



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.

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE:

1800 305 330

CHANGES TO ANY PERSONAL DETAILS:

Contact Parish Office

August 25th 2019 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

As a mum, how can I reconcile being part of an institution where secret and life-destroying abuse of children was allowed to flourish, the eye so blind to any suggestion of recrimination or justice?

How can I maintain my lifetime belief and comfort that a priest at the altar holding Communion is a good and decent man?

As a cadet journalist, I married my Catholic husband in a church designed by my great-great uncle, and in a ceremony conducted by a priest I had known since I was six.

My kids have all done the Sacraments and attend Catholic schools. Many of my friends are Catholic, the alignment unintentional as I think about it.

In fact typing a list like this has put in black and white how much of an influence Catholicism has been on my life. It's always been there, the routine of Requiem Masses a comfort when someone dies, and the familiarity of Holy Days punctuating a calendar of family events.

Like many Catholic mums I know, we are in a real conundrum.

Even yesterday when Pell lost his appeal, it did not occur to me to ditch my faith. After a lifetime as a Catholic, it would be like shredding my DNA. The challenge is in maintaining our faith especially when these young faces are sitting puzzled next to us at Christmas Mass and I can see them replaying the Pell decision in their minds.

So we must let the justice system deal with Pell and let everyday families continue to practice their faith in peace.

Louise Roberts

The article (left) by Sydney's "Daily Telegraph" journalist Louise Roberts will most likely echo with some, maybe many readers of this bulletin.

With a High Court Appeal by Cardinal Pell still possible, the conclusion of this particular chapter in this horrendous saga of the sexual abuse of children within the Catholic Church may still be months, even years away.

But for many Catholics, in Australia and beyond, there has already been more sadness and disillusionment than they can bear. Their increasingly fragile connection with the Faith into which they were baptised has been beaten to a pulp for the best part of four decades.

Writer Louise Robert's lament is a brave and honest attempt of a Catholic mum to encourage the enormous numbers of people who will identify with her sadness as they try to be "*Still keeping the faith*" - the headline of her opinion piece.

The article was accompanied by a moving illustration of a woman, tears rolling down her cheeks, gazing at a Crucifix.

There are innumerable such people across Australia, and for over four decades, just as many have distanced themselves, if not entirely removed themselves and their families from the Church and the Catholic Faith itself.

Horrific as it is, the "abuse saga", as it is often referred to in what can be a throw-away title, is not and never has been about one case or one person. It is about an attitude which far too often has rejected, trivialised, or at the very least minimised the tragic consequences of sexual child abuse by church personnel.

And what of the life-long loss of faith for those Jesus Himself spoke of as the "little ones"? Not only the many victims and their loved ones directly affected, but the untold millions (yes, millions) of those for whom both the offences themselves and what they truly believe is a lack of genuine contrition (yes, still) have separated them from the institutional Church which, as children, they once believed was their "Pathway to God".

The Sacrament of Reconciliation has been "in the news" of late. "Contrition" and "restitution" are integral components of this Sacrament. Unless and until these become central to the "response" to child abuse, the pain and the damage will continue.



Rosters for weekend of 31st August & 1st September 2019

Mass Times	6.00 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am	11.00 am
Reader 1	Alex Van Rheenan	Kerry McAleer	Ng Family	Ingrid Kertesi
Reader 2	Terry O'Donnell	Kerry McAleer	Ng Family	Christina Liew
Commentator	Marita Murphy	Brian Philp	Mike Toomey	Pia Pagotta
Help Desk	Seymon Martino	Cheryl Philp	Marie-Anne Duthil	Lorenza Spano
CLOW	Felicia Ahumada	N/A	Rina Rose'meyer	Buena / Giselle
Bus Driver	Francis Dragwidge		Flowers:	Jewel
Mass Recorder	Rob Todesco		Homily Typist:	Sunita Nazareth
Altar Society	Deepthi Perera, Jeanne Bernard & Bernadette Fernando			
Church Cleaning	John & Anne Duhau, Kongolo Kalumba			
Counters	Peter Evans, Michael Fernando & Brian Philp			

PARISH DIARY

NB. Fr. Kevin is away until Thu. Aug 29. The usual Mass schedule is retained EXCEPT Tue. Aug 27 - pls refer schedule including Masses at neighbouring parishes below. There will be (additional) Mass on the evening of Thu. Aug 29 upon Fr Kevin's return.

Monday August 26

9.15am: Mass (Chapel) - followed by **Rosary**
7.30pm: Prayer Group (Chapel)

Tuesday August 27

9.00am: Good Shepherd Wheelers Hill
9.15am: Communion Service (Chapel)
6.30pm: St Jude's Scoresby
7.00pm: **NO Mass Tonight**

Wednesday August 28

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Thursday August 29

9.15am: Mass (Church)
7.00pm: Mass (Chapel)

Friday August 30

9.15am: Mass (Church)

Saturday August 31

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

Sunday September 1

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

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Death: Magda Busija, Tim Fischer,
Bernard Carey, Maria Louisa Orbien
Anniversary: Mario Milana, David Correa

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emily Michell, Shiela Mallia, Ben Pirotta, Krishan Paulpillai, Janelle Auricchio, Haw Woulgouaddrel, Tuanjai Halning, Peter Evans, Daniel Frederic, Bernadette Bito, Miranda Koroknai, Michelle Kueh, Allen Sabestian, Antony Thabesan, Terry Redden

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.

MEETINGS

Craft Group: Tue. Aug. 27 at 1.30pm (Church Foyer)

NEW VOLUNTEERS ROSTER

Please pick up a roster covering period
Sep 2019 to Feb 2020.

THANK YOU

Fr Kevin & the Parish Team would like to take this opportunity to **thank all our very dedicated volunteers** for without whom our parish would not have been able to function. So THANK YOU.

Special Thanks to **Cion Romana, Ed & Ming Nicdao** who will be retiring in Oct. as church cleaners after 32 years!!

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.

SOUND SYSTEM NEEDED

A Lifeboat client would be grateful for a "Sound System" in working order (not too big, but not too small!).

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

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.**

RETREAT FOR MEN

September 13-15 at Pallotti College in Millgrove

Cost: \$85. To register your interest or make enquiries, please contact Vocations Office at vocations@cam.org.au or call 9926 5733.



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving envelopes from Sept 1, 2019 in the foyer for Parishioners who contribute in cash in envelopes. They are sorted alphabetically by **STREET NAMES**. If you can collect your envelopes and/or **help distribute those in your street**, that will save the parish postage and will be much appreciated. Thank you.

ITALY & MEDJUGORJE WITH FR LENIN



11 Days for \$3950pp departing March 20, 2020

Interested please contact Fr Lenin on lenin.thenamirtham@cam.org.au.

Registrations close August 30, 2019.

BIBLE STUDY

Thanks to all who responded and attended the information sessions. Two weekly sessions over 6 weeks will be held commencing **Tue. Nov 5 at 7.30pm and Thu. Nov 7 at 10.00am.**

Clipboards in the foyer for sign up.

Enquiries Email: loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

This Year: Overall Coverage of New Testament

Next Year: Matthew's Gospel

PLENARY GATHERING - Stage 2

LISTEN AND DISCERN: September 19 at 7.30pm
Please find time for this important process if we want to move forward as Church.

Theme 1: How is God calling us to be a Christ-Centred Church that is Missionary and Evangelising. We will be prayerfully led to reflect through Scripture and respectfully listening to each other.

Clipboard in the foyer for sign up

SOUP AND SOUL

First Thursday of each month at 7.00pm in the Chapel

Our next meeting is **September 5** and topic is **How to Discern God's Will** in making decisions.

Please provide your name and number at the Help Desk for catering purposes.

PRAYER GROUP

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

SACRED HEART GIRLS' COLLEGE

Students and Staff of 1969, '79, '89, '99, 2009 & 2014 warmly invited to our **College Reunion Day on Sunday Sep 8, 2019 2pm - 4.30pm** incl. afternoon tea and a tour of the School. RSVP Lynne Evan: 9569 5488 or lvans@shgc.vic.edu.au

FETE SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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



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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.

PARISH HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GROUP

Our parish is 31 years old, but our "history" can easily be lost if we don't assemble it and care for it. Photos, bulletins, memorabilia, videos, committee minutes might not seem very interesting now, but 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.

DOWNTON ABBEY MOVIE FUNDRAISER

Outreach Fundraiser: film evening at the Metro Cinemas Boronia – **"Downton Abbey"** at **6.30pm on Fri. Sept. 13.**

Tickets \$20, includes 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).

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 18th, 2019

Presbytery \$1030.45
Loose donations \$ 227.15



Weekly Pledge	Received	Cumulative
\$2,550.31	\$2403.30	85%
\$3,570.34		
\$6,120.65		

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

Thank you for sharing your treasure.

August 25th 2019 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First reading

Isaiah 66:18-21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116(117)

Second reading

Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? *My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons.* Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So *hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread;* then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

Gospel

Luke 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.'

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'



*Next Week's Readings: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ecclesiasticus 3:19-21, 30-31; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24;
Luke 14:1, 7-14*

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