

## 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) On Holiday  
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>



## 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

29/30 AUGUST 2026 | Year A

**Matthew 16:23 | "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's."**

There are moments when we have a clear idea of how life should unfold. We make our plans, we want things to go well, and we naturally try to avoid suffering or uncertainty. Peter does exactly this in today's Gospel. Having just recognised Jesus as the Christ, he cannot accept Jesus speaking about suffering and death. Peter's intentions may be loving, but Jesus challenges him: **"The way you think is not God's way but man's."**

These words can be challenging for us too. How often do we want God to fit into our plans rather than allowing ourselves to be guided by His? We may pray for a particular outcome, hold tightly to what is familiar, or struggle when God's path takes us somewhere we did not expect.

Jesus then gives us the heart of discipleship: **"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce**

**himself and take up his cross and follow me."**

Following Christ does not mean seeking suffering. It means being willing to place love, faith and God's will before our own comfort and expectations. It means asking not simply, *"What do I want?"* but *"Lord, what are You asking of me?"*

This is at the heart of becoming missionary disciples. We are invited to listen, discern and respond, trusting that God's vision is greater than our own.

Perhaps this week we can take a quiet moment to ask: **Where might my own way of thinking be an obstacle to God's invitation?**

Sometimes the most courageous step in faith is simply to let go of our plans and make room for God's way.

**In Christ,**  
**Fr Jerald**

## Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Thank you for your support!

We have **150 books of tickets still available**. Please consider taking a book to sell to family and friends, or purchasing one yourself.  
See the **Raffle Volunteer in the foyer**.

**Already have tickets?**  
Please return your ticket butts and payment as soon as possible to the **Parish Office** or to the **Raffle Volunteer/Welcome Desk** after weekend Masses.

**Every ticket helps!**  
**Your support is much appreciated!**



**THIS WEEKEND** please finalise your 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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### "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



5  
Sep



### **First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady on 5 September**

Rosary and Benediction: 8:45am

Holy Mass: 9:15am

Place: St Jude's Parish Church,  
George St Scoresby



8  
Sep

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

**8 September**  
**@St Simon's Church**  
**Rosary 7.00pm**  
**Mass 7.30pm**

15  
Sep



**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

## *Our Deepest Sympathy*



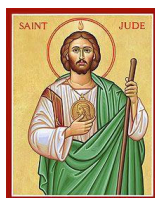
The St Simon's Parish community extends our heartfelt condolences and prayers to Jonathan Salerno's family and loved ones following his passing.

We hold Johnny and all who loved him in our prayers, asking God to surround them with comfort, strength and peace at this very difficult time.

**Funeral Mass**

**Thursday, 3 September | 1.00pm**  
**St Simon's Church**

*May Johnny rest in eternal peace*



**St Jude Novena**  
**19–28 October**

**Please consider assisting  
with the Powerpoint slides  
at the Novena**

6.30pm to 7.30pm @St Jude's Church

If you can help on these dates at St Jude's church,  
please notify the parish office or

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

23  
Oct

**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

14  
Nov



**SAVE THE DATE 14 NOV 2026**



## WE PRAY FOR

**Those who have recently died Janett Efremoglou and Jonathan Salerno**

and those whose memories are sacred to us at this time especially Stanley Joseph D'Souza, Salvatore Tartaglia, Vincenzina Tartaglia, Noel & France D'Argent, Lilia Velasco - Torio, Marc Riviere, Chantal Duhamel, Mary Edmonds, Ralph O'Keeffe, Michele Bufalino, Rose, Rienzie, Mina Nugara, Prem, Precilla, Lincoln, David & Karuna Perera, Dwayne Jansz, Maurice Adams

**For the Sick:** Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Aneta Crowley, Lisette & Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette Ukena, Brooke Hiho, Mark Bramich, Denzil Britto, Revin Serrano, Paul McCole, Silivelia Talia, Nick Brennan, Ropeti Talia, Paul Dugdale, Teresa & Paul Guiliano, Alex Zunica, Flora Palleschi, Vlad, Delene Jones, Tania Stewart, Jacqueline White



16  
Sep

### **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

### **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**



## A Reflection

Every time I meet parents preparing to have their child baptised, I am reminded what a precious and significant moment this is. For many families, Baptism is a beautiful celebration, but it can also be the beginning of discovering or rediscovering

their own faith. I feel privileged to be part of that journey.

During our Baptism preparation, we talk about what Baptism really means—the gift of God's love, the significance of the symbols, the promises parents make and the important role they have as their child's first teachers in faith. We also create space for questions, conversation and prayer. I especially value hearing the hopes and dreams parents have for their children and sharing in their excitement as they prepare for this special day.

What I find most rewarding is seeing parents begin to understand that they are not making this journey alone. Their child is being welcomed not only into God's family, but into our parish community.

The **Rite of Welcome** is particularly meaningful to me. Seeing families welcomed at Mass reminds us that Baptism is a celebration for the whole community. It is a beautiful opportunity for us to say, "*You belong here.*"

My hope is that each family leaves feeling welcomed, supported and encouraged, knowing that our parish is here to walk alongside them as their child's faith journey begins.

For me, this ministry is about **welcoming, listening and accompanying families as they discover that God's love is already present in their lives.** It is a privilege to witness these beginnings of faith and to know that, in some small way, I am helping families take their first steps together.

— Theresa



22 Sep

## 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**

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



12 Sep

## Ready to serve your parish?

**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.**

**Please register with the Parish Office**

## IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

| MON 31 AUGUST                     | TUE 1 SEPTEMBER                                    | WED 2 SEPTEMBER                       | THUR 3 SEPTEMBER                                        | FRI 4 SEPTEMBER                                             | SAT 5 SEPTEMBER                                                  | SUN 6 SEPTEMBER                                                   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OFFICE CLOSED                     | 9.15am Mass<br>(Fr Jerald)                         | 9.15am<br>Communion Service           | 9.15am<br>Communion Service                             | 9.15am Anointing Mass<br>(Fr Jerald)                        | 8.45am (St Jude's)<br>Devotion to Our Lady                       | 9.00am Mass<br>(Fr Jerald)                                        |
| 7.00pm (PC)<br>Chaldean Community | 1.30pm (PC)<br>Craft Group                         | 5.00pm (Church)<br>SSS Choir Practice | 1.00pm (Church)<br>Funeral Mass for<br>Jonathan Salerno | 10.00am (PC)<br>Seniors Morning Tea                         | 5.30pm (Church)<br>Reconciliation                                | 11.00am First Holy<br>Communion<br>Commitment Mass<br>(Fr Jerald) |
|                                   | 2.00pm (Church)<br>Confirmation Parent<br>Workshop | 7.30pm (Church)<br>Baptism Prep       | 3.30pm (PC)<br>Confirmation Classes                     | 6.00pm (Church)<br>Eucharistic Adoration<br>and Benediction | 6.00pm First Holy<br>Communion<br>Commitment Mass<br>(Fr Jerald) | 12.30pm—4.30pm<br>Chaldean Community                              |
|                                   | 3.30pm (PC)<br>Sacramental Program                 |                                       |                                                         | 8.00pm (Church)<br>11am Choir Practice                      | 7.00pm<br>Dinner Dance<br>The Polish Hall                        | 5.00pm (Church)<br>Charismatic<br>Youth Mass                      |
|                                   | 7.00pm (Church)<br>Confirmation Parent<br>Workshop |                                       |                                                         |                                                             | 7.30pm (Theatre)<br>WYD Fundraiser<br>Movie-Bruce Almighty       |                                                                   |
|                                   | 7.30pm (PC)<br>RCIA                                |                                       |                                                         |                                                             |                                                                  |                                                                   |

First Reading: *Jeremiah 20:7-9*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howland proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm 62

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: *Romans 12:1-2*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world

around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel: *Matthew 16:21-27*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'



Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a

man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



CARE TO CONNECT

are calling for expressions of interest in forming a **Mother's Group**. At this stage it will be held on a Monday morning in the Parish Centre. If you are interested please leave your details at the Help Desk by 30 September or phone the Parish Office on 9764 4058

5 Sep

BIG SCREEN MOVIES - ST SIMON'S CINEMA

**Bruce ALMIGHTY**

Hilarious Mature Comedy (Rated M15+)

Bruce Nolan (Jim Carrey) blames God for his bad luck and is given all divine powers for one week to see if he can do a better job.

**Evan ALMIGHTY**

Wholesome Family Comedy (Rated G R+)

Evan Baxter (Steve Carell) prays to change the world and God tasks him to build a giant ark.

**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**

13 Sep

BULLETIN NOTICES

Please submit all bulletin notices by **Wednesday 4pm**. To help us prepare the bulletin, please email **text and images as separate attachments**. Where possible, please provide text in an editable format rather than as a JPG or PNG image. Thank you for helping us create our weekly bulletin smoothly and efficiently.

| NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER |                         | 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 5/6 SEPTEMBER 2026   Ezekiel 33:7-9, Romans 13:8-10, Matthew 18:15-20 |                        |                       |                                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| MASS TIMES          | 5 SEPT, SATURDAY 6.00PM | 6 SEPT, SUNDAY 9.00AM                                                                                | 6 SEPT, SUNDAY 11.00AM | 6 SEPT, SUNDAY 5.00PM |                                               |
| Commentator         | Tineke Edwards          | Margaret Ng                                                                                          | Jacqui Giuliano        |                       |                                               |
| Reader 1            | De Mel Family           | Pam Comerford                                                                                        | Loretta Hughes         |                       |                                               |
| Reader 2            | Stephen White           | Bernard Mulholland                                                                                   | Pia Pagotto            |                       |                                               |
| Welcome Desk        | Yvonne Muspratt         | Enakshi Jayamanne                                                                                    | Morris Dalton          |                       |                                               |
| Children's Liturgy  |                         |                                                                                                      | Paige L & Deanne S     |                       |                                               |
| Flowers             | Melanie Jacobs          | Altar Society                                                                                        | Lidwin & Samuel Hudson | Church Cleaning       | Sharon Melder, Danusha Ladd & Asela Angammana |
|                     |                         |                                                                                                      |                        |                       | Thabesan Family                               |