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

Clergy: Fr G Pritchard, Deacon F Correya

Parish Office: Tuesday—Friday *9am-3pm*
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073 0487 116 154 *reservoir@cam.org.au*

Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary
79 Wilson Blvd Reservoir North 3073
dominicansistersopmolo@gmail.com

St Gabriel's Church
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073

St Stephen of Hungary Church
71 Whitelaw St Reservoir East 3073

St Joseph the Worker Church
79 Wilson Blvd Reservoir North 3073

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Yr B 29 November 2026

Our parish program
for Advent and Christmas
is included in today's bulletin

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass
1st Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass
Maltese Reservoir North

Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Reservoir East

Sunday 9am Mass Reservoir

Sunday 10.30am Mass *Reservoir North*
English/Italian

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Gabriel's Church 9am
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & HOLY ROSARY

Wednesday 8.30am *St Gabriel's*

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

Congratulations to all involved with this year's **St Gabriel's Theatre Group** production *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.* Many months rehearsal and practice has been rewarded with a quality presentation, singing and acting, enjoyed by large and appreciative audiences.

Our Parish conference of **St Vincent de Paul** concludes a busy year of active charity and home visits to families in need on Monday 14 December. Emergency Assistance 1800 305 330. Reservoir Vinnies 10 Edwardes St

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.

Final meeting of our parish **Legion of Mary** praesidium, dedicated to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Monday 21 December 1.30pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre. Families are invited to welcome the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima for a week of family prayer. *Enquiries* Maureen O'Dwyer 9460 8520

Sincere thanks to those who bring **Holy Communion** to the sick, housebound and residents of parish nursing homes. This week Fr Pritchard will bring the Anointing of the Sick to aged care homes.

Combined Societies of Mary
Immaculate Conception of Our Lady
Sunday 6 December 1.30pm
Holy Cross Church
707 Glenhuntly Rd Caulfield South
Enquiries Joy Hunt 95092207
combinedsocietiesofmary.com

Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary

Parishioners provided very generous support to the Sisters with a gift of $1137. Mother Nemia OP writes 20/10: *I received your email with deep appreciation and gratitude for sharing updates on the activities and involvement of the Sisters in the parish. I am truly thankful for the encouragement and support you continue to give them. It is a joy to know that they are now settled and actively serving in the different ministries of the community. Their presence and dedication are truly a blessing to the parish.*

Here in the Motherhouse, we need to temporarily transfer the elderly Sisters from the infirmary to our large classroom to allow for major repairs and renovation of the infirmary. It is indeed a big project and we are praying for God's blessings for its successful completion next year. This effort is not only for the comfort of our elderly Sisters but also a way of honoring their years of faithful service to the congregation.

Our International Dominican Family Leaders Conference in Vietnam October 25-November 3 is a grace filled opportunity to gather with leaders from different parts of the world to share experiences and to strengthen our unity in the Dominican mission. The Holy Spirit will guide our discussions and inspire us to respond more faithfully to the needs of the Church and society today.

Please extend my heartfelt gratitude to the parishioners for their kindness and generosity toward our Sisters. Be assured of our prayers for you and for the entire parish community, that the Lord may continue to bless you all with peace, joy, and strength in his service.

Thank you

- St Joseph the Worker morning tea (11/10): Rosanna Covello, Elisa Pistoni, Sina Cianta; the Dominican Sisters provided a display of their history and apostolate.
- Stella Maris Festa (16-18/10): Stella Maris Committee, Charlie Xerri, Antoniette Gauchi; Frs Lonnie Borg MSSP & John Magri; Tanya Attard, Le Grande Reception Epping, DJ Domenic, MMG Concert Band
- Festa di San Rocco (25/10): Sam Zangari, Rocco Sorleto, Domenico Puglia, Giuseppina Sette, R Ziccarello, Fr M Cagna CS, Fr Raffael, Sam La Fiesta, Malta Gozo Concert Band. $1000 was presented to St Joseph's Church.
- Parish music ministry: Colin Jenkins, Maureen O'Dwyer, Gary O'Dwyer, Guitar group, Sr Mayflor OP, Nancy Ziina, Theresa Nguyen, Miriam Mizzi. In 2027 live music will be provided only at St Gabriel's. Colin is looking to retirement and we will advertise for an organist at the beginning of next year.
- Sincere thanks to priests who assisted with weekend Masses during November: Capuchin Friars, Fr Daryl Montecillo, Fr Shane Hoctor, Fr Michele Cagna CS
- St Gabriel's parishioner Margot Nielsen was recognised for many years of faithful commitment at Sunday 9.30am Mass 15/11

Partnered Parishes Finance Committee

The committee forwarded their endorsement of Amalgamation to Archbishop Comensoli (21/10). In 2027 the committee will work towards Thanksgiving Renewal after Amalgamation. The committee is reviewing outlays including contracts and contractors. St Joseph the Worker parish has not had a Thanksgiving Renewal for many years. St Gabriel's and St Stephen of Hungary last held a Thanksgiving Renewal in 2022.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Congratulations to members presented with service pins (1/11): Peter & Leonie Johnson, Sonny Muscat, Chris Aincough, Peter & Julie Ciappini, Darrell O'Farrell, Feyez Ishkan, Alicia Podgornik.

St Stephen/Gaudete Yr 8 Campus

A school community is much more than a place where students come to learn and staff come to work. It is a place where people grow together, support one another, learn what it means to belong and understand how their contributions can have an impact on others. This is particularly true at St Stephen/Gaudete Campus, where students come to learn that living and learning in community requires effort and a respectful attitude from all members. Through positive contributions and relationships, everyone is able to feel valued, respected and connected. We were reminded of the positive impact individuals can have on a community during a recent visit from the Yr 12 VM students and Ms Nicole Meade, Assistant Principal/Davisson Street Campus Director. Together, they ran a fundraising effort and worked alongside Yr 8 students for a worthy cause. This event was undoubtedly a highlight of the semester, as the Yr 8 and Yr 12 students connected to raise funds for those in need. In subsequent discussions, we have highlighted to the Yr 8 students how a group of fewer than 20 Yr 12 students could have such a positive impact on a community of 225. We have used these positive contributions as an opportunity to encourage the Yr 8 students to share their individual strengths and positive qualities with others to create a joyful environment. *The Monican October 2026*

St Stephen of Hungary Church Reservoir East

We were pleased to provide a photograph of the statue of St Stephen of Hungary to the Centre for Christian Initiation and Liturgy Archdiocese of Perth WA. They are preparing a prayer resource and hymn text for each feast day in the liturgical calendar, including images from parish churches. We were also glad to provide our parish hymn to St Gabriel, with acknowledgment to Fr Hoctor and Fr Ramsay Williams OLSC who wrote a verse each for this hymn.

Parish life in 2027

- The Legion of Mary pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima will visit our parish churches May 8-16.
- Our parish branch of the Catholic Womens League will begin regular meetings and activities in February.
- Parish men will meet for dinner and plan towards establishing an active branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross.
- 14 RCIA candidates are preparing for the Easter Sacraments including 5 catechumens. They will attend the Rite of Election St Patrick's Cathedral Sunday 14 February, and participate in the Scrutinies and other rites during Lent.
- We will begin to prepare and form a group of pilgrims to attend World Youth Day South Korea August 3-8. Adult leaders will include Sr Mayflor OP.

Advent & Christmas 2026

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & HOLY ROSARY
Wednesdays December 2, 9,16, 23 8.30am
St Gabriel's & St Joseph the Worker

ADVENT REFLECTION
presented by the Dominican Sisters
Thursday 10 December
9.15am Mass 10am Advent Reflection
St Joseph the Worker

ADVENT RETREAT
'The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me'
Saturday 12 December 9am—5pm
St Dominic's Parish
816 Riversdale Rd Camberwell
Register: trybooking.com/au/event/1676562

WEEKEND 13-14 DECEMBER *GAUDETE*

- **First Holy Communion Harry Kopp**

St Joseph the Worker Saturday 5pm Mass

- **Coffee & Cake**

St Stephen of Hungary Saturday 6.30pm Mass

- **Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens**

St Gabriel's Sunday 9am Mass

- **Thanksgiving Mass of Deacon Peter Nguyen**

St Joseph the Worker Sunday 10.30am Mass
Refreshments St Joseph the Worker Hall

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
Sunday 29 November 3pm
St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne
melbournecatholic.org/cathedralmusic

FROM JORDAN TO THE EMPTY TOMB: THE GOSPEL OF MARK PROCLAIMED AND SUNG
Wednesday 2 December 7pm
St Ambrose's Church 287 Sydney Rd Brunswick
Register: forms.cloud.microsoft/r/dy1LitdkS0?origin=lprLink

CAROLS ON THE LAWN
Sunday 13 December 6pm *BBQ* 7pm *Carols*
Reservoir Presbyterian Church 81 Edwardes St

NORTH WEST RESERVOIR ITALIAN CITIZENS PENSIONERS CLUB
Thursday 17 December 10.30am Mass
Luncheon *St Joseph the Worker Hall*

NEW YEARS DAY Friday 1 January 2026
10am Mass *St Gabriel's*

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 MASSES

Thursday 24 December

St Stephen's Reservoir East
4pm Vigil Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
5.30pm Carols 6pm Vigil Mass

St Gabriel's Reservoir
7.30pm Carols 8pm Mass

Friday 25 December

St Gabriel's Reservoir 9am Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
10.30am Mass *English/Italian*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East
Saturdays 5,12,19 December 7.15pm

St Gabriel's Reservoir
Sundays 6,13 December 8am
Sunday 20 December 8am, 3pm

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
Saturdays 5,12,19 December 4pm
Tuesday 22 December 9.45am, 7pm

PARISH OFFICE
Close of business
Friday 18 December 3pm
Reopens
Wednesday 27 January 2027 9am

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.

1ST READING

Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your nameor roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

2ND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord

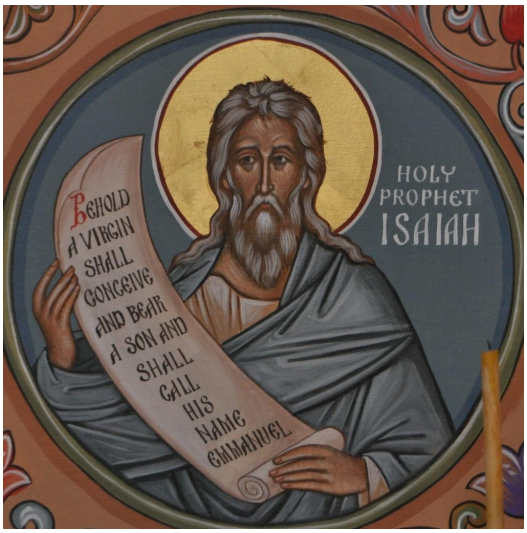
All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Advent Wreath

Lord God,
your Church joyfully awaits
the coming of her Saviour,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath;
may their light reflect
the splendour of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

God prepared for the coming of his Son over the centuries. He awakened in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming and he prepared for it specifically through the Old Testament, culminating with John the Baptist who was the last and greatest of the prophets. We relive this long period of expectancy in the annual liturgical celebration of the season of Advent.

Compendium 102



Next Weekend
2nd Sunday of Advent Yr B

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

Recently Deceased

Maryam Hannah Al Hayek, Giovanni Tavolaro

Anniversary of Death & Remembrance

Fr Justin Woodford & Family
Patrick & Thomas Fitzgerald
Michael McManus, Maria Daniele
Domenico & Michelina Licastro
Joseph Georges, Caterina Mercuri
Giuseppe D'Agostino
Giovanni Calvi & Family

Processional Hymn 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?

Refrain: 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 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? *Refrain*

Advent Wreath

Lord God,
your Church joyfully awaits
the coming of her Saviour,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath;
may their light reflect
the splendour of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 63:16-17;64:1,3-8 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37

Psalm Response

Lord, make us turn to you,
let us see your face
and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

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Preparation of the Gifts AOV 115

Refrain:
Lord, let your mercy be on us
as we place our trust in you.

The world of the Lord is faithfulness and love,
this love can never be measured;
God's beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,
so let us place our trust in God. *Refrain*

The word of the Lord
means a patient, gentle God,
whose love can never grow weary.
God's mercy is as though our sins
have never been,
if we can place our trust in God. *Refrain*

The word of the Lord is fire burning strong
and love that never grows weary.
God will seek and save the lost
until we all return,
so let us place our trust in God. *Refrain*

Holy Communion AOV 164

Refrain:
Bread of life, hope of the world,
Jesus Christ, our brother:
feed us now, give us life, lead us to one another.

As we proclaim your death,
as we recall your life,
we remember your promise
to return again. *Refrain*

The bread we break and share
was scattered once as grain;
just as now it is gathered,
make your people one. *Refrain*

We eat this living bread,
we drink this saving cup:
sign of hope in our broken world,
source of lasting love. *Refrain*

Recessional 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 peace, our world is trouble.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone, has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

Next Weekend
2nd Sunday of Advent Yr B

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

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