



# St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178

(03) 9764 4058 (03) 9764 5154

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 16th 2018 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

A Melbourne-led medical trial will examine whether cholesterol-busting wonder drugs can also combat conditions such as dementia.

The ground-breaking study of statins, backed by federal government cash, as part of a \$526 million boost for medical research projects is set to be one of the world's largest.

A five-year research funding plan will be announced today by Health Minister Greg Hunt. National Health and Medical Research Council grants also include a \$61 million investment in heart disease and \$86 million for cancer work.

A Monash University team will work to determine whether statins - the nations most prescribed drug for heart disease - also have benefits for elderly Australians at risk of a host of conditions.

*"Herald Sun", Wed. Dec 12, 2018*

My 89-year-old father was taken by ambulance to Monash Medical Centre emergency department on Monday night with abdominal pain. He was given morphine by paramedics.

We waited five hours and 10 minutes in emergency before I took him home without him being seen by a doctor, at 5am.

If this is how we treat our elderly, it is disrespectful and upsetting. My father sat there in his pyjamas and dressing gown. When we got home he vomited four times but would not seek any other medical assistance.

Mr. Andrews, our hospitals are in disarray - you must do something about it now so another person does not have to endure what we did.

*"Herald Sun", Wed. Dec 12, 2018*



One thing's for certain: we do NOT live in a perfect world!

Wednesday's "Herald Sun" carried a letter from a lady who was clearly dissatisfied with the way her elderly father was treated (or not treated!) this week at the Monash Hospital. So strongly did she feel that she wrote to a daily newspaper, providing her name and address for publication (to be followed up by talk-back radio).


Complaints about hospitals are common, especially emergency departments where the unpredictable needs of both patients and staff can prove hazardous (usually when there are too many patients for too few staff). Both frustrated patients and under-resourced staff can have perspectives that are fully understandable.

Interestingly, the front page of the same paper featured a headline of "\$500m Lifeline - Cash injection to help fight killer diseases". It was just one of many headlines and articles over recent months reporting major breakthroughs and significant successful medical research. And in case you didn't notice, most of these came from researchers based in Melbourne!

Health, especially for ourselves and those closest to us, is a major priority of life. But if the medical system lets us down when needed most, we can be disappointed, if not angry - and that may well be justified. And if it needs to improve, that needs to be said - and done.

But as a community we also need to recognise that there are parts of the health system that *do* work well, even extremely well, and the amazing medical research work of Australian is a clear example. Again, we *don't* live in a perfect world, and our health system is made up of imperfect human beings who administer imperfect systems. Sometimes they get it right, sometimes wrong. But let's work - and pray - for the best health system which we all need.

## Rosters for weekend of 22nd & 23rd December 2018

Mass Time	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
<b>Reader Commentator</b>	Jodie Marziano Kaye Williams	Cedrick Fick Brian Philp	Annabel Henriques Tony Biviano	Ricardo D'Rozario Cornelia Calimlim
<b>Altar Society</b>	Elaine Gannon & Linda Eksteen		<b>Flowers:</b> Anne	
<b>CLOW</b> 	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW
<b>Help Desk</b>	Victoria Kong	Elaine Gannon	Maggie Braganza	Denise Hart/Mary Russo
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Annette & Samuel Leveque, Antony Singarasa			
<b>Counters</b>	Joy & Larry Amoranto, Brian Harriss, Nirmala Andrew			
<b>Mass Recorder</b>	Rob Todd		<b>Bus Driver</b>	Carmel De Frece
<b>Homily Typist</b>	Sunita Nazareth			

### PARISH DIARY

#### **Monday Dec. 17**

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

7.30pm: Christmas Memorial Mass (Church)

#### **Tuesday Dec. 18**

9.30am: School Thanksgiving Mass (Church) -

**Please note time change - 9.30am, NOT 9.15am**

7.00pm: Mass (Chapel)

7.30pm: Talk by Fr Bernard Teo (Chapel)

#### **Wednesday Dec. 19**

11.30am: School Staff & Community Mass (Church)

**Please note time change - 11.30am, NOT 9.15am**

#### **Thursday Dec. 20**

9.15am: Mass (Church)

#### **Friday Dec. 21**

9.15am: Mass (Church)

#### **Saturday Dec. 22**

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

4.30pm: Nativity Play Practice (Church)

#### **Sunday Dec. 23**

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



### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

**Recent Death:** Katie Woods (mother of Mike Woods),  
May Moffatt (mother of Julie Faull,  
Patricia Hay (Aunt of Danuta Stiglich)

**Anniversary:** Piero Sorgini, Giovanna Cannizzaro

### BAPTISMS:

**We welcome into our faith community:**

Arielle & Clarisse KWOK, daughters of Wesley & Ai,  
Abbey & Archer SWANSTON, daughter & son  
of Murray & Simone.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY :

Celine Pieterse, Amelia Roles, James Azzam, Sheridan Rebein, Caitlyn & Rhys Van Rheenen, Monique Larose, Samara Fernando, Anthony Giuliano, Justin Perea, Simone Louey, David Wong, Ernest Drozd, Sheena Scott Shannon Saunders, Stephen Welsford, James Tobar

### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

#### **Monday, Dec. 17 - 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, Dec. 18 - 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, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Masses**

**6.00pm** (Children's Mass),

**9.00pm** (Carols at 8.30pm)

**Midnight** (Carols at 11.30pm)

#### **Tuesday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Day**

Mass **10.00am** (Public Holiday)

#### **Wednesday, Dec. 26 - Boxing Day**

Mass **10.00am** (Public Holiday)

#### **Monday, Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Masses**

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, Jan. 1 - New Year's Day**

Mass **10.00am** (Public Holiday)



### YOUTH CHOIR: 6pm Mass for Christmas Eve

A "Massed Youth Choir" (for those aged from 13 to 25) is being assembled to lead the singing at the 6.00 pm Christmas Eve Family/ Children's Mass. The last practice in the Church will be on **Thursday Dec 20 - 7.00pm to 9.00 pm**. Everyone is most welcome. Carols are those that are best known. Enquiries: Eliza (0428 065 448)

### NATIVITY PLAY - 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve

Would you like to play an angel, a shepherd or a King? Enquiries: Marialisa Mandarino [marialisa@stsimonsparish.com.au](mailto:marialisa@stsimonsparish.com.au) (0421 672 102)  
**Last Practice: Saturday Dec 22: 4.30pm to 5.30 pm**

### ADVENT MAIL - Pick up a copy

Week 3 - for yourself or join a group at the parish

### ADVENT REFLECTION GROUPS

Monday Nights 7.30pm  
Thursday Mornings 10.00am after Mass.  
*This is part of our Plenary Council venture.*



### COLLECTORS at Christmas Masses

We need a **LARGE NUMBER OF EXTRA PEOPLE** to assist with collections at all Christmas Masses (but especially at 6.00pm and 9.00pm), so they don't take too long. If you can help, please sign the Clipboard at Mass this weekend.

### VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

There will be a leaving collection after Mass this weekend. Donation envelopes are available at the pews and in the foyer. We are calling all of you again for your generous support.

### CHRISTMAS TREE APPEAL

You are invited to donate a gift (**preferably a Gift Card**) to make Christmas a little brighter for a child. The "Giving Christmas Tree" will be at the Sanctuary this weekend.

### NEW PARISHONERS: WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU PERSONALLY!

If you have recently moved into the area, or have decided to make St. Simon's your parish home, please register your details in the New Parishioners' Book at the Help Desk. One of the members of our Welcoming Team will be in touch.

### SCHOOL END-OF-YEAR MASS

will be celebrated on **Tuesday Dec 18 at 9.30am**. Parishioners are encouraged to attend this Mass as a mark of prayerful solidarity with our staff. There will not be a Mass at 9.15am.

### SCHOOL STAFF THANKSGIVING MASS

will be celebrated on **Wednesday December 19 at 11.30am**.

Parishioners are encouraged to attend this Mass as a mark of prayerful solidarity with our staff, and sit / stand / pray (even sing!) with a staff member during the Mas.

There will not be a Mass at 9.15am.

**MR PHIL HESSE**, Principal of St. Simon's School, will be taking Long Service Leave, as of Term 1 next year, after 12 years of dedicated leadership at St. Simon's. He will be retiring in 2020. Deputy Principal Maree Fatouros will be Acting Principal throughout 2019, and Mrs Hedy Carvalho (currently Religious Education Leader) will be Acting Deputy Principal. The position of Principal of St. Simon's will be advertised in Term 3 next year, with the successful applicant commencing in Term 1, 2020. Phil will receive a fitting "Farewell" at the end of Term 4 next year.

### 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.

### PARISH COUNCIL

If you have ideas, suggestions or comments to put to the Council email to: [parishcouncil@stsimonsparish.com.au](mailto:parishcouncil@stsimonsparish.com.au)  
Please ensure you include your name and a contact phone number. A Parish Council member will respond to your email as soon as possible.

### INFORMATION RE SICK PARISHIONERS:

Please inform the Parish Office on (03) 9764 4058 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.



### COLLECTIONS: December 9th, 2018

**Presbytery** \$1645.40  
**Loose donations** \$396.50

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	\$2143	84.7%

# December 16th 2018 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

## First reading

**Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem; Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

## Second reading

**Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

## Gospel

**Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.



*Next Week's Readings*  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44**

### Super Steve's Cleaning Team

- \* Spring Clean Outside Windows (streak free)
  - \* Carpet Cleaning
  - \* Tenant Vacate Clean
  - \* General House cleaning
- For a FREE QUOTE**  
**call 0423 496 516**

### Appliance Repairs & Installation Service

We specialize in the repair of:

- Washing Machines
- Dishwashers
- Dryers
- Electric Ovens
- Microwaves
- Cooktops / Range hoods
- Fridges / Freezers
- Test / Tag Services

Contact: Ash (0413 913 619)

**Please call the**  
**Parish Office**  
**if you would**  
**like to advertise**  
**your business**  
**in our**  
**weekly bulletin**



**ZUMBA FITNESS**

**CLASS TIMETABLE**

**PARK RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Wentworth Avenue, Rowville

**MON & WED 7.00 - 8.00pm**  
**SAT 10.30 - 11.30am**

**FREE TRIAL**

**CHECK OUT OUR SPECIALS & EVENTS**  
**AT [www.zumbamelbourne.com.au](http://www.zumbamelbourne.com.au)**



**ChipKing**  
**Data Cabling**

NBN / Data Networks  
CCTV Security Cameras  
Digital & Cable TV  
Wi-Fi Speed Boost

Call Brad: 9803 8644  
[sales@chipking.com.au](mailto:sales@chipking.com.au)

Registered Cabler T08011  
Security Reg. 936-086-80S

### South Eastern Public Accountants

**Public Accountant & Registered Tax Agent**  
**Business Tax Returns Specialist**

Prior year tax returns welcome.  
Very moderate rates.

Bala. S. Balachandra on 0412 798 201 (All hours)  
2 Silkwood Way, Rowville