



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 24th 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

Hundreds of Victorian veterans will be recruited to the public service as part of a push to help them land civilian jobs.

A target to recruit 250 returned servicemen and women will be tripled by 750 by 2021.

More than 270 veterans have already got jobs through the Public Sector Veterans' Employment Strategy since June 2017.

Neville Yanner, who drove armed personnel carriers during a three-year stint in the army, said veterans often struggled after leaving the force.

He left the army in 1989 and had odd jobs cutting grass and in an abattoir before landing a position as a prison officer in 2002.

"Just getting up, ironing a shirt and heading for work can give you a sense of purpose. I wouldn't have been doing this job for 18 years if I didn't enjoy it."

Veterans Minister Robin Scott said veterans were a highly-skilled group of workers. "We can only benefit from their experience," he said.

"Herald Sun", Thurs. Mar. 21



Sometimes the news in the morning and the news in the evening can be strangely co-related - like this past Thursday. A morning story in the "Herald Sun" told how an increasing number of veterans were finding work through a specialised job creation service.

Then on Thursday afternoon came reports that Australia's unemployment rate had fallen below 5% for the first time in eight years.

So it would seem work is out there, provided we make our best efforts to link up the job seekers with the job vacancies.

In a few weeks, on Anzac Day, the nation will stop in rightful honour and recognition of those who gave their lives in the defence and service of Australia. But we will also remember those who returned from that service but so often were severely scarred from their experience. They have served in Iraq, Afghanistan, East Timor, and Vietnam, and we continue to recognise the now elderly veterans of Korea and World War II.

The need to "search and find" meaningful employment for returned service personnel should always be a prime obligation, not only of the Government, but of the whole community.

Finding a job is not just about filling in an

otherwise empty day. Nor is it simply the provision of income, important as that might be.

Being employed means having a purpose in life, being able to make a contribution, managing to feel worthwhile, productive, valuable. For war veterans, all too often afflicted with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder or other mental health afflictions, simply having an answer to the question "Where do you work?" or "What do you do?" can make an enormous difference.

From time to time, we will hear of a job vacancy "somewhere", and "someone" will fill that position eventually. But a pro-active phone call to 9651 3111 could begin a chain of events which end in a veteran getting a much-needed and much-deserved job. So don't leave it only to the "officials" - often we can play our part as well!

Rosters for weekend of 30th & 31st March 2019

Mass Times	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader 1	Williams Family	Neela Tatnell	Philomena Solari	Pilar Danlag
Reader 2	Williams Family	Neela Tatnell	Lanny Pincott	Pia Pagotta
Commentator	Abbie Ferdinands	John Dorton	Annabel Henriques	Christina Liew
Help Desk	Michela Mandarino	Volunteer	Zita Ragg	Christina Liew
CLOW	Anita Mandarino	N/A	Ewa Toomey	Abbie Ferdinands
Bus Driver	Lorraine Van Vloten		Flowers:	N/A (Lent)
Mass Recorder	Kristine Rogue		Homily Typist:	Sonya Rose'meyer
Altar Society	Elly Bare & Luvy Esquejo			
Church Cleaning	2 extra volunteers needed for this week, George Kertesi, Mike Joseph			
Counters	Carmel De Frece, Rupert Ferdinands, Guylaine Ardley, Tony Scarnivel			

PARISH DIARY

Monday Mar. 25

9.15am: Mass (Church) - **Rosary after Mass**
 7.30pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)
 7.30pm: Youth Lenten Reflection (Parish Office)

Tuesday Mar. 26

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

Wednesday Mar. 27

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Thursday Mar. 28

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

Friday Mar. 29

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

Saturday Mar. 30

9.15am: Mass (Church)
 9:45am: Reconciliation (Church)
 6.00pm: Mass (Church)

Sunday Mar. 31

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



MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Death: Maurita Carlisle (Sally-Anne Petrie's mum), Seth Beyrooti

Anniversary: Francesco Cosentino, Helen & James Davids

BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community:
 Mitchell Gregory LUND, son of Aaron & Laura

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Raveena Fernando, James Turnbull, Joshua D'Rozario,
 Jason De Silva, Julius Ting, Daniel Kanigowski,
 Elysia Gouez, Joel Welsford.

MEETING / TRAINING / COMMITTEES

Craft Group - Tue. Mar 26 at 1.30pm (Church Foyer)
Pastoral Committee - Tue. Mar 26 at 6.00pm (Office)
RCIA - Tue. Mar 26 at 7.30pm (Church Foyer)

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.

THANK YOU FROM THE "OUTREACH" TEAM

We want to thank all parishioners who supported the St Simons Striders team in the Cancer Council's 2019 Knox Relay for Life last weekend. Whether you walked, donated, helped set up or supported in any other way, we appreciate your input. To this point we have raised over \$5,200 towards cancer research - a fabulous result for our first time. Stay tuned for news about planning for the 2020 Knox Relay for Life. *Gisella Koroknai and Peter Evans*

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, and finish on Palm Sunday 14 April**, with the coming four weeks examining the Passion in full.

Please register your interest with Peter at:

peter@stsimonsparish.com.au or call him on 0427 511 037.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Wed. April 10 at 7.30pm - a time to return to God, trusting in God's Mercy.

KIDS EMPOWERED COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

When: Sat Mar 30 & Mar 31 from 1.00 - 4.00pm

Where: St Simon's Chapel

Contact: Yolanda - 0432 477 021 for more information.

LAMENTATION BOX - AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS IN THE FOYER

"We don't have to live in silence. We don't have to live with fear!" We are now mid-way through Lent, and at an especially difficult and challenging time in Catholic history in Australia, we can lift our voices to God in a **Prayer of Lament**, expressing how we feel, and also our desire for healing, forgiveness, peace and restoration. Let us open wide our hearts to God in prayer, in search of the healing action of the Spirit.

As members of the Church we recognise the damage done and the need for change on many levels, not only in the Church but in the world at large. This cannot be brought about by mere policies or structural change but by genuine acknowledgement and desire as a congregation to become the change we seek.

God's love in Christ Jesus can see us through. We are not alone. God is with us. Let us stand united in God's love.

At next weekend's Masses, we will try to express in prayer, silent and spoken, the sense of "lament" being felt by so many at this time. You can place a prayer or an expression of feelings (anonymous) in the box provided in the Foyer.

FREE MONEY MANAGEMENT COURSE

Are you interested in learning how to better manage your finances? Charmaine Fernando, experienced in financial services and a parishioner of St Simon's, is helping to run the 3-week course for **FREE** if there is enough interest.

Where: St Simon's Parish

When: To be advised

To register interest: St Simon's Parish - 9764 4058

Contact: Abbie Ferdinands or Peter Evans
(peter@stsimonsparish.com.au)

You can also pick up a flyer at the help Desk.

DOCTOR FOR LIFEBOAT

"Lifeboat" assists victims of church-related sexual abuse with practical and pastoral care, and has over 100 clients across Australia. We are seeking the involvement of a supportive General Practitioner for occasional referrals. An understanding of the challenges of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder would be especially helpful. Any GP seeking more information about "Lifeboat's" work can contact Fr. Kevin on frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au or 0421 777 360.

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIP PLACEMENT

An electro-technology student is looking to work for 1 day a week (Friday) with an electrician (around Rowville) as an apprentice as part of his Structured Workplace Learning. If you can help, please call Shannon on 0481-734-533 or email on Perera.shannon@gmail.com

POST FETE "BLOWOUT" SALE

Sun. Mar. 24, 9 am to 1 pm

in St Simon's church grounds.
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.



COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE

3 Kia cars to be won!

Thank you for all your support in selling the tickets. Please note that tickets (sold or unsold) need to be **returned latest by March 29.**

BORONIA & BASIN COMMUNITY FETE



Incorporating St. Joseph's & St. Bernadette's Primary Schools & Parish. **30 March 2019**
212 Boronia Rd, Boronia | 10am - 4pm

HOMELESSNESS - WHAT CAN PARISHES DO?

On **Saturday 8 June, 2019**, with the onset of Winter, Catholic Social Services Victoria will host a forum "Homelessness - What can Parishes do?" at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne, from 9.30am-1.00pm. The forum will focus on demonstrating practical ways participants can increase or renew support for homeless people in our communities.

Cost: \$20, includes lunch.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BBQOR>; enquiries to Adrian Foley, Adrian.foley@css.org.au, tel 0497 780 233.

CHURCH LIGHTING - CAN YOU HELP?

The lighting in the church will be upgraded from **Mon. April 8 to Wed. April 10**. Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel on these days.

Immediately after the 11.00am Mass on **Sunday April 7**, we will need 12 people to assist with moving the seats to allow access for a mobile scaffold. The seats will then need to be moved back from 5.00pm on Wed. April 10. If you can help on either day, please sign up at the Help Desk. If we have sufficient people, the task should take only 15 - 20 minutes. It would be especially helpful if one or two people have experience in assembling the mobile scaffold. This will enable work to begin immediately on the morning of April 8.

FREE MULCH

Please help yourselves to the mulch in front of the "under-construction" Parish Centre.

COLLECTIONS: Mar 17th, 2019

Presbytery \$1947.80
Loose donations \$571.35

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	\$2387.50	84.5%
	\$3,570.34		
	\$6,120.65		

March 24th 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

First reading

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

*Next Week's Readings:
4th Sunday of Lent*

Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11.32

Second reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

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MINIMAL WAITING TIME



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Hair on Liberty



For all your
hair & beauty needs..

Please contact 0450262338
for appointments.

55 Liberty Ave, Rowville.