



St. Simon the Apostle Parish

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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 30th 2018 - Feast of The Holy Family



Just two days away from January 1, 2019, the greeting "Happy New Year" will be expressed by millions in any number of different languages. Nations, families, businesses, sports clubs are planning for the year ahead - and at the same time wondering just how near (or far) the actualities will be from their plans.

So what about us, St. Simon's, as a parish community? What we should aim at, what we should hope for, and what might we hopefully achieve in 2019?

The "basics" remain central: provision of the Mass and Sacraments, educating children in Faith, giving practical, emotional and spiritual help to those who need it most, when they need it most.

Other (but by no means all) aims and projects for this coming year will be:

Completion of the Parish Centre: Yes, it has taken longer (let's face it, much longer!) than we expected, but the "official" hurdles we had not anticipated are nearly resolved, and work refurbishing the main office, meeting room, Eucharistic Chapel, hall, theatre and toilets should begin in mid-January. The delay is the result of new and unexpected building regulations which became law just when our project was getting into stride. We hope the Centre will be complete and in use by the end of April.

Church Refurbishment: The five church air-conditioners demonstrated their worth over Christmas and will bring "comfort and joy" whenever needed over summer. Some "lucky breaks" have enabled us to complete the project for around \$11,000 instead of a possible \$25 -30,000. Sincere thanks to Brian Dalton for his great work on this worthwhile improvement to our church.

The recently-formed Church Refurbishment Committee will meet early in 2019 to examine, plan and implement the replacement of the pews and carpet, improve church and sanctuary lighting, and upgrade, as necessary, the IT components used in our liturgies.


Thanksgiving Renewal: Parish Centre, church refurbishment? Sounds great, but can we afford them? The projects would not have been commenced unless they were within the current and expected financial capacity of the parish to complete them. The Fete and Car Raffle, and subscriptions to the Pew Memorial Plaques have improved (and hopefully continue to improve) our income. Combined with prudent administration over past decades, this has given the parish the capacity to undertake a loan which is both reasonable and affordable. That said, a mini-Thanksgiving renewal at the end of February will encourage those who can, to join the Thanksgiving Program and / or add what they can to the pledge originally made in 2016.

2020 Plenary Council: The Plenary Council may or may not dramatically change the church in Australia, but it *can* help our parish discover new and improved means of living the Gospel in a challenging world. Hopefully we can find the pathways which will help us learn how best we can serve the Lord and one another within the context of St. Simon's Parish.

So - every blessing for 2019 to you and to those precious to you.

Fr. Kevin Dillon, Parish Priest

Rosters for weekend of 5th & 6th January 2019

Mass Time	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader Commentator	David West Graeme Smith	Neela Tatnell Brian Philp	Lanny Pincott Annabel Henriques	Ingrid Kertesi Christina Liew
Altar Society	Desiree Sargent & Deepthi Perera		Flowers: Jackie	
CLOW 	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW
Help Desk	Seymon Martino	Cheryl Philp	Marie-Anne Duthil	Lorenza Spano
Church Cleaning	Jeanette Wallis, Vicki Bowers, Phil Mawdsley, Chona Alpay			
Counters	Anna Smith, Frances Bowker, Desiree Sargent, Lorraine Van Vloten, Paul Lynch, John Duhau			
Mass Recorder	Kristine Rogue		Bus Driver	Michael Ng
Homily Typist	Sonya Rose'meyer			

PARISH DIARY

Parish Office Closed – Reopens Mon. Jan 7, 2019

Monday, Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

11.00pm: Mass (Church) - *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 the 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

10:00am: Mass (**Public Holiday - Please note time**)

Wednesday Jan. 2

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Thursday Jan. 3

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Friday Jan. 4

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Saturday Jan. 5

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

9:45am: Reconciliation

6.00pm: Mass (Church)

Sunday Jan. 6

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY :

Michael De Silva, Joshua Briffa,
Derek Footman, Sebastian Hart,
Jackie Devienne, Yolande De Silva

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

Recent Death: Len Meara; Maureen Webb;
Darryl Shillong (Loretta's bro-in-law)

Anniversary: Emmett O'Donnell

AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:



If you have expressed an interest, or, would like to join our catechist team in 2019, please contact Rosetta on 0408 884 867, or, the Parish office. Thank you.

If you know any child from Grade 2 to Grade 6 who would like to be a part of the program please contact Rosetta.

Participation in the program is an essential component of the Parish Sacramental Program. Classes commence on the 5th Feb. 2019, meeting in the Church foyer at 4.pm.

MEDITATION



Will start again on Wed Jan 9. We meet every Wednesday at 10.00am in the Chapel after morning Mass except the 1st Wed of each month. All welcome.

COMING SOON - GARAGE SALE

Monday January 28 (Australia Day Holiday)
10.30am to 2.30pm at St. Simon's (not quite completed) Parish Centre. More details next week.

COLLECTIONS: December 23rd, 2018

Presbytery (1st collection):	\$1667.75
Stewardship (2nd Collection):	\$2204.00
Loose donations:	\$365.70

Thank you for sharing your treasure!

December 30th 2018 - Feast of The Holy Family

First reading

1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-2,21-24

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;

and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him

because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people,

if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,

we need not be afraid in God's presence,

and whatever we ask him,

we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments

and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ

and that we love one another

as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments

lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us

by the Spirit that he has given us.



Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.'

'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority.

His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Next Weeks Readings:
The EPIPHANY of the Lord (YrB)
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3; 5-6; Mt 2:1-12