

## 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

# St Simon the Apostle Parish

*A compassionate community celebrating and living in Christ*

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



## 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

22/23 AUGUST 2026 | Year A

*Matthew 16:15 | 'Who do you say I am?'*

"Who do you say I am?" Jesus asks his disciples. It is a question that reaches far beyond the Gospel story. It is a question for each of us today. We live in a world filled with voices telling us who we should be, what we should believe and where we should find meaning. Social media, news, opinions and expectations can easily shape our thinking. Yet Jesus invites us to pause and ask a deeper question: **Who is Jesus for me?**

Peter's answer is clear: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." His response comes from faith, but it is also the beginning of a new understanding of what it means to follow Jesus.

Faith is not simply knowing about Jesus. It is coming to know Him personally and allowing that relationship to shape how we live, how we treat others and how we respond to the needs around us. Our answer to Jesus' question is ultimately



revealed through our lives.

As a parish community, we are being invited to rediscover what it means to be missionary disciples. Each of us has gifts to offer, and each of us has a part to play in building a community where people can encounter Christ. Perhaps this week we can sit quietly with Jesus and ask ourselves:

**Who is Jesus for me today?**

**And what difference does my answer make to the way I live?**

When we know whom we follow, we can step forward with greater courage, hope and purpose.

**In Christ,**

**Fr Jerald**



**Consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese.**

Donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the

- Priests Retirement Foundation
- Corpus Christi College Bldg Fund
- CatholicCare Victoria Chaplaincy
- Melbourne Overseas Mission
- John Pierce Centre
- University of Divinity for the Catholic Theological College

To donate, scan the QR code



**THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN**  
2026



[melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign](https://melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign)

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

  
**We welcome our Confirmation children as they make their commitment to this important step in their faith journey.**

**Our parish community is asked to keep them and their families in prayer as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. May they be strengthened in faith, filled with the Holy Spirit, and supported by our loving parish community.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Join us as we gather for a chat and BBQ

SUN 23 August,  
after 9am & 11am Masses

A Viv's ReCare Fundraiser

23  
Aug

8  
Sep

Join us for a Combined Mass  
celebrating The Nativity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary

8 September | @St Simon's Church  
Rosary 7pm | Mass 7.30pm



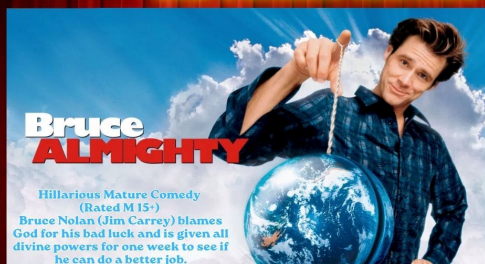
### PRAYER SERVICE of LAMENT

The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows  
invites us to stand with Mary at the foot  
of the Cross. This year we will gather  
as the Church of Melbourne for our  
annual **Service of Lament**  
for survivors of abuse

15 September | 4.00pm

In the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral

## BIG SCREEN MOVIES - ST SIMON'S CINEMA



SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - 7.30PM

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - 6.30PM

FREE  
ENTRY

SCAN TO  
BOOK YOUR  
SEATS

WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISER - FOOD & DRINKS FOR SALE



26  
Aug

### Men's Group

Wednesday, 26 August, 7.00pm  
In the Parish Centre

Join us for friendship and  
encouraging conversations.

### 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



SAVE THE DATE 14 NOV 2026



## ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to  
single and married men, aged from 30  
into their 50's, who want to serve God  
and the Church as ordained ministers.

The information session is open to  
everyone interested in knowing more  
about the permanent diaconate.

### Online Diaconate information meeting

Tuesday, 22 September 2026  
beginning 19:00 – 20:00

Location: via **ZOOM**

Attendance will be by  
invitation. Express your interest by  
emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison

[Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au](mailto:Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au)

In the week before the session the  
ZOOM link will be sent to those who  
have expressed interest.

## "LIVING LIFE WITH A MISSION"

SPECIAL GUESTS: SALESIAN SISTERS

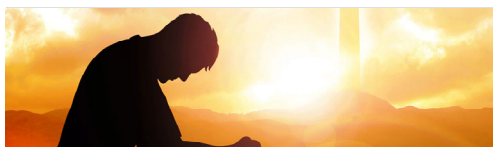
SISTERS - MAUREEN, ROSA & KIM

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST - 6.30PM  
MISSION WARRIORS YOUNG ADULTS

St Simon's Parish  
Rowville 3178



AGES 16+ WELCOME  
FOOD, FUN, FRIENDS,  
FAITH & FORMATION



## WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died and  
those whose memories are sacred to us  
at this time especially Giovanni  
Marguglio, Mario Milana, Lilia Velasco -  
Torio Edward Thong

**For the Sick:** 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, Delene  
Jones, Tania Stewart, Jacqueline White

## 2026 Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Thank you for your support in the  
Raffle so far. We have **211 books** (for  
St Simon's) left to be taken for sale. If  
you can help sell them to your friends  
and families, or buy some yourselves if  
you haven't already done so, please  
approach the Raffle Volunteer in the  
Foyer. For those who've already got  
tickets, but have not returned them,  
please do so soon, as the last date to  
return ticket butts with

payment is **Sunday, 6 September**  
**(2 weeks to go)**. You may return the  
tickets with payment to the Parish  
Office during office hours or at each of  
the weekend Masses to the Raffle  
Volunteer in the foyer or at the  
Welcome Desk. Thank you all for your  
support and cooperation.

## 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





## Ready to Serve?

**Safeguarding Essentials  
& Code of Conduct Compliance  
Required?**

**Thinking about joining a parish  
ministry?**

**Already involved and need to  
complete your requirements?**

**Join us on Saturday, 12 September  
10.00 am—11.30am  
St Simon's Parish Centre**

Our Safeguarding Officer will guide you through the **Safeguarding Essentials and Code of Conduct**, with all required forms and sign-offs available on the day.

Your attendance will be recorded to help ensure our parish meets **Archdiocesan safeguarding requirements.**

**Need help with your WWCC or  
National Police Check?**

Assistance will also be available after the session.

**Come along, get your requirements  
in order, and be ready to serve our  
parish community with confidence.**

**Everyone involved in parish  
ministry is welcome.**

## PARISHIONER CORNER — *My faith journey*

Hi, my name is Paige and I am from St Simon's Parish, Rowville. I have been a cradle Catholic for around 19 years.

Going to Sunday Mass once felt quite routine. I would follow my mum to church, but I did not have a strong understanding of the meaning behind the Catholic tradition. When I started altar serving, I was able to participate with greater intention and feel more connected to our Lord through serving at the altar.

I particularly love ringing the altar bells during the consecration. It reminds me of the mercy and love of Jesus and of the profound mystery of the Eucharist. It is truly amazing to know that our Heavenly Father welcomes us into His Kingdom when we trust in Him and His mercy.



As a young person and a Generation Z pilgrim, I am also passionate about the future of Catholic youth. Through my vocation to become a primary school Religious Education teacher, I hope to share my faith with children and help make Catholicism a fun and life-changing experience—a place where they feel valued and learn to become godly peacemakers in the world.

— Paige



***Congratulations to  
Bishop-Elect Stuart Hall***

Congratulations are extended to **Bishop-elect Stuart Hall** on his appointment as **Bishop of the Military Ordinariate of Australia.**

Bishop-elect Stuart has been a priest of the Archdiocese of Melbourne since his ordination to the priesthood in 1987. His parents, Don and Pam Hall, were parishioners of St Jude's, Scoresby, for many decades.

During that time it was much appreciated by Fr Noel Mackay and the community when Fr Stuart made himself available to preside at Mass when home on leave from his chaplaincy work with the Royal Australian Navy.

***We ask for God's abundant blessings upon Bishop-elect Stuart as he continues his ministry serving Australian Defence Force personnel and their families.***



**RCIA**

***Are you, or someone you  
know, interested in  
exploring the Catholic faith  
or becoming Catholic?***

Our RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) journey for 2026–2027 has begun

**Tuesday, 25 August at 7.30pm  
@St Simon's Parish Centre.**

***Final intake — don't miss  
this opportunity to begin  
the journey!***

For more information,  
please contact the Parish Office.

### IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

| MON 24 AUGUST                        | TUE 25 AUGUST                                      | WED 26 AUGUST                         | THUR 27 AUGUST                      | FRI 28 AUGUST                            | SAT 29 AUGUST                     | SUN 30 AUGUST                                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| OFFICE CLOSED                        | 9.15am Mass<br>(Fr Jerald)                         | 9.15am<br>Communion Service           | 9.15am<br>Communion Service         | 9.15am Mass<br>(Fr Jerald)               | 5.30pm (Church)<br>Reconciliation | 9.00am Mass<br>(Fr Dominic)                  |
| 7.00pm (PC)<br>Chaldean Community    | 1.30pm (PC)<br>Craft Group                         | 5.00pm (Church)<br>SSS Choir Practice | 10.00am (Stonez)<br>Women's Group   | 6.00pm (Church)<br>Eucharistic Adoration | 6.00pm Mass<br>(Bishop Tomlinson) | 11.00am Mass<br>(Fr Dominic)                 |
| 7.30pm (Online)<br>Gospel Reflection | 2.00pm (Church)<br>Confirmation Parent<br>Workshop | 7.00pm (PC)<br>Men's Group            | 3.30pm (PC)<br>Confirmation Classes | 8.00pm (Church)<br>11am Choir Practice   |                                   | 12.30pm—4.30pm<br>Chaldean Community         |
|                                      | 3.30pm (PC)<br>Sacramental Program                 |                                       |                                     |                                          |                                   | 5.00pm (Church)<br>Charismatic<br>Youth Mass |
|                                      | 7.00pm (Church)<br>Confirmation Parent<br>Workshop |                                       |                                     |                                          |                                   | 6.30pm (PC)<br>St Simon's Warriors           |
|                                      | 7.30pm (PC)<br>RCIA                                |                                       |                                     |                                          |                                   |                                              |

First Reading: *Isaiah 22:19-23*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:  
I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.  
I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash,  
entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.  
I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg  
into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm 137

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading: *Romans 11:33-36*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could



ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel: *Matthew 16:13-20*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the

Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

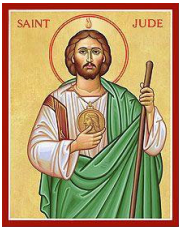


CARE TO CONNECT

is our parish pastoral care ministry, reaching out with compassion to those who are housebound, experiencing illness, grief, loss, or other challenging times.

If you or someone you know would appreciate a friendly visit, a listening ear, or a caring connection with our parish community, please contact the Parish Office or, with their permission, add their details to the **Care to Connect Book at the Help Desk.**

If you feel called to share Christ's compassion through this ministry, we would also love to hear from you.



St Jude Novena | 19–28 October

We invite Disciples to assist at the Novena

6.30pm to 7.30pm @St Jude's Church

If you can help with mass readings or slide presentation at St Jude's church,

Please select your preferred schedule on the Registration Sheet at the Welcome Desk.

| NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER |                         | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 29/30 AUGUST 2026   Jeremiah 20:7-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27 |                                  |                       |                                              |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| MASS TIMES          | 29 AUG, SATURDAY 6.00PM | 30 AUG, SUNDAY 9.00AM                                                                               | 30 AUG, SUNDAY 11.00AM           | 30 AUG, SUNDAY 5.00PM |                                              |
| Commentator         | Alden D'Couto           | Tony Fry                                                                                            | Theresa West                     | Damon                 |                                              |
| Reader 1            | Terry O'Donnell         | Neela Tatnell                                                                                       | Ingrid Kertesi                   | Aarya                 |                                              |
| Reader 2            | Clement Lobo            | Paige Law                                                                                           | Junius De Silva                  | Zara                  |                                              |
| Welcome Desk        | Malaika de Mel          | Victoria Kong                                                                                       | Volunteer Needed                 |                       |                                              |
| Children's Liturgy  |                         |                                                                                                     | Yasinta N + Supporting person    |                       |                                              |
| Flowers             | Beatrice Polydor        | Altar Society                                                                                       | Sheila Kelaart & Bernie Fernando | Church Cleaning       | Jeanette Wallis, Vicki Bowers, Phil Mawdsley |
|                     |                         |                                                                                                     |                                  |                       | Volunteer Needed                             |