

Partnered Parishes of Reservoir—Reservoir East—Reservoir North St Gabriel, St Stephen of Hungary & St Joseph the Worker

Clergy: Fr G Pritchard, Fr Jossy Kizhakkethalackal, Dcn F Correya

St Gabriel's & St Joseph the Worker Parish Offices:

St Gabriel's Tuesday 16 December 9am - 3pm

0487 116 154 reservoir@cam.org.au

St Joseph the Worker 9460 3013 reservoir@cam.org.au

Parish Offices reopen Tuesday 27 January 2026

St Gabriel's Church
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073

St Stephen's Church
71 Whitelaw St Reservoir East 3073

St Joseph the Worker Church
79 Wilson Blvd Reservoir North 3073

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT Yr A 14 December 2025

*Our Parish program for
Advent and Christmas*

is included in today's bulletin.

Each of us is also invited to support the

*St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal,
and their outreach to needy families.*

*An Examination of Conscience in Italian
is provided today.*

St Gabriel's Church

9am Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

St Joseph the Worker Church

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

**No weekday Mass at St Stephen's
until February 2026**

**HOLY ROSARY
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
RECONCILIATION**

See Advent & Christmas program p3

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass

Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Reservoir East

Sunday 9am Mass English *Reservoir*

Sunday 10.30am Mass *Reservoir North*
English/Italian

Thanksgiving & Clergy support by direct debit

St Gabriel's & St Stephen's Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 639372585

St Joseph the Worker Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 645772382



GAUDETE! REJOICE!

A theme of joy runs through the Third Sunday of Advent. The joy of this day springs from our anticipation and excitement that the Lord's coming is very near. We ask the Lord to remove any sadness from our hearts that may hinder us from embracing the peace and hope which his presence will bestow on us this Christmas.

We celebrate the joyful Sunday of Advent with hospitality after weekend Masses. We give thanks to God for the blessing of men and women who seek life in the Catholic Church and set out on the path to the Easter Sacraments. They are accepted into the Order of Catechumens and candidates are welcomed at St Gabriel's Sunday 9am Mass.

ST GABRIEL'S & ST JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH OFFICES

Close of business

Tuesday 16 December 3pm

Reopen

Tuesday 27 January 2026 9am

END OF YEAR MEETINGS

St Gabriel's Parish Centre

Our **St Vincent de Paul** conference concludes a full and busy year with their final meeting and dinner Monday 15 December.

Our parish **Legion of Mary** Praesidium concludes this year's apostolic work Monday 22 December.

19 parishioners attended **Safeguarding training** 3/12. The next training opportunity is Monday 10 February 2026. WWCC/VIT of 85 parish volunteers are held on far. 43 parish volunteers have participated in Safeguarding training. Partnered parishes Safeguarding committee will meet with CAM Safeguarding 5 February 2026. We hope to have a Mass for parish volunteers early 2026.

ST GABRIEL'S PIETY STALL

Columban Calendar 2026 \$10

Majellan Christmas Cards \$8

51st ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne

Sunday 21 December 3pm.

*St Patrick's Cathedral choir presents
traditional Advent carols and congregational singing*

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

Celebrant: What is your name?
Candidate: Alexis Alcott, Dani Stoddart

Celebrant: What do you ask of God's Church?
Candidates: Faith.

Celebrant: What does faith offer you?
Candidates: Eternal life.

Celebrant:
God, who made the world and all of us and in whom all living things have their being, enlightens our minds, so that we may come to know and worship him. He has sent Jesus Christ, his faithful witness, to announce to us what he has seen in heaven and on earth. It is now time for you, who rejoice at Christ's coming, to listen to his word, so that, with us, beginning to know God and to love your neighbour, you may possess the life of heaven. Are you ready to lead this life with the help of God? Candidates: I am.

Celebrant:
Sponsors, you now present Alexis & Dani to us, and all of you brothers and sisters gathered here, are you prepared to help them find Christ and follow him? **All: We are.**

Celebrant:
To you, most merciful Father, we give thanks for these your servants, because they have already been searching for you, who in diverse ways have gone ahead of them and knocked at their door, and because they have answered your call today in our presence. Therefore, we all praise and bless you, Lord. **All: We praise and bless you, Lord.**

Celebrant:
Dear friends, come forward now with your sponsors to receive the sign of your new status as catechumens.

With his thumb he makes a Cross on the forehead of Alexis and Dani. After the celebrant, the sponsors, do the same.

Celebrant: Alexis and Dani, receive the Cross on your forehead. Christ himself strengthens you with the sign of his love. Learn now to know him and follow him.

Celebrant: Almighty God, who through the Cross and Resurrection of your Son have given life to your people, grant, we pray, that, following in the footsteps of Christ, your servants Alexis & Dani whom we have signed with the Cross, may possess its saving power in their lives and show it forth in their deeds. Through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen**

Presentation of the Gospels

Catechumens and candidates for the Easter Sacraments are called forward and they receive a Sunday Missal, containing the Word of God.

Celebrant: Receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

ESAME DI COSCIENZA

Consiste nell'interrogarsi sul male commesso e il bene ommesso: verso Dio, il prossimo e se stessi.

Nei confronti di Dio

Mi rivolgo a Dio solo nel bisogno?

Partecipo alla Messa la domenica e le feste di precetto?

Comincio e chiudo la giornata con la preghiera?

Ho nominato invano Dio, la Vergine, i Santi?

Mi sono vergognato di dimostrarmi cristiano?

Cosa faccio per crescere spiritualmente?
Come? Quando?

Mi ribello davanti ai disegni di Dio?

Pretendo che egli compia la mia volontà?

Nei confronti del prossimo

So perdonare, compatire, aiutare il prossimo?

Ho calunniato, rubato, disprezzato i piccoli e gli indifesi?

Sono invidioso, collerico, parziale?

Ho cura dei poveri e dei malati?

Mi vergogno della carne di mio fratello, della mia sorella?

Sono onesto e giusto con tutti o alimento la "cultura dello scarto"?

Ho istigato altri a fare il male?

Osservo la morale coniugale e familiare insegnata dal Vangelo?

Come vivo le responsabilità educative verso i figli?

Onoro e rispetto i miei genitori?

Ho rifiutato la vita appena concepita?

Ho speso il dono della vita?

Ho aiutato a farlo? Rispetto l'ambiente?

Nei confronti di sé Sono un po' mondano e un po' credente?

Esagero nel mangiare, bere, fumare, divertirmi?

Mi preoccupo troppo della salute fisica, dei miei beni?

Come uso il mio tempo? Sono pigro?

Voglio essere servito? Amo e coltivo la purezza di cuore, di pensieri e di azioni?

Medito vendette, nutro rancori?

Sono mite, umile, costruttore?

*Mio Dio, mi pento e mi dolgo con tutto il cuore
dei miei peccati,
perché peccando ho meritato i tuoi castighi,
e molto più perché ho offeso te,
infinitamente buono
e degno di essere amato sopra ogni cosa.
Propongo col tuo santo aiuto
di non offenderti mai più
e di fuggire le occasioni prossime di peccato.
Signore, misericordia, perdonami.*

Advent & Christmas 2025

"The Lord of majesty became a little child, so that we might become great. He took on our humanity, that he might bestow on us his divinity."

St Anthony of Padua +1231

WEEKEND 13-14 DECEMBER GAUDETE

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

Sunday 14 December 9am Mass St Gabriel's

Coffee & Cake

St Stephen of Hungary Saturday 6.30pm

Fresh Roast Mobile Café

Sunday 9am Mass St Gabriel's

Panettone & Coffee

St Joseph the Worker Sunday 10.30am

Carols on the Lawn

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church 81 Edwardes St Reservoir 6.30pm BBQ 7.30pm songs & stories

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & HOLY ROSARY

Wednesday 17 December 8.30am

St Gabriel's & St Joseph the Worker

MISA DE GALLO- ADVENT NOVENA

December 16-24 7pm Mass. Shared Dinner.

St Damien's Church 5 Settlement Rd Bundoora.

NORTH WEST RESERVOIR ITALIAN CITIZENS PENSIONERS CLUB

Thursday 18 December 10.30am Mass, Luncheon

St Joseph the Worker

***Please note NO 9.15am Mass**

PARISH OFFICES

Close of business Tuesday 16 December 3pm

Reopens Tuesday 27 January 2026 9am

CHRISTMAS SEASON BLESSING OF HOMES

The Christmas season is a traditional time for families to welcome their pastor for the blessing of family members and the household

Register: Parish Office

reservoir@cam.org.au

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

At Christmas we provide extra support to our Bishops and priests, retired and sick priests. The Christmas offering envelope is included in our parish Thanksgiving envelopes. Christmas offering envelopes are also available at each church: St Gabriel's, St Stephen's and St Joseph the Worker.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East

Saturdays 13,20 December 7.15pm

St Gabriel's Reservoir

Sunday 14 December 8am

Sunday 21 December 8am, 3pm

Tuesday 23 December 9.30am and 7pm

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

Friday 19 December 7.30pm

Saturday 20 December 4pm



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday 24 December

St Stephen's Reservoir East 6pm Vigil Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

5.30pm Carols 6pm Vigil Mass

St Gabriel's Reservoir 7.30pm Carols 8pm Mass

Thursday 25 December

St Gabriel's Reservoir 10am Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

10am Mass English/Italian

NEW YEARS DAY Thursday 1 January 2026

9am Mass St Gabriel's



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA

good works

Our St Vincent de Paul conference asks our support for their outreach to needy families at this time. The Christmas Appeal envelope can be placed in the weekend collection.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING *Isaiah 35: 1-6,10*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended. The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145(146):6-10

R: Lord, come and save us.

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,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R**

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **R**

SECOND READING *James 5: 7-10*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring
Good News to the poor. Alleluia!



GOSPEL *Matthew 11: 2-11*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: 'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. 'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.' The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Recently Deceased

Fr James Staunton, Mariantonia Viglione

Anniversaries & Remembrance

Joseph Georges, Frank Napolitano, Pompei Brunetti,
Sam & Gaby Bairy, Barbara Kelly- Cavedon,
Gregorio & Rachiele Family , Elizabetta Memoso,
Pisani Family, Angela Bruna Buzzi ,Eugenio Sergio

**Next weekend
4th Sunday
of Advent**

**Isaiah 7: 10-14
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-24**



Processional Hymn AOV 184

Chorus: All the earth proclaim the Lord,
Sing your praise to God.

Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness.
Come into his presence singing for joy! *Chorus*

Know that the Lord is our creator.
Yes, he is our Father; we are his own. *Chorus*

We are the sheep of the green pasture,
For we are his people; he is our God. *Chorus*

Enter his gates bringing thanksgiving,
O enter his courts while singing in praise. *Chorus*



Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 35:1-6,10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Psalm Response

Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

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Next weekend 4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7: 10-14

Romans 1: 1-7

Matthew 1: 18-24



Preparation of the Gifts CWB 241

Chorus: O Emmanuel
Come into our hearts.
O Emmanuel
We're waiting for your light.
O Emmanuel
God is with us now.
O Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

We your people are waiting for you, Lord,
Waiting all throughout the earth.
We your people are waiting for you, Lord,
waiting to celebrate your birth. *Chorus*

We your people are longing for you, Lord,
longing with hope and with joy.
We your people are longing for you, Lord,
longing for the sign to rejoice. *Chorus*

We your people are ready for you, Lord,
ready to change and repent.
We your people are ready for you, Lord,
ready for you to come again. *Chorus*

Holy Communion GA 279

Word we long for, Alleluia,
Word we thirst for, Maranatha!
Key of David, Alleluia,
Son of Mary, Maranatha!
Promised Saviour, Alleluia,
True Messiah, Maranatha!
Cry of prophets, Alleluia,
Hope of ages, Maranatha!
Light of nations, Alleluia,
Light in darkness, Maranatha!
Risen Saviour, Alleluia,
Lord of glory, Maranatha!
You we long for, Alleluia,
You we thirst for, Maranatha!
Here among us, Alleluia,
Living in us, Maranatha!

Recessional Hymn AOV 57

Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

Chorus: Let us build the city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing!
For the Lord, our light and our love,
has turned the night into day!

We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.
The One who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be a light
for his people to set their hearts free. *Chorus*