



# St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178

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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.

## January 6th 2019 - The Epiphany of the Lord

Grief-stricken father Travis Membrey has paid tribute to his "easy-going" son after he was killed in a farming accident on Wednesday.

Darcy Membrey, 2, was hit and trapped by a fertiliser bin on a dairy farm in Warrnambool. Paramedics were immediately called but were unable to revive him. His dad told 3AW Drive, "the two-year-old's smile ensured he 'could get away with anything'". "He didn't want to be the baby of the family, he just wanted to be treated as one of the boys," he said.

"Everything to him was easy-going, there wasn't any fuss and he'd always look after himself." Mr Membrey thanked those who sent supportive messages to the family but defended his choice to bring young children onto a working farm. He told Nick McCallum if his children weren't at work with him, he'd hardly see them. "That's the hardest thing, these kids were brought up on tractors and knew what was happening," he said. "(Sometimes) I work eight to 10 weeks straight without a day off, working from 4am to 9pm. "If we couldn't get Darcy to sleep, his next option was to jump onto the tractor and you'd look at him and see him smiling. You can say that kids aren't supposed to be on farms but that's how they are brought up - you've just got to be careful. I don't know if I'll ever be able to go back because it happened in my workshop." Mr Membrey paid tribute to the emergency services who arrived on the scenes within minutes.

*3AW "Drive", Thurs. Jan. 3*



The distraught father whose 2 year-old son died as a result of an horrific accident on Wednesday on the family farm told 3AW's Nick McCallum the next day about the social media "messages" posted in the wake of the tragedy.

Most of these, he said, were comforting, respectful of the incredible sadness enveloping the family. But a few managed to rub salt deep into their gaping wounds of grief. And like most social media messages, the writers basked in anonymity.

Such messages are the current-day equivalent of the unsigned letters and notes of yesteryear. Now not everyone makes specific "New Year Resolutions". Some believe they're nonsense. Others know that resolutions of past years rarely survived for more than a week or two. Even so, a New Year can prompt us to adjust and review our behaviour, and even the principles upon which our behaviour choices rely.

Technology (and communication technology especially) increasingly provides potential for good and for bad - sometimes very bad. Rumours and criticisms, be they true, half-true or totally false, can cause enormous hurt and emotional damage, especially to those already suffering.

But because they are so widespread and permanent, anonymous comments and opinion via "social media" can be harmful in the extreme when used by those who give little or no thought to the harm inflicted. The anonymity of social media comments allows the ignorant, ill-informed and unfeeling to reign supreme - and at no risk to themselves.

"Names will never hurt you?" Oh yes, they can. And when the name throwers are nameless, the

hurt becomes greater still. The New Year gives us an opportunity to resolve never to participate in such negative and dangerous practices.

## Rosters for weekend of 12th & 13th January 2019

Mass Time	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
<b>Reader Commentator</b>	Volunteer Volunteer	Brian Philp Phil Mawdsley	Janina Woronczak Seamus O'Connor	Kakala Family Estela Banac
<b>Altar Society</b>	Melanie Jacobs & Annie McNeill		<b>Flowers:</b> Jackie	
<b>CLOW</b> 	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW	NO CLOW
<b>Help Desk</b>	Abbie Ferdinands	Mary Mann	Myrella Desfosses	Christina Liew
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Cion Romana, Ed & Ming Nicdao			
<b>Counters</b>	David Wong, Graham Landers, Susan Wong, Lin Tie			
<b>Mass Recorder</b>	Dennis Tam		<b>Bus Driver</b>	Michael Ng
<b>Homily Typist</b>	Volunteer			

### PARISH DIARY

#### **Monday, Jan. 7**

**9.15am:** Mass (Church)

**1.00pm:** Reflection Group (Chapel)

#### **Tuesday, Jan. 8**

**9.15am:** Mass (Church)

#### **Wednesday Jan. 9**

**9.15am:** Mass (Church)

**10.00am:** Meditation (Chapel)

#### **Thursday Jan. 10**

**9.15am:** Mass (Church)

#### **Friday Jan. 11**

**9.15am:** Mass (Church)

#### **Saturday Jan. 12**

**9.15am:** Mass (Chapel)

**9:45am:** Reconciliation

**6.00pm:** Mass (Church)

#### **Sunday Jan. 13**

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



### Baptism:

**We welcome into our faith community:**

Asher Leon, son of Rukshan & Nirasha Silva

### Happy Birthday:

Rhonda & Glen Dennis; Greg Sheehan; Sarah King;  
Jonathan Cheniart; Emmanuel Chan; Natasha Redden;  
Shannon Stephen; Briana Braddock;  
Renato Mastromanno; Jennifer Deenik; Sharon Melder;  
Nathan Carey; Stanley Yeoh; Martin Ahumada;  
Collin Matthews; Megan Amarasekera; Jonathan Liew

### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

**Recent Death:** Len Meara; Maureen Webb;  
Darryl Shillong (Loretta's Bro-in-law); Percy Baldry

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU:** Sincere thanks to all who assisted in the preparation of our Christmas liturgies, especially our Pastoral Associates Loretta Hughes and Abbie Ferdinands for their overall co-ordination of so many events, from the Reconciliation Service, Memorial Mass and the Christmas Masses with enormous crowds. Our three Choirs made a fantastic contribution, together with the Mass Captains, Readers, Special Ministers, Computer operators, and so many others who generously assisted whenever and wherever needed.

On a personal note, thank you to the many parishioners who have been so caring and generous with cards, gifts, and messages, all of which are deeply appreciated. It may not be possible for me to thank you personally as I should, but I do want you to be aware of my gratitude.

Fr. Kevin Dillon

**MEDITATION** will start again on Wed Jan 9. We meet each 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)  
10.30 a.m. to 2.30pm at St. Simon's (not quite completed) Parish Centre. More details next week.

### COLLECTIONS: December 30th, 2018

Presbytery (1st collection):	\$881.65
Stewardship (2nd Collection):	\$1,195.50
Loose donations:	\$136.85

*Thank you for sharing your treasure!*

## January 6th 2019 - The Epiphany of the Lord

### First reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,  
though night still covers the earth  
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises  
and above you his glory appears.  
The nations come to your light  
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:  
all are assembling and coming towards you,  
your sons from far away  
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,  
your heart throbbing and full;  
since the riches of the sea will flow to you,  
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,  
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;  
everyone in Sheba will come,  
bringing gold and incense  
and singing the praise of the Lord.

### Second reading - Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

### Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

*And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'*

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

**Next Week's Readings:**  
**The Baptism of the Lord (Yr C)**  
**Is 40:1-5; 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22**