



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 & 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 31st 2019 - 4th Sunday of Lent



It's a common sight - here, there and everywhere. Groups of people, presumably friends (sort of) or family, gathered but not together. Instead they are hunched over their phones or iPads, oblivious to the people on either side of them.

The word "community" is still in common use, but a lack of social trust, family cohesion and our technological age can too often mean that being a "community" can be somewhat elusive these days.

Interestingly, both the Pastoral Committee and the "2020 Plenary Council" Committee have considered the value of using the next twelve months (or maybe twelve years!) to develop effectively the many ways we can, and should build on the sense of community in our parish.

This year, we're doing our best with regard to the physical facilities, with the Parish Centre hopefully completed within the next two months, and the refurbishment of the church gradually progressing.

But these advances will remain only as "buildings" unless they're accompanied by the friendship and faith-centred camaraderie which has been a feature of St. Simon's since it began as a parish thirty-one years ago. Side-by-side with building and refurbishing our parish structures, can we also build and refurbish our common faith in Jesus, and the sense of community which can (if we allow it) give meaning to those structures?

So what else can we share in common, along with our faith and our living in the outer-east of Melbourne? Well, maybe some of us like cake decorating - so from time-to-time, could we join up with others who share that interest? Or maybe bushwalking. Be it a "stroll" or something more formal or serious, our common ground of Faith shared in St. Simon's Parish can give something very special to a shared walk. Or maybe we love cars - old cars, "muscle cars", whatever. A



Sunday drive or a "car rally" with fellow parishioners could be fantastic.

Many parishioners are regulars at a given Mass time, so there would be many people they don't know - yet. But they might share a passion for some activity or interest where a background of common Faith might truly build "community".

Along with this bulletin is a form on which you can indicate an interest, skill or hobby which you might like to share with others. Add your own if you can't find yours listed.

We are a parish family, with much in common - maybe more than we realise. Our sense of community is expressed wonderfully in common worship, but there are innumerable other means of developing this same goal. Let's go find them.

Rosters for weekend of 6th & 7th April 2019

7-Apr	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader 1	Fiona Gonsalvez	Cedrik Fick	Janina Woronczak	Marialisa Mandarino
Reader 2	Tineke Edwards	Cedrik Fick	Michael Toomey	Ingrid Kertesi
Commentator	David West	Phil Mawdsley	Seamus O'Connor	Pia Pagotta
Help Desk	Seymon Martino	Cheryl Philp	Marie-Anne Duthil	Lorenza Spano
CLOW	NO CLOW	N/A	NO CLOW	NO CLOW
Bus Driver	Samuel Leveque		Flowers:	N/A (Lent)
Mass Recorder	Dennis Tam		Homily Typist:	Michelle Goh
Altar Society	Deepthi Perera, Jeanne Bernard & Bernadette Fernando			
Church Cleaning	Rebecca Crellin, Mirella Louey, Janine Fryer, Marina Ruffolo			
Counters	Helen Pongracic, Margaret & Gregory Carey, Noel Mulavey, Irene Law			

PARISH DIARY

Monday Apr. 1

9.15am: Mass (Church) - **Rosary after Mass**
 1.00pm: Reflection Group (Chapel)
 7.30pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)
 7.30pm: Youth Lenten Reflection (Parish Office)

Tuesday Apr. 2

9.15am: Mass (Church)
 7.30pm: Mass (Chapel) - **NOTE TIME CHANGE**
 8.00pm: Lenten Reflection (Chapel)

Wednesday Apr. 3

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Thursday Apr. 4

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



Friday Apr. 5

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

Saturday Apr. 6

9.15am: Mass (Church)
 9:45am: Reconciliation (Church)
 11.30am: Baptism (Church)
 6.00pm: Mass (Church)

Sunday Apr. 7

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

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Death: Marie Sheedy; Leo Collins;
 Rosetta Aiello

Anniversary: Brendan Dillon, Kevin Auld, Karlo Agapito

BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community:
 Mitchell GREGORY, son of Laura & Aaron
 Josh JAVIER, son of Jasmine & Juan

MEETING / TRAINING

Craft Group - Tue. Apr 2 at 1.30pm (Church Foyer)
RCIA - Tue. Apr 2 at 7.30pm (Church Foyer)
Liturgy C'ttee - Thurs. Apr. 4 at 5.30pm (Parish Office)

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Wed. April 10 at 7.30pm - a time to return to God, trusting in God's Mercy. Five or six priests will be in attendance for individual confession following a communal preparation service.

PALM SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Donations of Palms - small & large between Friday (April 12) evening and Saturday (April 13) at 10.00am
Setup on Saturday, April 13 at 10.00am
Clearing of Palms - after 11.00am mass (Sunday, April 14)
 Please sign up at the Help Desk.

FR. KEVIN DILLON'S 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION CELEBRATION

Weekend of 1st & 2nd June.
 More details to follow !!!



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.

ROWVILLE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY PRAYER GROUP

Meeting 1st Tuesday of every EVEN month and we hope to help our Christian community grow stronger.

Our first meeting will be a meet and greet which will be held at 2pm, **Tuesday 2nd April** at Restore Community Church, 24 Laser Drive, Rowville.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daniel Banac, Marialisa Mandarino, Cassandra De Mel, Paul Failla, Jack Ryan, Benedict Lim, Andrew Dienne, Jacqui O'Connor, Karen Wood, Annette Melenhorst, Jenny Zaher, Sonia Cheniart, Carmela Condina

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 this 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.

MONEY MANAGEMENT - FREE COURSE

Are you interested in learning how to better manage your finances? Charmaine Ricardo, 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)

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

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.

COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE

3 Kia cars to be won!

Thank you for all your support in selling the tickets. Tickets are now overdue. Please return all tickets (sold or unsold) as soon as possible. Thank you

FREE MULCH

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

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.

MARY MAGDALENE

A Most Maligned Women - Join us for a reflection day exploring the life of Mary Magdalene ... *Can we set the record straight by considering John 20:1,2,11-18 ... so that Mary of Magdala is not cheated out of the integrity of her own life, or of the dangerous memory of her missionary discipleship, or we the People of God deprived of the prophetic power of women's leadership?*



At Heart of Life, 96 Albion Road, Box Hill, Saturday 6 April, 10am-4pm. Cost \$60 (morning tea provided, BYO lunch). Enquiries and bookings - holsc@bigpond.com or tel 9890 1101 or www.heartoflife.melbourne

COLLECTIONS: Mar 24th, 2019

Presbytery \$1,915.20
Loose donations \$529.10

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	\$2,283.00	84.5 %

March 31st 2019 - 4th Sunday of Lent

First reading

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Second reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

*Next Week's Readings: 5th Sunday of Lent
Isaiah 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; John 8:1-11*

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