



# St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178

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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 & OFFICE MANAGER:

Mr Peter Evans (Mon - Thurs)

### SECRETARIES:

Mrs Felicia Ahumada (Mon - Wed)

Mrs Christina Liew (Thurs, Fri)

### ST. SIMON'S SCHOOL:

Mrs. Maree Fatouros (Acting Principal):

9755 4222

### NAZARETH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL:

Mr Sam Cosentino: 9795 8100

### PARISH OFFICE OPEN:

9.00am to 4.00pm

Tuesday 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.

## March 10th 2019 - 1st Sunday of Lent



On Thursday night, for the front page of this bulletin, I wrote about the proposal announced this week by the State Government to remove the exemption currently applied to the "seal" of Sacramental Confession with regard to child abuse offences.

I had written that this projected change needs deep and careful consideration of *all* laws

regarding disclosure of confidential information about *all* kinds of crimes e.g. terrorism, arson, murder, to all kinds of people who receive such information in professional confidence e.g. lawyers, doctors, psychologists etc.

But by late Friday night, I remained troubled. I hadn't changed my mind about the hazards and selectivity of the proposed law. But I knew my words had missed the real issue. The potential of priests being obliged by law to break the long-respected "Seal of Confession" with regard to child abuse is serious enough.

But perhaps the real issue was, and remains: How did it get to this?

How is it that a Church which had been totally respected in this country for its moral leadership, its competence in teaching the Gospel of Jesus, its influence in the framing of worthwhile legislation, its widespread charitable work on innumerable fronts ... how can it be that the same Church is now so disgraced in the eyes of so many Australians (and so many Catholic Australians) that a State Government believes it is obligated to introduce legislation as to how a Sacrament is received and administered?

This is not about or due to a single court case. This is about our Church, which has, within a few decades, lost the allegiance, loyalty and faith of so many people – both within and outside its own membership.

Between the 2011 and 2016 Australian censuses, people who identified as "Catholic" dropped **630,000** or 11.25% , in just 5 years. That's not churchgoers – that's just people who simply ticked "Catholic" on the Census form.

But that is probably not news to many of you – in this parish or any parish. You see it, you hear it, in your own families. And it breaks your heart that one of the greatest gifts you wanted to give your children – faith in Jesus and allegiance to the Church – has been ignored, or rejected, and now, too often, even despised.

So, again, how did it get to this? Only a totally honest, humble and soul-searching answer to this question can begin any sort of recovery - if that is still possible.

The answer is not elusive. Confront the greedy, self-serving cover-up and unchristian avoidance of basic obligations of care to abuse victims, many of whom should never have been victims in the first place, because church authorities knew all too well the likelihood of continuing offending by those they chose to move from school to school, from parish to parish.

*"Love one another" (John 13: 34) was forgotten. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Matt. 7:12) was ignored. "Give and it will be given to you - a full measure" (Luke 6: 38) was never considered.*

And now our fellow citizens, via the elected Government, are saying the mess is so great, the damage so extensive, that even the practice of Sacraments is no longer the prerogative of the Church.

How, how did it get to this?

Fr. Kevin Dillon

## Rosters for weekend of 16th & 17th March 2019

Mass Time	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
<b>Reader</b>	Kaye Williams	Neela Tatnell	Lanny Pincott	Ingrid Kertesi
<b>Commentator</b>	Alex Van Rheenan	Brian Philp	Annabel Henriques	Christina Liew
<b>Help Desk</b>	Maria Walton	Cheryl Philp	Volunteer	Julie Cosentino
<b>CLOW</b>	Felicia Ahumada	N/A	Elly Bare	Elsa Lapiz
<b>Altar Society</b>	Carolyn Culpepper & Margaret Lancefield		<b>Flowers:</b>	TBA
<b>Mass Recorder</b>	Rob Todd		<b>Homily Typist:</b>	Sunita Nazareth
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Francis Dragwidge			
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	David Wong, Graham Landers, Susan Wong, Lin Tie			
<b>Counters</b>	Ed & Ming Nicdao, Armando & Cion Romana, Edna Alvarez & Vicky Quiambao			

### PARISH DIARY

#### **Monday Mar. 11 - Public Holiday**

10.00am: Mass (Church) - **Rosary after Mass**  
 7.30pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)  
 7.30pm: Youth Lenten Reflection (Parish Office)

#### **Tuesday Mar. 12**

9.15am: Mass (Church)  
 7.00pm: Mass (Chapel)  
 7.30pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)

#### **Wednesday Mar. 13**

9.15am: Mass (Church)  
 10.00am: Meditation (Chapel)

#### **Thursday Mar. 14**

9.15am: Mass (Church)  
 10.00am: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)  
 7.30pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)

#### **Friday Mar. 15**

9.15am: Mass (Church)  
 10.00am: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)  
 7.30pm: Stations of the Cross (Church)

#### **Saturday Mar. 16**

9.15am: Mass (Church)  
 9.45am: Reconciliation (Church)  
 6.00pm: Mass (Church)

#### **Sunday Mar. 17 - St Patrick's Day**

8.00am, 9.30am & 11.00am: Mass (Church)  
 4.00pm: Bach's St Matthew Passion (Church)



**MASS TIME CHANGES** Please refer to this section of the bulletin each week for any changes:

**This coming week: Mon Mar 11 - 10.00am**

### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

**Anniversary:** Adrian Simonetto, Maria Minotto, Pat Finch

### BAPTISMS

**We welcome into our faith community:**  
 Archer WILDING, son of Adam & Rosanna  
 Amelia MAUNDER, son of Samuel & Marlene  
 Josh JAVIER, son of Jasmine & Juan Carlos

### MEETING / TRAINING

**Craft Group** - Tue. Mar 12 at 1.30pm (Church Foyer)  
**RCIA** - Tue. Mar 12 at 7.30pm (Church Foyer)  
**St Vincent de Paul** - Wed. Mar 13 at 7.30pm (Par. Office)  
**Liturgy Committee** - Tue. Mar 19 at 5.30pm (Parish Office)

### NEW VOLUNTEER ROSTERS

Thanks to all parishioners who contribute each week in assisting us through the various ministries in our parish.

**New Rosters are now available at the Help Desk.**

### PARISH PARENT SACRAMENT PREPARATION AND ENROLMENT NIGHT

**Reminder:** Pls bring your completed Enrolment form and payment on **Wed Mar 13 at 7.00pm in Church**

### GOOD FRIDAY

#### BACH'S ST MATTHEW PASSION

On Good Friday this year we will be playing a recording of Bach's magnificent St Matthew Passion in the church from 12 noon to 2:55pm, finishing just before the 3pm Good Friday Service. Peter and Zoe Evans will run a study/reflection group during Lent for anyone interested in exploring this musical telling of Christ's Passion. The sessions will run **4.00-5.00pm each Sunday in the Church, starting on 10 March (today) and finishing on Palm Sunday 14 April**, with two introductory weeks followed by four weeks examining the Passion in detail. Please register your interest with Peter at [peter@stsimonsparish.com.au](mailto:peter@stsimonsparish.com.au) or call him on 0427 511 037.

### OUR FLOWER MINISTRY

#### NEEDS YOUR HELP

No experience needed. Training is provided. Please leave your name and phone number at the Help Desk.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Michelle Nguyen, Eliza Giuliano, Stephen White, Michael Olivietti, Nathan Fernandes, Madeleine Cairns, Lachlan Viney, Tahlia Spano, Daniel Haining, Jane Thomas, Clement Kueh, Evan Hart, Aidan O'Connor, Surani De Silva, Krispin Martin, Doug Luxmoore, Miles Hart, Nathan Redden, Alan Hughes, Jessica Woods, Maria Todesko, Nisha Duggan, Trent Ciampoli

## RELAY FOR LIFE 2019

Relay for Life is a community fundraising challenge to raise much-needed funds for cancer research. Teams commit to walking, rolling or running around a track to signify that cancer never rests, so neither do we. St Simon's has set up a team for the Knox 2019 Relay for Life - to be held from 4.00pm on Sat March 16 to 10.00am on Sun March 17. We invite you to either join our team, to donate to our team or to donate to one of the team members directly.

Go to this link: <https://secure.fundraising.cancer.org.au/site/SPageNavigator/homepage.html>

then select "Team" and type in "St Simons Striders", then follow that link and take action. Queries to either Peter Evans (0427 511 037) or Gisella Koroknai (0403 454 002).

## POST FETE "BLOWOUT" SALE

**Sunday March 24, 9.00am to 1.00pm** at the church.

Sale of numerous quality goods not sold at the Fete last November, plus donations received since. Furniture, books, DVD's, gadgets, bric a brac. Bargains for all.

Tell your friends and bring them along.

## HELPING OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES & FRIENDS

On Saturday 23 March there will be a Forum for Parishes at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne, from 9.30am-1.00pm. The Forum, a periodic service from Welcome the Asylum Seeker program at Catholic Social Services Victoria, will review the current situation facing asylum seekers and potential changes in 2019. The forum will focus on enabling participants to increase or renew support in their parish, drawing upon the experience of parish leaders who have already achieved lasting support.

Cost: \$20, includes lunch. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/ZWMI>; enquiries to Adrian Foley, [Adrian.foley@css.org.au](mailto:Adrian.foley@css.org.au), Tel 0497 780 233.

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

Sessions led by Gisella Koroknai and Jacqui Giuliano.

For more details please contact the Parish Office Phone: 9764 4058. Email: [office@stsimonsparish.com.au](mailto:office@stsimonsparish.com.au)

## DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE

Information session by Sr. Nicole Rotura

**When:** 7.00pm on Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Where:** St Joseph's Church, 212 Boronia Road, Boronia  
Please RSVP by March 13 to [yahc@bigpond.com](mailto:yahc@bigpond.com) or  
Tel: 0430 194 590 for more information.

## ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Community Fun Day

**When:** Sunday, March 17, 10.00am-2.00pm

**Where:** 5 Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully

## THANKSGIVING PROGRAM REVIEW

Thanks to all who have responded to our Thanksgiving renewal/mini-campaign. So far we have had about 1/3 of cards returned by existing givers, leading to a nett increase in planned giving by those people of about \$100 per week. We have also had six new people commit to Thanksgiving for an additional \$100 per week. We thank all these people. It's important that everyone, still to return their card, do so this coming week, even if you are keeping your pledge the same. We need this information to be confident as we prepare budgets for the Church refurbishment. Thanks again! Peter Evans

## MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE

Mater Christi College and Santa Maria College invite you to: Join in conversation with Dr Jim Nikoloff, Director of Ministerial Formation at Barry University in Miami, Florida in the three ways to holiness - Beauty, Reason and Justice.

**Session 1** - "Beauty and Holiness" Three pathways to God - Beauty, Reason and Justice

12 March: 5:30-8:00pm

Venue: Mater Christi College, Belgrave.

Light meal provided.

**Session 2** - "Reason and Holiness" Look at the Church's historical rejection and eventual acceptance of science.

19 March: 5:30-8:00pm

Venue: Santa Maria College, Northcote. Depart from Mater Christi College, 4:15pm. Light meal provided

**Session 3** - "Justice and Holiness" Explore the question of justice in the Church itself and the relationship between Catholic schools and the Catholic Church.

26 March: 5:30-8:00pm. Venue: Santa Maria College, Northcote. Depart from Mater Christi College, 4:15pm

Light meal provided. RSVP:

[crocker\\_j@materchristi.edu.au](mailto:crocker_j@materchristi.edu.au) or [mailto:crocker\\_j@materchristi.edu.au](mailto:crocker_j@materchristi.edu.au)

## FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS

Trace the journey of Jesus from the land of his birth to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice in this 14-day Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel. This pilgrimage features places from the Old & New Testament and includes Petra, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem for an all-inclusive price of \$5690. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Meals + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call **(03) 8839 6615** or **1300721561** or email us [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

**Available Departure Dates:**

Fr. Sebastian (24 March 19), Fr. Kenneth (26 May 19),

Fr. Colin (31 May 19) and Fr. Richard (2 June 19).

## COLLECTIONS: Mar 3rd, 2019

**Presbytery** \$1904.50  
**Loose donations** \$663.05

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	\$2558.50	84.3%
\$3,570.34	\$3266.79	91.5%
\$6,120.65	\$5422.17	88.6%

# March 10th 2019 - 1st Sunday of Lent

## First reading

### Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me."

'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

## Second reading

### Romans 10:8-13

Scripture says: *The word (that is the faith we proclaim) is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart.* If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: *those who believe in him will have no cause for shame*, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, *for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

## Gospel

### Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

*Next Week's Readings:  
2nd Sunday of Lent  
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philipians 3:17-4:1;  
Luke 9:28-36*

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