



St. Simon the Apostle Parish

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📧 office@stsimonsparish.com.au 🌐 www.stsimonsparish.com.au

PARISH PERSONNEL

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Kevin Dillon

Mobile: 0421 777 360

Email: frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES:

Mrs Loretta Hughes (Tues, Thurs)

Mrs Abbie Ferdinands (Mon, Wed, Fri)

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR:

Mrs Marialisa Mandarino (Wednesday)

BUSINESS & FINANCE:

Mr Peter Evans (Mon - Thurs)

Mr Lee Chew (Monday)

SECRETARIES:

Mrs Felicia Ahumada (Mon - Wed)

Mrs Christina Liew (Thurs, Fri)

ST. SIMON'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

Mr Phil Hesse: 9755 4222

NAZARETH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL:

Mr Sam Cosentino: 9795 8100

PARISH OFFICE OPEN:

9.00am to 4.00pm

Monday to Friday

WEEKEND MASS:

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am

OTHER MASS TIMES:

Monday to Saturday: 9.15am

Tuesday: 7.00pm

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: 9.45am

BAPTISMS:

First Sat 11.30am, Third Sun 12.15pm

WEDDINGS:

Contact Parish Office

ANointing OF THE SICK:

When required, and 9.15am

Mass on the First Friday of the Month

MEMORIAL ANNIVERSARIES:

To be arranged through Parish Office

PARISH COUNCIL:

parishcouncil@stsimonsparish.com.au

MASS ON RADIO:

Mass from St. Simon's is broadcast

on Light FM - 89.9 at 7am Sundays

HALL HIRE:

St. Simon's Hall is available for hire

Saturday evenings and Sunday Lunch.

For enquiries, contact the Parish Office during Office Hours. Phone: 9764 4058.

December 2nd 2018 - 1st Sunday of Advent

Three youths are wanted by police after two rocks—one weighing up to 12 kg—were thrown at vehicles from a pedestrian overpass west of Melbourne.

The rocks, described as the size of melons, were thrown at vehicles from a pedestrian overpass on the Western Highway in Melton about 2.20 pm on Sunday.

Dramatic video emerged yesterday of one of the rocks shattering a truck windscreen.

Luckily the driver, who was forced to swerve into the emergency lane, was not injured but police said he could have been killed.

Detective Sergeant Ashley Ryan said the action was incredibly dangerous. "It can cause serious injury, if not death. The driver is very lucky he wasn't injured".

Police have described the young male offenders as aged between 12 and 16.

They face a number of charges, including reckless conduct endangering life. That offence carries a maximum prison sentence of 10 years.

"Herald Sun", Tues. November 27



Debate continues about court sentences. Too light or too harsh? When should bail be granted and when denied, along with other associated issues with the "law and order" framework of our society. One component of some offences can make an already considerable challenge even more complex.

And that component is: intent.

When a perpetrator is apprehended, tried and convicted, a sentence is imposed. Sometimes, especially for those directly affected by the crime, the sentence can be seen as far too lenient. But for family and friends of the convicted person, the same sentence can be seen as harsh and unjust.

So where does "intent" come in? When someone deliberately sets out to harm another, or (as in the rock-throwing incident at Melton last week-end) engages in conduct where the risk of death or serious injury to others appears to have been totally ignored, most believe a just sentence will reflect that

what happened was deliberate and intentional. Any harm that either did occur or could have occurred should in no way be termed an "accident".

Over the years, in many parts of world - very much including Victoria - people have been killed or have suffered serious injury from rocks being thrown from bridges at traffic passing underneath. Often the culprits are younger teenagers - reportedly the age bracket of the Melton offenders.

Is it "kids being kids", "kids being stupid", or "kids deliberately engaging in life-threatening (or even life-taking) conduct"? For an assessment of the consequence of "kids" throwing rocks at traffic from a bridge, just ask those families whose lives have been damaged irreparably and changed forever by such appalling - and seemingly deliberate - actions.

The sentencing debate - too harsh or too lenient - will most likely always be with us. "Throw the book" or "See the whole picture"? Sometimes assessing "intent" is even more difficult than assembling 'the facts'. Perhaps we should say a prayer for those charged with finding the elusive balance between "the facts", "the consequences" and "the intent".

Rosters for weekend of 8th & 9th December 2018

Mass Time	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader Commentator	Terry O'Donnell Marita Murphy	Brian Philp Phil Mawdsley	Stephen White Peter Evans	Terry Redden Colin Maslen
Altar Society	Melanie Jacobs & Annie McNeill		Flowers Sally-Ann	
CLOW 	Felicia Ahumada		Rina Rose'myer	Felicity Hills
Help Desk	Abbie Ferrdinands	Mary Mann	Myrella Desfosses	Christina Liew
Church Cleaning	Janine Fryer, Marina Ruffolo, George Kertesi, Mike Joseph			
Counters	Carmel De Frece, Rupert Ferdinands, Guylaine Ardley, Tony Scarnivel			
Mass Recorder	Kevin D'Rozario		Bus Driver	John Duhau
Homily Typist	Sonya Rose'meyer			

PARISH DIARY—THIS WEEK

Monday Dec. 3

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)
1.00pm: Reflection Group (Chapel)

Tuesday Dec. 4

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)
7.00pm: Mass (Church)

Wednesday Dec. 5

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

Thursday Dec. 6

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Friday Dec. 7

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Saturday Dec. 8

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)
6.00pm: Vigil Mass (Church)

Sunday Dec. 9

8.00am, 9.30am & 11.00am: Mass (Church)



MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

Recent Death: Mary Bryan, Eustace Lewis

Anniversary: Joseph Simon Francis, Noel & France D'argent, Annette Mataska Jackson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Priscilla Bussac, Sean Solari, Ed Nicdao, Cheryl Redden,

FETE SIGNS: Thanks to all who placed a Fete sign on their home fence. It would be helpful if all signs could be returned to the Church Foyer or Parish Office.

POST-FETE MEETING: Stall Captains, Service Captains are invited by the Fete Committee to share a simple barbecue to be followed by a Post-Fete meeting to review this year's Fete and plan for next year. Monday, December 10 at 6.00 pm. Please phone the Parish Office (9764 4058) or email office@stsimonsparish.com.au to indicate your likely attendance or non-attendance.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Thursday December 13 at 7.30pm

Second Rite of Reconciliation. Parishioners are asked to utilise this valuable opportunity for the Sacrament, given that the many demands of the Advent/Christmas ceremonies make the provision of additional "First Rite" ceremonies difficult in this last week prior to Christmas. Four or five priests will be in attendance so as to ensure no-one has to wait too long.

Friday December 14 at 10.00am

Anointing Mass, followed by Christmas Seniors' Morning Tea. Special "live" entertainment provided.

Monday December 17 at 7.30pm

Memorial Mass to pray for those family members and friends who have died and will be missed at Christmas. The Mass focuses especially on those people who are facing their first or second Christmas without a loved family member or friend, but everyone is welcome.

Tuesday December 18 at 7.30pm (after 7pm Mass)

Fr. Bernard Teo CSsR, will speak on "Hope in an ever changing world." An Inspirational Talk to help us prepare for the 2020 Plenary Council, and to respond to the primary question: "What is God asking of us in Australia?"

Monday December 24 - Christmas Eve

6.00pm (Children's Mass), 9.00pm, Midnight

Tuesday December 25 - Christmas Day

Mass at 10.00am (Public Holiday)

Wednesday December 26 - Boxing Day

Mass 10.00am (Public Holiday)

Monday December 31 - New Year's Eve

On New Year's Eve, Mass will be celebrated at 11.00pm, in addition to the usual Monday morning Mass at 9.15am. This Mass can be a great way of prayerfully thanking God for the blessings of the past year, and asking for the graces we need in the coming year of 2019. The Mass will conclude by 11.45 pm (at latest) and tea and coffee will be available in the Foyer afterwards to see in the New Year.

Tuesday January 1 - New Year's Day

Mass at 10.00 am (Public Holiday)

CHRISTMAS CAROLS EVENING

This year, all parishioners are invited to share with the St. Simon's School community in the Carols Evening, to be held in the school grounds **NEXT FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm**. Bring a picnic tea, maybe a folding chair or two. This is a wonderful way to share the spirit of Advent and Christmas as a total parish family. See you there!

AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (ASRE) REGISTRATION

Tuesday, 4 December 4.00-5.00pm in Church Foyer

Please invite any children that you may know of in the state schools who would like to participate in this programme as prerequisite into the sacramental programme for 2019.

We are also looking for volunteers to teach the programme. Please contact Rosetta Scheepers on 0408 884 867 for more details.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

You are invited to donate a gift to make Christmas a little brighter for a child (ages 1 to 16).

The "Giving Christmas Tree" will be on the Sanctuary on the weekends of Dec. 8 / 9, and 15 / 16.

You can support the Society's work by purchasing our S.V.D.P. Christmas Cards: \$7.50/ 8pk, Columban Calendars: \$9.

Also nativity sets and other Christmas items.

If the Piety Stall is unattended, please ask at Help Desk.

NEW PEWS AT ST. SIMON'S

We have now received more than 90 "Expressions of Interest" forms for Memorial Plaques on the proposed new pews for St. Simon's Church. Those who have "expressed interest" have been contacted to make a specific Order for a Plaque. Please contact the Parish Office if you returned an Expression of Interest form but have not been contacted regarding placing a formal Order. More "Expressions of Interest" are most welcome.

AIR CONDITIONING IN ST. SIMON'S CHURCH

Five air-conditioners are currently being installed in St. Simon's Church. While not new they have been tested and are in excellent working condition, and have been purchased at a fraction of the usual price. They are expected to be operating by next weekend, certainly in time for Christmas and the hot summer months.

Sincere thanks to Brian Dalton for progressing this project so well.

SPECIAL ADVENT OPPORTUNITY

Advent Reflection Groups in the Chapel: Mondays at 7.30pm, and Thursday at 10.00 a.m. For further information, please contact Loretta at the Parish Office on 9764 4058 or email: loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

COLLECTORS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

We will need extra people to assist with collections at all Christmas Masses (but especially 6.00pm and 9.00pm), so they don't take too long. If you can help, please sign the Clipboard at Mass this weekend.

DAILY MEMORIAL BOOK REQUESTS

If you would like a loved one to be remembered at weekday Mass on the anniversary of death, just complete a form in the pews (or at the Help Desk) and return it via any collection, to the Help Desk or Parish Office.

CHURCH REFURBISHMENT COMMITTEE

The Help Desk has forms to help you put forward suggestions as to membership of this Committee or as to items to be addressed to help our place of worship be the best it can be across the next 25 years.

END-OF-YEAR APPRECIATION EVENT

Rather than crowd an already busy pre-Christmas schedule, a function to thank our many volunteers will be held in 2019 in association with the opening of our new Parish Centre.

PALMS AUSTRALIA has been sending volunteers on mission for over 50 years. Palms global volunteers mentor and exchange skills in countries across Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

Join a Palms Encounter in 2019:

Timor Leste Apr 7-19;

Samoa Jun 7-19;

Timor Leste Sept 1-13;

Myanmar Nov 16-28.

For details, please call 02 9518 9551.



When you choose a Global Gift card to give to family or friends this Christmas, you are supporting women give birth safely with access to expert care before and after babies are born. **Order Global Gift cards online at www.globalgifts.org.au or call us on 1800 024 413.**

COLLECTIONS: 25th November, 2018

Presbytery \$1594.95
Loose donations \$414.75

Stewardship - Envelope. (2nd Collection) \$2,550.31
Stewardship - Credit Cards / Direct Debit (cumulative Average) \$3,570.34
2016 campaign pledge (weekly) \$6,120.65

Thank you for sharing your treasure.



Weekly Pledge	Received	Cumulative
\$2,550.31	\$2338.50	84.7%

December 2nd 2018 - 1st Sunday of Advent

First reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.

Second reading

Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. 'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'



Next Week's Readings
2nd Sunday of Advent
Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

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