

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>



28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10/11 OCTOBER 2026 | Year A

Matthew 22:14 | For many are called, but few are chosen



In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a powerful image of the Kingdom of God as a wedding feast. The invitation has been prepared and sent out, yet many of those invited choose not to come. They are too busy with their farms, their businesses and the demands of everyday life. Others are invited from the crossroads – everyone who can be found, “bad and good alike” – and the hall is filled.

The invitation of God is not reserved for a select few. **God calls each of us.** His invitation is personal: Come, share in my life, know my love and become part of my family.

Yet the Gospel also challenges us to ask what we do with that invitation. It is possible to be present in the Church, to

attend Mass and participate in parish life, and yet remain on the edges of a deeper relationship with Christ. The wedding garment reminds us that accepting God's invitation calls for a response. We are invited not simply to attend the feast, but to allow Christ to change our hearts and our lives.

This speaks beautifully to our parish journey of **Discerning Discipleship**. We are being invited to move from participation to discipleship – from simply being present to asking, “*Lord, where are you calling me? How can I know you more deeply and share your love with others?*”

Our **Sycamore journey** is one way we are creating space for this invitation. Through conversation, listening and exploration, we hope to help one another take a step closer to Christ.

Perhaps the question for each of us this week is simple: **What is God inviting me to say “yes” to?**

The invitation has been given. The table is prepared. **How will we respond?**

In Christ,
Fr Jerald



Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants as they take this beautiful next step in their faith journey, drawing closer to Jesus and growing in His love.

SYCAMORE

Sycamore has begun!

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the invitation to explore the Christian faith through **deeper listening, conversation and encounter.**

Please pray for our participants and team as they journey together — that they may be open to God's voice, encounter Jesus personally and discover more deeply their **baptismal call to discipleship.**

Your prayers can help nurture this journey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

17 Oct

SUPER SOUL SATURDAY

17 October, 10am to 12pm

Guest Speaker: Sr Katherine Stone

Gift of Discernment

The Teachings of St Ignatius

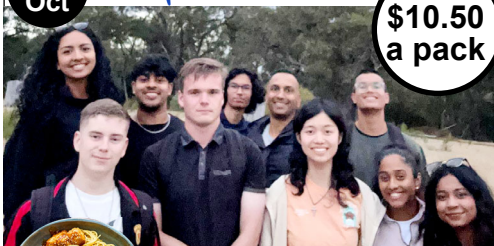
Come and discover the Gift of Discernment and learn how Ignatius' wisdom can help you make choices with greater clarity, peace and purpose.

Come and discover how to listen to God more deeply.



17 Oct

\$10.50 a pack



Support our Youth on their World Youth Day Journey!

With our Food Stall Fundraiser 17-18 October, at all Masses

Come along, enjoy some food and support our young pilgrims!

Thank You for Supporting Our Parish Dinner Dance

A Wonderful Parish Celebration

Our recent Parish Dinner Dance was

a wonderful celebration of friendship, fellowship and community, raising an amazing \$8,855 towards the future refurbishment of our church foyer.

We are grateful to the Social Committee for bringing the evening together, and to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a joyful success.

Thank you, and God bless you all!



9-Day Novena and Feast of St Jude Mass

Let us come together in prayer, seeking his powerful intercession for our families, our parish, and our personal intentions.

St Jude's Church

19-23, 26, 27 October

6.30pm Holy Mass

7.00pm Novena prayer

Confessions and Adoration

24 Oct 6pm Vigil Mass

7pm Novena prayer

Confessions and Adoration

25 Oct 7pm Novena prayer

7pm Novena prayer

Confessions and Adoration

Feast Day Celebration

28 October

6.30pm Rosary

7.00pm Feast Mass

Followed by refreshments

This nine-day journey is an opportunity to pause, bring our intentions before God and seek the intercession of St Jude, patron of hope and difficult causes.



ST SIMONS SOCIAL FUN BOWLS NIGHT

At Dandenong Club

1579 Heatherton Road, Dandenong North, Victoria 3175

FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER

7:20pm SHARP - 9:30pm



- ✓ 4 GAMES OF BOWLS (3 ends per game)
- ✓ FINGER FOOD
- ✓ DRINKS AVAILABLE AT BAR PRICES

BOOKINGS REQUIRED BY 15/10

BOOK ONLINE NOW TO SAVE A SPOT

Must buy ticket online use QR code



CREATE YOUR TEAM OF 4 - FRIENDS OR FAMILY! ENTER VIA QR CODE

\$30 per person

Meals available in restaurant or Bistro from 6pm

Parish Potluck Dinner



Friday 16 October, 7pm

In the Parish Centre



Come. Share. Connect.



Volunteers needed:

Asian Stall - Captain

Coffee Stall - helpers needed, training will be provided

Hot Chips - helpers needed

Parking attendants (morning)

Friday Set-up 13 Nov. from 1pm

Sign up sheets in the foyer

Books, CD's toys and trash 'n' treasure:

Donations can be dropped off Saturday mornings 9am-12pm @ the school hall.

17/10, 24/10, 31/10

Corflute Signs:

These are an important promotion for our fete. If you can display one please collect from the foyer after mass.

Fete Raffle:

We need your support

Tickets \$2 - 13 prizes

On sale after mass, pick up a book to be in it to win it.

Wristbands:

Pre-purchase your ride & activity wristband to get a discount.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DLHEX>



Stall Captains Meeting:

Next meeting 7pm 15/10 @ school.



Need information call

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

TICKETS \$2 EACH
(BOOKS OF 10)

Wristbands ON SALE
ONLINE

1 UNLIMITED CARNIVAL RIDES \$45

2 INFLATABLE FUN ZONE UNLIMITED \$15

BUY COMBO PACK (1 OF EACH) \$50

ON SALE
TO DRAW 3PM ON
SAT 14th NOVEMBER

All Souls Day Mass

7.30pm @ St Simon's

9.15am @ St Jude's



**PRICE BEAT
GUARANTEE**
FIND A COMPETITOR'S LOWER PRICE (INCLUDING GST
AND CHARGES) ON THE SAME TRAVEL PACKAGE.
WE'LL BEAT IT BY 5%

Saturday 14th November
at St Simon's School



TRAVEL EXPO

Book a 30 min Appointment
10am - 3pm (Every 30min)

A Travel Expert will take you
through Holiday Options Cruises
and loads of destinations

\$200

with every Booking as a
result of the EXPO



SAVE NOW
BOOK NOW

Enquiries to Greg on
0407 522 134

Sign up sheet in
Church Foyer

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



St Francis of Assisi **SHOWCASE** *Calling all performers!*

To celebrate the Franciscan Jubilee
Year, COG Theatre is hosting a
musical showcase highlighting the life
of St Francis of Assisi

Expressions of interest welcome!

Performers, technicians, adminstrant
or just eager, contact

cogtheatregroup@gmail.com
or **0413 398 528**

Meetings are held on Saturdays
@1pm

St Roch's Primary School,
School Hall, 5 Glenvale Rd,
Glen Iris VIC 3146

Please RSVP to attend

WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died and
whose memories are sacred to us at
this time: Espedito Pettinato, Lina
Bertone

For the Sick: Sam Russo, Jay Russel,
Aneta Crowley, Lisette & Noah
Vissenjou, Bernadette Ukena, Brooke
Hiho, Mark Bramich, Denzil Britto,
Rvevin 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, Kevin Liston

PARISHIONER CORNER



I have been part of the Rowville
Parish community for over 20
years. With my grandchildren
attending St Simon's Primary School,
I also became very familiar with the
school and parish and developed a
strong connection with the community.

One day at Mass, my daughter was
reading the Parish Bulletin when she
noticed that the parish was looking for
gardening volunteers. She showed me
the article, and after Mass I asked a
parishioner about the opportunity. They
suggested I speak with Brian, who
happened to be at Mass that day.

Brian was delighted that I was interested
and invited me to meet the gardening
team the following Thursday.

Since then, I have thoroughly enjoyed
volunteering and being part of the
gardening team. Maintaining the parish
grounds has become something I look
forward to each week. I enjoy working
alongside the other volunteers and taking
pride in keeping our church grounds
welcoming and beautiful for everyone.

Volunteering has also encouraged me to
become involved in other parish
activities, including the Men's Group and
the annual Dinner Dance. Through these
experiences, I have met many wonderful
people and developed an even stronger
sense of belonging.

I would encourage anyone considering
becoming more involved in our parish to
take that first step. You never know
where volunteering might lead or the
wonderful people you may meet along
the way. - *Leo De Silva*

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 12 OCT	TUE 13 OCT	WED 14 OCT	THUR 15 OCT	FRI 16 OCT	SAT 17 OCT	SUN 18 OCT
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	10.00am (PC) Gift of Discernment	9.00am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)
7.00pm (Online) Gospel Reflection	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	5.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	10.00am (Stonez) Warriors Outreach	3.00pm (PC) Warriors Outreach	4.00pm First Holy Communion (Fr Jerald)	11.00am Mass (Fr Bernard Teo)
	7.30pm (PC) RCIA		7.00pm (PC) Sycamore	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	12.30pm Baptisms
			7.00pm (School) Fete Captains Meeting	7.00pm (PC) Potluck Dinner	6.00pm Mass (Fr Dominic)	12.30pm—4.30pm Chaldean Community
				8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice		5.00pm (Church) Charismatic Youth Mass
						6.00pm (PC) SSJ Youth Group

First Reading: *Isaiah 25:6-10*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm 22

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

2026 COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE (CCPR)

Thank you to all who took Raffle books. **Please return your ticket butts with payment**, to the Parish Office or at the Help Desk.

Ticket butts returned after 8 November will NOT go in to the draw. Please keep your tickets until the draw date of 5 December 2026.

We invite you to submit the names of loved ones who have passed away since November 2025 to the Parish Office, so they may be entered in our Book of Remembrance.

They will be remembered at a special Mass for the Deceased on 10 November at 7pm.

Second Reading:

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

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 22:1-14*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those

who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Thank you

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Blessing of Pets on Sunday, 4 October, celebrating the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. It was a lovely afternoon of prayer, joy and fellowship.

Thank you for bringing along your wonderful pets and making the celebration so special. May St Francis continue to bless you and your beloved pets.



NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 17/18 OCTOBER 2026 | Isaiah 45:1.4-6, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, Matthew 22:15-21

MASS TIMES	17 OCT, SATURDAY 6.00PM	18 OCT, SUNDAY 9.00AM	18 OCT, SUNDAY 11.00AM	18 OCT, SUNDAY 5.00PM
Commentator	Jodie Marziano	Pam Comerford	Loretta Hughes	Paige
Reader 1	Graham Edwards	Enakshi Jayamanne	Ingrid Kertesi	Claire
Reader 2	Tineke Edwards	Janina Woronczak	Alf Kakala	Nerise
Welcome Desk	Seymon Martino	Enakshi Jayamanne	Josie Fanti	
Children's Liturgy			Paige L & Deanne S	
Flowers	Melanie Jacobs	Altar Society	Lidwin & Samuel Hudson	Church Cleaning
			Marius Francis, Antony Singarasa	Thabesan Family