

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>



26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26/27 SEPTEMBER 2026 | Year A

Matthew 21:31 | "I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you."

A Change of Heart

The Gospel presents us with two sons who receive the same invitation from their father: "Go and work in the vineyard today." One initially says no, but later thinks better of it and goes. The other says yes, but does not follow through.

Jesus challenges us to look beyond our words and consider the response of our hearts.

There are times when we may say no to God. We may resist His invitation because we are uncertain, distracted, hurt or simply not ready. Yet the Gospel reminds us that our first response does not have to be our final response. We can think again. We can change direction. We can open our hearts to God and take a different path.

This is at the heart of conversion. God does not ask us to have everything worked out before we respond to Him. He meets us where we are and continually invites us into a deeper relationship with Him.

The words of Jesus are challenging

because those who appeared to be far from God were the ones who eventually believed and responded to His invitation. Their lives were changed because they were open to hearing the call.

Perhaps this Gospel invites us to ask ourselves: Where is God inviting me to change direction? Is there something He has been asking of me that I have been reluctant to embrace?

Discipleship is not about getting everything right. It is about having a heart that remains open to God — willing to listen, to change and to take the next step. **Sometimes the most important "yes" we give God is the one that comes after we have first said no.**

Each day, God invites us into His vineyard. What matters is not simply what we say, but whether our lives become a response to His invitation.

A change of heart can become the beginning of a new response to God.

**In Christ,
Fr Jerald**

Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Thank you to everyone who took **Raffle Tickets**. If you have not yet returned your ticket butts and payment, please **do so this week** by returning them to the **Parish Office** or to the **Raffle Collector at each Mass**.
Thank you for your generous support!



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 and treats for you to enjoy. **AVAILABLE AFTER ALL MASSES**

26 & 27 September | \$10 a box

Every purchase helps raise funds for our Parish

Thank you for your generosity!



Sponsored by: Newton's Goan Cuisine and FRIENDS.

For all your Goan Specialties in MELBOURNE!

Contact Newton: 0402 251 185 or Cynthia: 0422 854 691



UPCOMING EVENTS



30
Sep

Men's Group

Wednesday, 30 September, 7.00pm
In the Parish Centre

Join us for friendship and
encouraging conversations.



10am
- 4pm

Saturday 14th November
at St Simon's School



Can you volunteer?

We need help on the day in many areas
Please let us know what interests you



Donations and sponsorship is vital

Thinking of Sponsoring or donating...
please ask us HOW ??



Stall captains meeting

All people volunteering as a stall
captain or deputy are invited to attend
Thursday 1st October at Parish Centre
- 1 hr 7pm to 8 pm



Books, CDs, toys, and trash and treasure

No magazines or encyclopaedia please
Assemble in boxes your donations and
we will do a collection and drop of
Mid October (date to be confirmed)
please prepare



Fete Raffle on sale this weekend 26th September

Tickets \$2
13 amazing prizes
We need your support



Need information call

Toni Coates 0409 855 889
Bill Leane 0411 289 319
Jenny Maxwell 0403 832 731

WRIST BANDS
UNLIMITED
CARNIVAL RIDES

ON SALE
ONLINE

INFLATABLE FUN
ZONE UNLIMITED

BUY COMBO PACK
(1 OF EACH)

1 \$45 2 \$15 3 \$50

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

23
Oct

"IGNATIAN DISCERNMENT"

SPECIAL GUESTS: MGL SISTERS

SISTERS KATERINE & JULIE

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER - 6.30PM

MISSION WARRIORS YOUNG ADULTS

St Simon's Parish - Rowville 3178

GOD'S PLAN & PURPOSE
FOR YOUR LIFE



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

INVITE A FRIEND!



SUPER SOUL SATURDAY

17 October 10am to 12pm

Guest Speaker: Sr Katherine Stone
Gift of Discernment

The Teachings of St Ignatius

21 November 10am to 12pm

Guest Speaker: Fr Bernard Teo CSsR

Pope Leo XIV's encyclical
'Magnifica Humanitas'

The Church's first comprehensive
magisterial document on artificial
intelligence (AI), addressing human
dignity, ethical governance, social
doctrine, and the spiritual risks and
promises of AI.



WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died David
Russell and whose memories are
sacred to us at this time especially
Melroy Taylor, Jacques Duhau, Denzil &
Yola Grant.

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, Ropeti Talia, Paul Dugdale,
Teresa & Paul Guiliano, Alex Zunica,
Flora Palleschi, Vlad, Delene Jones, Joe
Vail, Tania Stewart & Jacqueline White

3
Oct



First Saturday Devotion

to Our Lady on 3 October

Rosary and Benediction: 8:45am

Holy Mass: 9:15am

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



We Congratulate
Bernadette and Harry Lazarus
on their Golden Wedding
Anniversary!

&

Lucian & Cynthia Goonesekera
on their Diamond Wedding
Anniversary!

May the Lord continue to bless
them with good health,
happiness, and peace, and may
their love continue to shine as
a beacon of His grace.

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

Our Gardens in full Bloom

Throughout the winter months, our dedicated gardening team has been hard at work caring for and transforming our church grounds.

Following the removal of a large gum tree, there has been plenty to do. Weeding, planting new bulbs, pruning the roses and refreshing the garden beds have kept the team busy. The Memorial Garden has also received some much-

 needed landscaping, with Ernie contributing many hours to help bring the area together.

Now, as spring arrives, the results of their hard work are beautifully on display. Flowers are in full bloom, adding colour and life to the gardens and creating a peaceful and serene space as we enter our prayer space.

Our church grounds provide a beautiful setting for our parish community and the many occasions when we gather to worship, celebrate and share together. The care taken by our gardening team is noticed not only by parishioners but also by those passing by, with positive comments received about how lovely the grounds are looking.

If you have not recently taken a walk through the gardens, we encourage you to do so and take a moment to appreciate the handiwork and dedication of our gardening team.

And if you feel inspired to lend a hand, you are very welcome to join the team on Thursday mornings from 8am. Gardening, good company and morning tea are all part of the morning!

Thank you to our gardening team for helping our parish grounds continue to grow and flourish.



7 Oct

Multicultural Rosary Adoration & Benediction

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
Wed, 7 October 2026 | 7.30–8.30pm
St Jude’s Church

Come and honour Jesus and Mary in an evening of prayer and devotion.

- Candle-lit Procession
- Multicultural Rosary in 10 languages
- Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Following Our Lady’s request at Fatima, we come together in prayer, asking that people throughout our world may turn to God and renew their faith.

All are warmly invited.

Enquiries: Sr Maureen | 0410 755 972



IS THERE MORE??

Do you have questions about life and faith?

Would you like to understand more deeply?

Would you like to feel more confident talking about faith with others?

 SYCAMORE

Sycamore creates a relaxed space to explore through connection, content and conversation.

8 Oct

Come curious
Come as you are

Thursday, 8 October 7pm

in St Simon’s Parish Centre,
2 Taylors Ln, Rowville

Everyone is welcome.

REGISTER
HERE



IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 28 SEPT	TUE 29 SEPT	WED 30 SEPT	THUR 1 OCT	FRI 2 OCT	SAT 3 OCT	SUN 4 OCT
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Anointing Mass (Fr Jerald)	8.45am (St Jude’s) Devotion to Our Lady	9.00am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)
7.00pm (PC) Chaldean Community	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	5.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	7.00pm (Meeting Rm) Fete Stall Captains	10.00pm (PC) Senior’s Morning Tea	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	11.00am Mass (Fr Tony Alex)
7.30pm (Online) Gospel Reflection	3.30pm (PC) Sacramental Program	7.00pm (PC) Men’s Group		6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	6.00pm Mass (Fr Tony Alex)	12.30pm—4.30pm Chaldean Community
	7.30pm (PC) RCIA	7.00pm (Meeting Rm) Social Committee		7.00pm (Cinema) WYD Fundraiser Movie Night		4.00pm (School Grounds) Blessing of Pets
				8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice		5.00pm (Church) Charismatic Youth Mass

First Reading: *Ezekiel 18:25-28*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

Responsorial Psalm 24

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: *Philippians 2:1-11*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among

you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel: *Matthew 21:28-32*
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’



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

Blessing of Pets at St Simon’s

Join us as we celebrate the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and creation, with a special Blessing of Pets.

Sunday 4 October @St Simon’s Parish, 2 Taylors Ln, Rowville, 4.00pm

All pets and their families are welcome!

Please assemble with your pets on the School Netball Courts before 4pm.

Please ensure your pets are safely supervised and cared for throughout the outing. (Dogs on a leash)

Come and give thanks for the gift of creation and the joy and companionship our pets bring into our lives.

St Francis of Assisi, pray for us.



NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER		27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 4 OCTOBER 2026 Isaiah 5:1-7, Philippians 4:6-9, Matthew 21:33-43			
MASS TIMES	3 OCT, SATURDAY 6.00PM	4 OCT, SUNDAY 9.00AM	4 OCT, SUNDAY 11.00AM	4 OCT, SUNDAY 5.00PM	
Commentator	Alden D'Couto	Margaret Ng	Theresa West	Damon	
Reader 1	Stephen White	Paige Law	Ildi Citler	Aarya	
Reader 2	Terry O'Donnell	Pam Comerford	Alf Kakala	Zara	
Welcome Desk	Yvonne Muspratt	Maggie Braganza	Morris Dalton		
Children's Liturgy			No Children's Liturgy		
Flowers	Beatrice Polydor	Altar Society	Melanie Jacobs & Yvonne Muspratt	Church Cleaning	Sharon Melder, Danusha Ladd & Asela Angammana
				Thabesan Family	