

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>



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8/9 AUGUST 2026 | Year A

Matthew 14:27 | 'Courage. It is I. Do not be afraid'



Life often brings moments when we feel like the disciples in today's Gospel—battling strong winds, uncertain of what lies ahead, and wondering if we have the strength to keep going. It is into this fear and uncertainty that Jesus comes, walking across the water, speaking the words we all long to hear: **"Courage. It is I. Do not be afraid."**

Peter's response is both courageous and deeply human. He steps out of the boat, trusting Jesus' call. Yet when he shifts his focus from Christ to the wind and waves around him, fear takes hold, and he begins to sink. How often does the same happen in our own lives? We begin with confidence and hope, but life's challenges,

disappointments, or distractions cause us to lose sight of the One who is always beside us.

The comforting truth is that Jesus does not leave Peter to struggle alone. Immediately He reaches out His hand and lifts him up. Our faith is not about never experiencing doubt or fear; it is about knowing where to turn when we do. Christ's outstretched hand is always there, inviting us to trust again.

As followers of Christ, we are continually invited to grow as missionary disciples. This Gospel reminds us that faith often requires stepping beyond the familiar. We may not always know where God is leading us, but we can be confident that He walks with us through every storm. When we keep our eyes fixed on Christ, we discover the courage to move forward together, trusting that He will guide and strengthen us for the journey ahead.

**In Christ,
Fr Jerald**

**Fr Jerald will be attending
the Annual Clergy Conference
this week.
There will be NO weekday masses
Tue-Fri (11-14 August)**

Our Parish Food Stall

**Take home delicious homemade
food and support our Parish!**



Our talented parish cooks have prepared a wonderful selection of homemade meals for you to enjoy.

Available after all Masses

8 & 9 August | \$10 a box

Enjoy a delicious meal
while supporting our
parish community.



Thank you for your generosity!



Discerning Discipleship

Discipleship begins with listening—to God's voice, to the needs of others, and to the gifts He has placed within each of us. As we continue our Discerning Discipleship journey, we invite every parishioner to prayerfully **reflect on where God may be calling you to serve.** Every ministry, whether visible or behind the scenes, is an opportunity to share Christ's love and build a welcoming parish community. Ask yourself: **"What gifts has God given me, and where is He inviting me to use them?"** Together, let us respond with open hearts, trusting that the Holy Spirit will guide our path.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MELBOURNE SYNOD

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 our Parish Synod Consultation Session as we gather in prayer, reflection and spiritual conversation to discern how God is calling us to live as missionary disciples.

Everyone is welcome, especially parish ministry members and volunteers. Please register your interest at the Help Desk and collect a Theme Paper (Missionary Leadership or Young Discipleship). We encourage you to read it prayerfully before the session and come ready to share your reflections. Your insights will help shape our parish response to the Melbourne Synod.

13 Aug

Women's Group

Meet at Stonez Restaurant for a Cuppa
Thursday, 13 August, 10.00am
Join us for friendship and conversation.

Viv's RE Care

NEXT EVENT

WED, 19 August, 11.30am—2.00pm

We invite Disciples to assist at St Jude Novena,

at St Jude's Church

The Novena is from 6.30pm to 7.30pm

If you can help with mass readings or slide presentation at St Jude's church from 19 – 28 October, please select your preferred schedule on the Registration Sheet at the Help Desk.

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



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.

Campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are available in the church. **You can also donate online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or by scanning the QR code.**



RABBIT PROOF FENCE

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

16 SEPTEMBER @ 7.00pm
ST SIMON'S CINEMA

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

WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died John O'Connor and those whose memories are sacred to us at this time especially Merwyn De Zilwa, Rose, Rienzio, Mina, Julian, Nugara, Prem, Precilla, Lincoln, David & Karuna Perera, Beneva Rodrigo, Nivanka Iaerra, Lionel Palihena, Rosaria Nania, Chandrika Subasinghe

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
 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

5 Sep



SAVE THE DATE
14 NOV 2026

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Every journey begins with a single step, and ours began in May with a group of parishioners responding to the invitation to grow as disciples. Since then, we have gently journeyed together, highlighting one ministry every fortnight and discovering the many ways God is already at work in our parish community.

In June, a small group had the opportunity to attend the two-day Proclaim Conference hosted by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, where we heard internationally renowned speaker Sherry Weddell share her insights on *Forming Intentional Disciples*. It was an inspiring experience to gather with people

from parishes across the Archdiocese who share the same desire to build welcoming, mission-focused communities. We returned with fresh ideas, practical resources, and renewed enthusiasm for the journey ahead.

One of the greatest gifts of the conference was hearing the stories of others. Their experiences reminded us that discipleship grows through relationships, listening, and walking alongside one another. The small group conversations were especially meaningful, offering encouragement, inspiration, and a sense of shared purpose.

This week, we invited more faith-filled parishioners to join the conversation as we participated in a reflective and contemplative evening of spiritual conversation, guided by the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Together, we listened deeply to one another and to the Holy Spirit, discerning a number of promising directions for our parish. It was a hopeful reminder that when we gather in prayer, openness and trust, the Spirit continues to lead us.

Our parish is embracing this journey with growing confidence. More people are discovering their gifts, exploring opportunities to serve, and responding to Christ's call to missionary discipleship. As we continue to pray, listen and walk together, we believe the Holy Spirit is moving among us, shaping a vibrant future for our parish and inviting each of us to be part of the mission.

— St Simon's Disciple

MOST REV STEPHEN WANG PARENT WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2026
AT 7:00PM

Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

TO JOIN
ONLINE
Scan the
QR code

A special invitation to Parents

Parents across MACS schools and the Archdiocese are warmly invited to hear Fr Stephen Wang, visiting from Rome, as he explores the inspiring topic:

Accompaniment and Conversion: Walking with our Children Toward Christ.

Join us and be encouraged as you deepen your journey of faith and discover practical ways to accompany your children as they grow in their relationship with Christ.

Online Link to Join: <https://shorturl.at/02j66>

Meeting ID: 482 438 471 206 0

Passcode: bw6cm35P

Or Scan QR Code to Join

SYCAMORE



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 in helping make this year's raffle a success!

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 10 AUGUST	TUE 11 AUGUST	WED 12 AUGUST	THUR 13 AUGUST	FRI 14 AUGUST	SAT 15 AUGUST	SUN 16 AUGUST
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	8.45am (St Jude's) Combined Mass	9.00am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)
7.00pm (PC) Chaldean Community	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	7.00pm (PC) Synod Consultation Session	10.00am (Stonez) Women's Group	10.00am (Meeting Rm) The Well	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	11.00am Mass (Fr Tony)
7.00pm (Meeting Rm) SVdP Meeting	3.30pm (PC) Sacramental Program		3.30pm (PC) Confirmation Classes	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	6.00pm Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)	12.30pm (Church) Baptisms
7.30pm (Online) Gospel Reflection			5.00pm (PC) SSS Choir Practice	8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice		12.30pm—4.30pm Chaldean Community
						5.00pm (Church) Charismatic Youth Mass
						6.00pm (PC) St Simon's Warriors

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.’ Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm 84

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

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! I hope in the Lord, I trust in His word. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went

up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. ‘It is a ghost’ they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, ‘Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.’ It was Peter who answered. ‘Lord,’ he said ‘if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.’ ‘Come’ said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. ‘Lord! Save me!’ he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. ‘Man of little faith,’ he said ‘why did you doubt?’ And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, ‘Truly, you are the Son of God.’



We encourage you to join us for a combined Mass on the

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 15 August

at St Jude’s Church beginning with Rosary at 8:45am

Followed by Mass at 9:15am

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER		20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 15/16 AUGUST 2026 Isaiah 56:1.6-7, Romans 11:13-15. 29-32, Matthew 15:21-28			
MASS TIMES	15 AUG, SATURDAY 6.00PM	16 AUG, SUNDAY 9.00AM	16 AUG, SUNDAY 11.00AM	16 AUG, SUNDAY 5.00PM	
Commentator	Seymon Martino	Phil Mawdsley	Jacqui Giuliano	Damon	
Reader 1	De Mel Family	Margaret Ng	Loretta Hughes	Saniru	
Reader 2	De Mel Family	Janina Woronczak	Colin Maslen	Zara	
Welcome Desk	Bernie Fernando	Enakshi Jayamanne	Therese W & Janine F		
Children’s Liturgy			Enakshi J & Sharon B		
Flowers	Nilmini Fernando	Altar Society	Lidwin & Samuel Hudson	Church Cleaning	Marina Ruffolo, Diana Paul-Anna, Kim Phoon
				Volunteer Needed	