

OUR MASS TIMES

Tue & Fri: 9.15am Mass
Wed & Thurs: 9.15am Communion Service
Sat: 6.00pm (Livestream)
Sun: 9.00am and 11.00am
Sun: 5.00pm **Charismatic Youth Mass**

RECONCILIATION

Fri: 6 - 7pm Adoration and Reconciliation
Sat: 5.30pm - 5.50pm Reconciliation

OFFICE HOURS

Tue - Fri 9am - 4pm



OUR PRIEST

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Jerald Mariadas
jerald.mariadas@cam.org.au

OUR TEAM

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Loretta Hughes
loretta.hughes@cam.org.au

PARISH COORDINATOR

Liza Jansz (Tue - Thurs)
Rowville@cam.org.au
liza.jansz@cam.org.au

PARISH SUPPORT OFFICER

Cyrilla D'Souza (Tue - Fri)
cyrilla.dsouza@cam.org.au

AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRAMENTS)

& BAPTISM COORDINATOR

Theresa Abraham
Theresa.abraham@cam.org.au

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

Melody Wells-Jansz
melody.wells-jansz@cam.org.au



SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Newton Marques
Rowville@cam.org.au

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, MARRIAGE PREP, FUNERALS

Please contact our Parish Office

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office

OUR SERVICES

PARISH CENTRE FACILITIES HIRE

Contact the Parish Office

ST. SIMON'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mr Tom Wursthorn - 9755 4222

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE

1800 305 330

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN NOTICES

Wednesday 4.00pm

Email: cyrilla.dsouza@cam.org.au



To access our
livestreamed
Masses
please scan the
QR Code



Scan the QR code
to subscribe to our
Parish Newsletter

(03) 9764 4058 @ rowville@cam.org.au

St Simon the Apostle Parish

A compassionate community celebrating and living in Christ

2 Taylors Lane, ROWVILLE VIC 3178 | <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/rowville>



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1/2 AUGUST 2026 | Year A

Matthew 14:16 | *'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.'*

When Jesus hears of the death of John the Baptist, He withdraws to a quiet place. Yet, seeing the crowds, His compassion overcomes His desire for solitude. He heals the sick and, as evening approaches, the disciples suggest sending everyone away to find food.

Instead, Jesus challenges them with unexpected words: **"There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves."**

The disciples focus on what they lack—only five loaves and two fish. **Jesus, however, sees not scarcity but possibility.** He asks them to place their small offering into His hands. What seems inadequate becomes abundant, feeding thousands with baskets left over.



This Gospel reminds us that discipleship begins when we stop asking, "What don't I have?" and begin asking, **"Lord, what can I offer You?"** God does not ask us to do everything. He simply asks us to offer what we have—our time, talents, compassion, and willingness to serve. When these

gifts are entrusted to Christ, He multiplies them in ways we could never imagine.

As we continue our Discerning Discipleship Journey, may we trust that God can use each of us to nourish others with His love. **Every act of service, no matter how small, becomes part of His miracle.**

In Christ,
Fr Jerald

2026 Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Our Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle is one of St Simon's major annual fundraisers, helping support the ongoing mission and operational needs of our parish.

If you are on the Thanksgiving Program, please collect your pre-allocated raffle book from the foyer (arranged in surname order). Additional books are also available from the raffle volunteers.
1st Prize: \$12,000 Coles/Myer Gift Card
2nd Prize: \$4,000 Coles/Myer Gift Card
3rd Prize: \$2,000 Coles/Myer Gift Card
4th Prize: \$1,000 Coles/Myer Gift Card
5th Prize: \$500 Coles/Myer Gift Card
Each book contains 10 tickets (\$20 total).

Please return sold tickets and payment by **Sunday, 6 September** after Mass or to the Parish Office during office hours. Thank you for your generous support and helping make this year's raffle a success!

Discerning Discipleship

When Jesus said to His disciples, "Give them something to eat yourselves," He was inviting them to become part of His mission. He wasn't asking them to do everything—only to offer what they had.



That same invitation is extended to each of us through our baptism. Every gift, whether it is welcoming others, listening, serving, teaching, or encouraging, can become a channel of God's grace when placed in Christ's hands.

As we continue our Discerning Discipleship Journey, let us prayerfully ask, "Lord, what have You placed in my hands, and how are You calling me to share it?"

UPCOMING EVENTS

5 Aug

Viv's RE Care

NEXT EVENT

WED, 5 August
11.30am—2.00pm

Join us at a fun event with FREE morning tea, lunch and entertainment.

For more info please contact
Brian Crowley on 0429 090 770
We look forward to seeing you all soon!



19 Aug



RABBIT PROOF FENCE

The film follows the Aboriginal girls as they walk for nine weeks along 1,600 km (990mi) of the Australian rabbit-proof fence to return to their community at Jigalong.

19 AUGUST @ 10.30am and 7.00pm
ST SIMON'S CINEMA

For enquiries, contact the Parish Office
or Bill Walton – 0434 331 759

Save the Date!

Indoor Lawn Bowls on
Friday, 23 October 2026
at the Dandenong Club,
cnr of Dandenong Rd and Stud Rd

Cost: \$30 per person

More details will be available soon

BULLETIN NOTICES

Please submit all bulletin notices by
Wednesday.

Text and images should be emailed as
separate attachments.

To help us prepare the bulletin, we are
unable to accept text supplied as JPG
or PNG images.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

Special Gathering

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST

10.00am to 11.00am

In the Parish Centre

INCL: Care to Connect, Communion to
the Sick & Prayer Ministries

SPEAKER : Brech Burgess –
Safeguarding Officer – Eastern Region
to address us on Risk Assessment and
Role Boundaries

11am – 12.00pm Newton Marques
(*Safeguarding Officer @ St Simon's*)
will be available to help those who need
Working with Children Check, National
Police Check and Online Safeguarding
Essentials Training.

**Do you know someone who is
housebound?** With their permission,
please add their details to the **Care to
Connect Book at the Help Desk.**

Our pastoral care volunteers would
be pleased to contact or visit them,
offering friendship, support, and a
caring connection with our parish
community.

Weekday Mass Parking

We kindly ask parishioners attending
weekday morning Masses to be
mindful of where they park.

There are two disabled parking bays
in the school car park. Once these
are occupied, please use the upper
car park on Taylors Lane.

For the safety of our school
community, please do not park on the
school basketball court or block the
accessway between the church and
school. These areas must remain
clear at all times for students, staff,
and emergency vehicles.

Thank you for your understanding
and cooperation in helping maintain
a safe environment for everyone.

NOW AVAILABLE

A hearing loop system has
been installed in the Church to
assist those with hearing
difficulties and support fuller
participation in our liturgies.

For information on using the hearing
loop, please contact the Parish Office
or email: liza.jansz@cam.org.au.



WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died William
Taylor, Stanley Abraham, Stanley
Joseph D'Souza and those whose
memories are sacred to us at this time
especially Crescenzo Di Scala,
Surendra Wijeyeratne, Oswald Bolonne

For the Sick: Perry Law, Sam Russo,
Jay Russel, Aneta Crowley, Lisette &
Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette Ukena,
Brooke Hiho, Jonathan Salerno, Mark
Bramich, Denzil Britto, Revin Serrano,
Paul McCole, Silivelia Talia, Nick
Brennan, Ropeti Talia, Paul Dugdale,
Teresa & Paul Guiliano, Jonny Salerno,
Alex Zunica, Flora Palleschi, Vlad, Joe
Vail, Delene Jones

"DANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

Presented by
St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Rowville

Date: Sat, 5 September
2026

5 Sep

Time: 7pm to Midnight

Venue: The Polish Hall 'Syrena'
1325 Stud Road, Rowville

Donation: \$80 per Adult (inclusive of
Buffet Dinner) BYO or
purchased from the Bar

Live Music: Replay 6

Dress Code: Ladies After 5
Gents Smart Casual

INQUIRIES/TICKETS:

Dawn – 0427 191 111
Shanti – 0412 259 630

Chris – 0418 576 018

Ben – 0434 506 158

Cedric – 0414 503 687



SAVE THE DATE
14 NOV 2026

Appliance Repairs & Installation Service

We specialize in the repair of:

- Washing Machines ● Dishwashers ●
- Dryers ● Electric Ovens ● Microwaves
- Cooktops ● Range hoods ● Fridges ●
- Freezers Test ● Tag Services

Contact Ash: 0413 913 619



MELBOURNE SYNOD CONSULTATION SESSION

Wednesday, 12 August

7.00 pm – 9.00 pm

St Simon's Parish Centre

For St Simon's & St Jude's

Parishioners

You are warmly invited to join our parish **Synod Consultation Session** as we gather in prayer, reflection, and conversation to discern how God is calling us to live as missionary disciples and share in the mission of our Church.

Everyone is welcome, with a special invitation to all parish ministry members and volunteers.

Please register your interest at the Help Desk and **collect a copy of the Theme Paper** (Missionary Leadership). We encourage you to read it prayerfully before the session and come ready to share your reflections in small groups. Your contributions will help shape our parish response to the Melbourne Synod.

*"Come, Holy Spirit,
guide us as we listen, discern,
and walk together in faith."*



Shape the Future:

Be Counted as Catholic this Census

The 2026 Australian Census will be held on 11 August.

Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the religion question.

Your response helps ensure the Catholic community is accurately represented in national statistics, supporting Church planning and informing government decisions on services, funding, and future community needs.

Thank you for helping make our Catholic community count.



PARISHIONER CORNER

Each year, following the Easter Sunday Dawn Mass, our parish hosts a special Easter Breakfast for our Catechumens, Candidates, their families, friends, and parishioners. This gathering provides an opportunity for everyone to come together in fellowship and celebration after commemorating the Resurrection of Christ.

The breakfast is a joyful occasion that welcomes those who have journeyed through the Rite of Christian Initiation and have taken important steps in their faith. It allows family members, friends, sponsors, and the wider parish community to share in their happiness and offer encouragement as they continue their spiritual journey.

The event is made possible through the generosity and dedication of volunteers who assist with planning,

preparing, and serving the meal. Their efforts help create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all who attend.

Helping to organise the Easter Dawn Mass Breakfast has been a deeply rewarding part of my faith journey. Welcoming our Catechumens, Candidates, their families, friends, and parishioners on such a significant day has shown me that hospitality is far more than sharing a meal—it is a way of sharing Christ's love. Through serving others, my own faith has grown, and I have experienced the joy of belonging to a community that celebrates, supports, and walks together in faith. - *Seymon*



The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign

is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese.

Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the **Priests Retirement Foundation, the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, CatholicCare Victoria Chaplaincy Program, Melbourne Overseas Mission, John Pierce Centre, University of Divinity for the Catholic Theological College** as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants.

Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation.

Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift.

Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church.

You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or via the QR code here



**THE
ARCHBISHOP'S
CAMPAIGN
2026**



DONATE
ONLINE

melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 3 AUGUST	TUE 4 AUGUST	WED 5 AUGUST	THUR 6 AUGUST	FRI 7 AUGUST	SAT 8 AUGUST	SUN 9 AUGUST
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Anointing Mass (Fr Jerald)	10.00am (PC) Safeguarding	9.00am Mass (Fr Jerald)
7.00pm (PC) Chaldean Community	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	11.30am (PC) Viv's RECare	3.30pm (PC) Confirmation Classes	10.00am (PC) Senior's Morning Tea	11.00am (Meeting Rm) Safeguarding	11.00am Mass (Fr Jerald)
	3.30pm (PC) Sacramental Program	7.00pm (PC) Forming Disciples on Mission	5.00pm (PC) SSS Choir Practice	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	12.30pm—4.30pm Chaldean Community
		7.30pm (Church) Baptism Prep	7.30pm (PC) Social Committee Meeting	8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice	6.00pm Mass (Fr Jerald)	5.00pm Charismatic Youth Mass

First Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-3*

Thus says the Lord:
Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have
good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting
covenant out of the favours promised to
David.

Responsorial Psalm 144

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he
answers all our needs.

Second Reading: *Romans 8:35,37-39*

Nothing can come between us and the
love of Christ, even if we are troubled or

worried, or being persecuted, or lacking
food or clothes, or being threatened or
even attacked. These are the trials
through which we triumph, by the power
of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor
life, no angel, no prince, nothing that
exists, nothing still to come, not any
power, or height or depth, nor any
created thing, can ever come between
us and the love of God made visible in
Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! No one lives on bread
alone, but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: *Matthew 14:13-21*

When Jesus received the news of John
the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat
to a lonely place where they could be by
themselves. But the people heard of this
and, leaving the towns, went after him on
foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a

large crowd; and he took pity on them
and healed their sick.
When evening came, the disciples went
to him and said, 'This is a lonely place,
and the time has slipped by; so send the
people away, and they can go to the
villages to buy themselves some food.'
Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them
to go: give them something to eat
yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we
have with us is five loaves and two fish.'
'Bring them here to me,' he said. He
gave orders that the people were to sit
down on the grass; then he took the five
loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes
to heaven and said the blessing. And
breaking the loaves he handed them to
his disciples who gave them to the
crowds. They all ate as much as they
wanted, and they collected the scraps
remaining, twelve baskets full. Those
who ate numbered about five thousand
men, to say nothing of women and
children.



***Eucharistic Adoration
With Reconciliation and
Benediction
Friday 7 August @6pm***

Come and spend time in the
quiet presence of Jesus.
Bring your prayers, your burdens,
and your gratitude as we end the
week in adoration, reconciliation,
and peace.



Why listening matters in the Church

*Listening is not a sign of weakness. In the Christian tradition,
listening is an act of humility and faith. We believe that God
can speak through the experiences, joys, and struggles of His
people. Synodality reminds us that listening is a form of love
and a path to wisdom.*

How am I living as a disciple each day?

NEXT WEEKEND		19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 8/9 AUGUST 2026 1 Kings 19:9.11-13, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:22-33			
MASS TIMES	8 AUG, SATURDAY 6.00PM	9 AUG, SUNDAY 9.00AM	9 AUG, SUNDAY 11.00AM	9 AUG, SUNDAY 5.00PM	
Commentator	Jodie Marziano	Margaret Ng	Estela Banac	Damon	
Reader 1	Tineke Edwards	Phil Mawdsley	Ildi Citler	Zara	
Reader 2	Graham Edwards	Dorothy Stack	Jan Richards	Aarya	
Welcome Desk	Yvonne Muspratt	Victoria Kong	Roseline Acker		
Children's Liturgy			Enakshi J & Sharon B		
Flowers	Nilmini Fernando	Altar Society	Sheila Kelaart & Bernie Fernando	Church Cleaning	Sharon Melder, Danusha Ladd & Asela Angammana
				Thabesan Family	