

**20th Anniversary Celebration**

**St Raphael's Church West Preston**

Saturday 11 October

6pm Praise & Worship

6.30pm Mass, Refreshments

**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

**Vicar General Fr Tony Kerin** will celebrate Masses at St Raphael's West Preston next weekend 18-19 October.

Please note new program of **Masses at St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North** commencing weekend October 25-26: Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass; Sunday 10.30am Mass (Sunday 9am Mass is discontinued).

The **weekend Mass program** from weekend 25-26 October will remain the same at St Raphael's, St Gabriel's and St Stephen's.

The arrival of **Sr Jessica Cobrador OP** last Tuesday brings our Dominican Community to 3 Sisters. Sr Jessica is a qualified teacher, experienced Parish collaborator, and fluent Italian-speaker. She brings many gifts to the Preston-Reservoir area.

Fr Pritchard will take **annual leave** during November. Fr Jossy will visit his elderly parents in India October 20-31. *Please note changes to the daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration program.*

**Sincere thanks** to all who support our partnered parishes in Parish Thanksgiving. New series of envelopes are currently being distributed at St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North and St Raphael's West Preston.

Members of the Finance Committee and St Gabriel's school leaders inspected **St Gabriel's Parish Hall** 19 September. A new OHSC company commences 1 October. St Gabriel's Parish Hall is the home of St Gabriel's Theatre Group.

## ST GABRIEL'S THEATRE GROUP



Rehearsals Sundays 6pm  
St Gabriel's Parish Hall Reservoir  
Enquiries: Judy 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. 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

## HOPE AS AN ANCHOR JUBILEE EVENT

Monday 13 October 2025 7pm  
St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church  
33 Howard St West Melbourne  
*Eucharistic Adoration, Benediction,  
Rosary, Procession, Mass*

## NICHOLAS TONTI-FILIPPINI 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](http://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

## CATHOLIC MEN FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne 10am  
[melbournemensrosarycrusade.com](http://melbournemensrosarycrusade.com)

## SACRAMENTAL JOURNEY FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

St Joseph the Worker Church Reservoir North  
Saturday 11 October 5pm  
*Congratulations  
Charlotte, Alannah, Jeanne, Jon*

**Parish RCIA** Thursdays 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre Reservoir.

**Young Parishioners** St Gabriel's Parish Centre 10.30am—12noon lunch included \$10 working \$5 non working / student. This year's presentations conclude Sunday 2 November. Anna Krohn ANIMA Education helps us to look at the Holy Trinity and the heresy of Arianism, resolved at the Council of Nicaea 325.

## 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](mailto:mtemm@hotmail.com)

## COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2026 \$10 MAJELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS \$8

Available at Piety Stall  
St Gabriel's & St Raphael's

## ANNIVERSARY OF CONSECRATION St Gabriel's Reservoir (2000)

Sunday 26 October  
9am Mass, Morning Tea / Sausage Sizzle  
**St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne (1897)**  
Monday 27 October

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.

## PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL: GREECE, EPHESUS, MALTA, ROME

14 October - 2 November 2026  
[olivetreetravel.com.au](http://olivetreetravel.com.au) 1300 550 830

**Interfaith Memorial Service** honouring fallen Police Officers Neal Thompson & Vadim De Waart Darebin North West Uniting Church 399a Murray Rd Preston Wednesday 22 October 7pm. Faith leaders from various traditions will lead us in prayer, remembrance, and hope. Let us honour their lives, support their families, stand as one. [admcroxchurchdnw@gmail.com](mailto:admcroxchurchdnw@gmail.com)

## Christianity's Secret Formula III

The Roman Empire was relatively tolerant religiously. You could practice any mystery cult or ethnic religious customs you liked, provided you made occasional sacrifices to the Roman gods, acknowledged the cult of imperial divinity under which Roman rulers were designated as gods, and provided you weren't seen as undermining the Roman Empire.

Christians would not acknowledge Roman gods as gods and would not pray to Roman rulers as if they were gods.

Once Roman persecution of Christians really got going, it was at times bloodthirsty and cruel almost beyond belief. The first great episode came under Emperor Nero. It's true that much legend about neighbours they helped to survive Roman emperors is less than fully established historically, as Mary Beard makes clear in *Emperor of Rome*. Nonetheless, there are enough historical records of Nero to show that even by the somewhat exacting standards of Roman emperors, he was a nasty, narcissistic nut. Indeed, Beard, who tries to give the benefit of the doubt to Roman emperors where she can, says his reign is rightly described even by non-Christian sources "in chilling terms". Nero was an exhibitionist and severely sadistic, reminiscent of some of the psychopaths in the fictional *Game of Thrones*, whose characters were no doubt influenced by Nero's historical record.

At times Nero required Roman women of high birth to serve as prostitutes for a night at his famous banquets. He personally participated in sports events that required the organisers to ensure he won every event. He fancied himself a performer. He wanted to build an ever-grander palace for himself in Rome.

In AD64 Rome suffered a disastrous fire and sustained great damage. Rumours were strong even then that Nero wanted to get rid of certain buildings and had the fire set deliberately. Nero decided to scapegoat Rome's Christians claiming they had set the fire. No historian has ever believed that to be the case. His punishments were spectacularly cruel and sadistic. Christians would endure sporadic persecution for nearly three more centuries, but nothing was ever quite as vicious as Nero's orgy of death.

The Roman historian Tacitus, who himself despised Christianity, wrote: "Nero fastened the guilt on a class hated for their abominations called Christians. An arrest was first made of all who pleaded guilty; then, upon their information, an immense multitude was convicted, not so much of the crime of firing the city, as of hatred against man-kind. Mockery of every sort was added to their deaths. Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed to crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burnt, to serve as nightly illumination, when daylight had expired."

Remember, that's an account of an esteemed Roman historian who held Christianity in contempt.

Greg Sheridan Weekend Australian August 30-31 2025

## CHILD WELLBEING IS STAGGERINGLY LOW. ARE WE EVEN ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS? I

In February this year, the Albanese Government announced an Anti-Bullying Rapid Review as nationwide data indicated that bullying and cyber-bullying were harming students' mental health, school attendance, engagement and long-term wellbeing. It was supported by the results of the News Corp Great Australian Parent 2025 survey that revealed that nearly half of Australian children experienced bullying, with 7 per cent contemplating suicide.

It also took into account the finding of the National Parenting Pulse Survey of September 2024, that 82 percent of parents found screentime and technology to be a source of concern. This is despite earlier investments such as half a billion dollars committed in 2023 to a national student wellbeing program.

Children are lonelier, more anxious, more fragile and less morally grounded than ever. The question is, what is not working? It is not that we are not spending enough, clearly. Rather it is because we have lost focus on what education is for.

The prevailing factory model of education - entering data into the student and testing the output - is not a model fit for purpose and troubled children are the outcome. Trouble is mainstream education with its relentless search for evidence-based responses is looking in all the wrong places for answers.

Psychology, social science and self-help models, while well intentioned, fail because they cannot consider the whole picture. While psychology and social science offer useful tools, they are limited in their capacity to provide holistic responses. We can tackle social media influence, peer pressure, discrimination, family trauma, anxiety, nutrition, or any number of atomised problems, but each requires an exhausting process of evidence-gathering, analysis, and intervention - and we are always treating parts, never the whole.

In the end, none of these approaches is able to comprehend the unique, integrated reality of a child. Perhaps it is time to consider whether this method of problem-solving is itself part of the problem. The system cannot conceive of the human person, as a whole integrated being. It can identify flaws but it lacks a coherent vision of what health and wholeness even mean. Without formation in truth, goodness and beauty, all our policies are but makeshift solutions. We have emptied education of its soul gradually and inexorably over generations and now the children are paying the price.

The uncomfortable truth is that money cannot buy meaning. Education in Australia has become bureaucratized and fixated on performance metrics and risk management. It no longer forms students in courage, character or conviction and no longer asks what it means to be human.

Sarah Flynn Logos Australis, promoting  
Classical Education and the Liberal Arts in Australia.  
News Weekly August 23 2025

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,  
at all times go before us  
and follow after  
and make us always determined  
to carry out good works.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

## FIRST READING

*2 Kings 5:14-17*

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child. Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 97(98):1-4*

**R: The Lord has revealed  
to the nations  
his saving power.**

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known  
his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth  
and love for the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy. **R**

## SECOND READING

*2 Timothy 2: 8-13*

Remember the Good News that I carry, 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal – but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it. Here is a saying that you can rely on: If we have died with him, then we shall live with him. If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him. If we disown him, then he will disown us. We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

For all things give thanks to God,  
because this is what  
he expects of you in Christ Jesus.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

*Luke 17: 11-19*

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

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

The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord  
lack no blessing.

### *Anniversaries & Remembrance*

Antonio Stigliano, Margaret Rodrigues,  
Anna Emanuele, Benny McGoon

### **Next weekend 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Exodus 17:8-13  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:2  
Luke 18:1-8

## Processional Hymn CWB 540

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Refrain:* Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

## Liturgy of the Word

2 Kings 5:14-17 2 Timothy 2: 8-13 Luke 17: 11-19

### Psalm Response

The Lord has revealed to the nations  
his saving power.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
For all things give thanks to God,  
because this is what  
he expects of you in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!



### Anniversaries & Remembrance

Antonio Stigliano, Margaret Rodrigues,  
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Exodus 17:8-13  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:2  
Luke 18:1-8

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## Preparation of the Gifts CWB 530

*Refrain:* Keep in mind that Jesus Christ has died for us  
and is risen from the dead.  
He is our saving Lord, he is joy for all ages.

If we die with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.  
If we endure with the Lord,  
we shall reign with the Lord. *Refrain*

In him all our sorrow, in him all our joy.  
In him hope of glory, in him all our love. *Refrain*

In him our redemption, in him all our grace.  
In him our salvation, in him all our peace. *Refrain*

## Holy Communion CWB 461

Brother, sister let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.

## Recessional Hymn CWB 561

Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom the world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
Lord, keep us in your grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world in the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
who reigns in highest heaven,  
to Father, and to Son  
and Spirit now be given:  
the one eternal God,  
whom heav'n and earth adore;  
who ever was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.