



St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178

☎ (03) 9764 4058

✉ 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 (Tue, Thu)

Mrs Abbie Ferdinands (Mon, Wed, Fri)

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR:

Mrs Marialisa Mandarino (Wed)

BUSINESS & OFFICE MANAGER:

Mr Peter Evans (Mon - Thu)

SECRETARIES:

Mrs Felicia Ahumada (Mon - Wed)

Mrs Christina Liew (Thu, 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 & FOCUS MARRIAGE

PREPARATION: Contact Parish Office.

ANOIDING 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE:

1800 305 330

CHANGES TO ANY PERSONAL

DETAILS:

Contact Parish Office

August 18th 2019 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Once again, the Catholic Church is 'in the news', and once again the issue of the safety of children is the catalyst that has sparked another round of intense discussion and controversy.

The very public debate centres around the prospect of laws being introduced in Victoria which would be on a collision course with the Church's practice of having all confessional matter held in total confidentiality (generally

known as the "Seal of Confession"). Priests hearing confessions involving the sexual abuse of minors would be subject to mandatory reporting of any complaint from a victim or of any confession by a perpetrator. Failure to report this information could incur a prison sentence for the priest, or excommunication by the Church should he make a report to civil authorities, thereby breaking the "Seal".

For the sake of all concerned, most especially for children potentially at risk, an acceptable solution needs to be found so as to avoid civil legislators and church authorities being further distanced from one another. Can there be a unified approach which both respects the confidentiality of the Sacrament while not compromising the critically important safety of children (or indeed of others)?

A potential area of helpful exploration could well be the understanding of both church "teaching" and "practice". For while its "teaching" in most areas remains constant, the Church has often changed its "practice" with many Sacraments over the years. For instance:

- # For centuries, Mass was said in Latin, the priest with his back to the people.
- Communion was given only on the tongue. Today's "practice" is radically different.
- # Holy Communion for small children was unknown for many centuries.
- # Anointing was given only to the dying.
- # "Mixed Marriages" (between a Catholic and a non-Catholic) were celebrated in Sacristies or "behind the altar".
- # Confirmation was (and still is) administered at many different ages.

And so the list goes on. The confidentiality provided by the "Seal of Confession", for many valid reasons, has been recognised as integral to the practice of the Sacrament for centuries - and rightly so. But revelations in recent decades of how innumerable lives have been destroyed through sexual abuse of children by trusted church personnel introduces a new and disturbing element to the discussion. Potential conflict between the "Seal" and the obligations of the Church and of society as a whole to protect children (and others) can place priests in an appalling position, even though sacramental confession by an abuse perpetrator is highly unlikely.

Priests in the 21st century have a tough enough job already - and the "sex abuse crisis" is largely responsible for this. The last thing any priest needs is the fear that a simple request "Father, could you please hear my Confession?" might provoke for him a nightmare of monumental proportions. Is he being set up? How does he live with himself if a serial abuser is left unchecked when he belongs in prison? How might the Church he has served faithfully for decades punish him, should his conscience tell him a perpetrator must be stopped?

A resolution of the current impasse (in Victoria and many parts of the world) might be found if the stringent penalties currently in Canon (Church) law were to be avoided in the event that the priest involved could provide reasonable and substantial justification that, in the depths of his conscience, the confessional seal had to be overruled by consideration of the greater good. Such flexibility of "reasonable justification" is central to any worthwhile legal system. It may well provide a solution to an otherwise major problem for both our Church and the community at large.

Rosters for weekend of 24th & 25th August 2019

Mass Times	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader 1	David West	Peter Kean	Anabel Henriques	Pia Pagotta
Reader 2	Graeme Smith	Peter Kean	Stephen White	Colin Maslen
Commentator	Peter Pereira	Phil Mawdsley	Reg Emons	Estela Banac
Help Desk	Victoria Kong	Elaine Gannon	Maggie Braganza	Denise H/Mary R
CLOW	Jilly Hickey	N/A	Greg Woo/Audrey Lee	Elsa Lapiz
Bus Driver	Carmel De Frece		Flowers:	Rosanna Almojera
Mass Recorder	Marius Francis		Homily Typist:	Michelle Goh
Altar Society	Elaine Gannon & Linda Eksteen			
Church Cleaning	Cion Romana, Ed & Ming Nicdao			
Counters	David Wong, Graham Landers, Susan Wong, Lin Tie			

PARISH DIARY

Monday August 19

9.15am: Mass (Chapel) - followed by *Rosary*

Tuesday August 20

9.15am: Mass (Chapel)

7.00pm: **NO Mass Tonight** (or next Tuesday)

Wednesday August 21

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Thursday August 22

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Friday August 23

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Saturday August 24

9.15am: Mass (Church)

9.45am: Reconciliation (Church)

6.00pm: Mass (Church)

Sunday August 25

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

NB. Fr. Kevin will be away from Monday Aug. 19 to Thursday Aug. 29. The usual Mass schedule will be retained EXCEPT Tuesday 20th & 27th August 7.00pm (i.e. NO Mass this Tue or next Tue evening), AND there will be a Communion Service on Tuesday Aug. 27 at 9.15am (but not Mass).



MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Death: Christopher Schokman, Mary Lobo, Bernard Carey, Maria Louisa Orbien

Anniversary: Gerald Stiglich, Anne Fields

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dawn Don Paul, Marcello Martino, Terence Ting, Alain Ekanayake, Steve Hibon, Keefe Goh, John Kelaart, Clive Pieterse, Lorna Dougherty, Joanie Frecker, Chloe Hill, Michelle Wong, Sonya Robson, Jannik de Silva, Kevin Liston, Adam Cole, Caitlin Williams

NEW THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving envelopes from Sept 1, 2019 in the foyer for Parishioners who contribute in Cash in envelopes. Please collect your envelopes – they are sorted alphabetically by SURNAME.

Please note that if you make your contributions by Direct Debit / Credit Card you do not need envelopes and we will continue with your current arrangements – please contact the Parish Office if you wish to make changes to your current arrangements.

MEETINGS

Money Mgmt Prog: Mon. Aug. 19 at 7.30pm (Chapel)

Share the Care: Mon. Aug. 19 at 7.30pm (Parish Office)

Craft Group: Tue. Aug. 20 at 1.30pm (Chapel)

Bible Study Info: Tue. Aug. 20 at 7.30pm (Church)

RCIA: Tue. Aug. 20 at 7.45pm (Chapel)

LIFEBOAT GEELONG FOUNDATION – CLIENT SUPPORT OFFICER POSITION (Part-time)

“LIFEBOAT GEELONG” has been established for six years and provides practical and pastoral support for victims of church-related sexual abuse across Australia. We are now in a position to employ a part-time “Client Support Officer” (between 12 and 24 hours per week) to provide personal support to individual clients in Melbourne, Geelong and regional Victoria – through both personal contact and by phone. The appointee will need to have an appreciation of the plight of those who have suffered sexual abuse from church personnel, and its many harmful, lifelong negative effects such as PTSD, compromised education and employment potential, self-esteem issues etc. Applicants should indicate any professional or experience-based qualifications, availability, and motivation for this particular work. Hourly-based remuneration, by agreement, in accord with Human Resources practice. Applications by email, with supporting information and referees:

to admin@lifeboatgeelong.com.au, by **August 22**.

Enquiries: 0439 199 400

THANK YOU

We have a new PC for the church. A big THANK YOU to **Chris Maxwell** for his work on the PC and sound system.

THE AUST. CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Perth, Sun. Dec. 8 to Tue. Dec. 10 provides an opportunity for young people to celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia. A large group from Melbourne will attend, but **some of our youth don't have the means to self-fund their attendance, but you can support them.** Support the **St Simon's ACYF** team by taking and returning one of the coupons or helping to sell one of the boxes of chocolates.

You can donate via the new CDF-sponsored Donation Point Tap in the foyer. By swiping your credit card you will be making a donation of \$10 (pre-set) to help pilgrims. Contributions via this device during Aug. and Sept. will be allocated across many parishes. **Contributions during Oct and Nov will go directly to St Simon's pilgrims.**

PARISH HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GROUP

Our parish is 31 years old, but our "history" can easily be lost if we don't assemble and care for it. Photos, bulletins, memorabilia, videos, committee minutes can be fascinating in the not-too-distant future. If you are interested in being part of a small group which can assemble and preserve items relating to St. Simon's history, please contact Fr. Kevin.

REGENT THEATRE PROJECTIONISTS

We are still seeking a few more volunteer projectionists to screen the movies, hopefully commencing in September. People available for daytime screenings during School Holidays are especially welcome. Working with Children check will be required. Forms at the Help Desk or email Fr Kevin on frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au.

PASTORAL CARE 2020

The Pastoral Care Sub-Committee is anticipating to run 4 sessions during the course of 2020 in the areas of personal and current interests. A copy of the survey has been inserted in the bulletin, please mark 4 x topics of your choice and hand in at the Help Desk.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ This year, Overview of New Testament (Fr Francis Maloney's Book)
 - ◆ Next year, Matthew's Gospel (Little Rock).
- Information session:** Tue. Aug 20, 7.30pm - please sign up at Help Desk.

ACCOMMODATION FOR LIFEBOAT CLIENT

A "Lifeboat" client (single male in his mid-40's) is seeking affordable accommodation (bungalow, granny flat, self-contained section of a house etc.). Has his own furniture, and has good references.
Further information from Fr. Kevin - 0421 777 360.

PPC OUTREACH UPDATE 5

Outreach Fundraiser: film evening at the Metro Cinemas Boronia - "Downton Abbey" at **6.30pm on Fri. Sept. 13**. Tickets \$20, which will include complimentary drink before the show. We need 20 people to make this viable. Contact Peter Evans (0427 511 037 or 9764 4058 or peter@stsimonsparish.com.au), Gisella Koroknai (0403 454 002) or David West (0408 650 095).

COMPUTER and SOUND SYSTEM NEEDED

A Lifeboat client would be grateful for a "Sound System" in working order (not too big, but not too small!), and a working computer (laptop or PC) equipped if possible with Windows 7.

Contact Fr. Kevin if you can help - 0421 777 360, frkd@stsimonsparish.com.au.

FETE SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Our Fete Sponsors give much appreciated support to this important parish event. This week we thank:



Bank of Queensland

Phone: 0455 095 189

Email: charmaine.ricardo@boq.com.au

Located at: Level 49, 120 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000

2019 ST SIMON'S FAMILY FUN FETE DAY

Saturday, November 23, 2019

Volunteers needed to help Tina Costanzo, our Sponsorship Co-ordinator, to **follow up offers and collect donations** for the Silent Auction and Lucky Envelopes Stall. Please leave your name, email address and phone number at the Help Desk if you can help.

SOUP AND SOUL

First Thursday of each month at 7.00pm in the Chapel
Let's come to know one another over a bowl of hot soup. Our next meeting is **September 5** and topic is **How to Discern God's Will**. Please provide your name and number at the Help Desk for catering purposes.

PRAYER GROUP

Every 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Chapel to reflect on the Sunday's Gospel. All Welcome

INTER-PARISH WALK

Join others from surrounding Parishes for a relaxed 1 hr walk, and share coffee, cake and a chat afterwards.

Sun 25 Aug 2019, 1.45pm for 2pm start.

Meet at Playground at Brickmaker's Park, 23-29 Stamford Road, Oakleigh (near intersection of Stamford Rd and Hilbert Crt.

Contact: Nimmi 0413 135 889; Mic 0412 260 406

GREATER DANDENONG YOUNG VINNIES

Recruitment Night! Young adults aged 18-35.

Looking to give back to your local community with other like-minded young people? Young Vinnies is a great way to do so! Come along to St Anthony's, Noble Park "gathering space" on **28 Aug. at 7pm**. Pizza dinner, then help pack essential toiletries for needy people. Learn more about our flexible time commitments and exciting activities. Interested? contact Fr Martin.

PERMANENT DIACONATE

For those who are interested in finding out more about becoming Permanent Deacons, there will be an enquiry meeting held on 31 August from 10-11am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. Further details about the Permanent Diaconate can be obtained from the website www.cam.org.au/permanent-diaconate.

COLLECTIONS: August 11th, 2019



Presbytery \$1,648.75
Loose donations \$ 493.90

Stewardship - Envelope. (2nd Collection)
Stewardship - Credit Cards / Direct Debit (cumulative Average)
2016 campaign pledge (weekly)

Weekly Pledge	Received	Cumulative
\$2,550.31	\$1425.00	84.9%
\$3,570.34		
\$6,120.65		

Thank you for sharing your treasure.

August 18th 2019 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well, where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm: 39(40):2-4, 18

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to

perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and *from now on has taken his place at the right* of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'



*Next Week's Readings: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7; 11-13;
Luke 13:22-30*

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