

Partnered Parishes St Gabriel & St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir—Reservoir East

St Raphael Preston West,
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
Clergy: Fr G Pritchard, Fr A Fragapane, Dcn F Correyra
Parish Office Hours:
St Gabriel's 1 Viola St Reservoir 3073
Mon Wed & Thu 9am—1pm Friday 9am—3pm
8395 5707 reservoir@cam.org.au
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North Mon-Fri 9am –5pm
9460 3013 reservoirnorth@cam.org.au

St Gabriel's Church
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073
St Stephen's Church
71 Whitelaw St Reservoir East 3073
St Raphael's Church
17 Hardy St Preston West 3072
St Joseph the Worker Church
79 Wilson Blvd Reservoir North 3073

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YR C 1 DECEMBER 2024

TUESDAY

8.30am Eucharistic Adoration 9.15am Mass Italian
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
9am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir

WEDNESDAY

9am Mass St Stephen's Reservoir East
7pm Mass, Devotions, Adoration, Benediction
St Raphael's Preston West

THURSDAY

9am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir
9.15am Mass St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

FRIDAY

9am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir
9.15am Mass St Raphael's Preston West
7pm Mass, Devotions, Adoration and Benediction
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

SATURDAY

8am Eucharistic Adoration & Reconciliation
9am Mass St Raphael's Preston West.

Saturday 4pm Reconciliation
5pm Vigil Mass
1st Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass
Maltese Reservoir North
Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Reservoir East
Reconciliation on request
Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Preston West
Sunday 8am Reconciliation
9am Mass English/Italian
Reservoir North
Sunday 8am Reconciliation Reservoir
9am Mass Reservoir
Sunday 10.30am Mass Preston West
English/Italian

Thanksgiving & Clergy support by direct debit

St Gabriel's & St Stephen's Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 639372585
St Raphael's Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 643968007
St Joseph the Worker Church
BSB: 083-347 Account: 645772382



Our Partnered Parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of everyone including children and vulnerable adults. Please make sure children are supervised at all times within church buildings and on church grounds.

The program for **Advent and Christmas** is included in today's bulletin, including opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and end of year Masses for St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker schools.

Towards the end of Advent, the **Christmas crib** will be erected in each of our churches. Volunteers from St Raphael's are invited to assist, and to take on other tasks, eg altar linen roster, Sacristy, gardens and grounds, maintenance. Please speak to Fr Pritchard or contact Parish office 8395 5707 reservoir@cam.org.au

Amazon Pest Control has installed poly sheeting to restrict possums (Reservoir), cleaned gutters and installed bird proofing (Preston West). Jemena Electricity has advised that trees on the grounds of St Raphael's church are interfering with overhead power lines. Carpets at St Raphael's church have been steam cleaned, air conditioners and photocopier serviced.

Renovation works on St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker presbyteries commences this week. As St Raphael's presbytery is a work site, no one may enter the building until works are completed. Parishioners who may have a key to St Raphael's presbytery and/or church are asked to contact the Parish office 8395 5707. Please note that the previous telephone number for St Raphael's is deleted.

Parish ladies have attended **Catholic Womens League** events in recent weeks: Epping CWL AGM (21/11) and *Little Way of Love* retreat morning (16/11). This opens the doors to activities for women in the new year, along with Young Adults, Mens Ministry, RCIA and other initiatives in our Partnered Parishes.

Sincere thanks to all who assist our Partnered Parishes: Ange & Ofelia Braysha, Andrew Dos Santos, Wendy Healy, Gary O'Dwyer, Breda Young-Gee (working bee at St Gabriel's 23/11); Gerard Brick (gardens and grounds St Raphael's); St Joseph the Worker maintenance team; Dinesh Jayawardena & Kyle Castore, Melvin Thomas & Joe Arceri (Advent Wreath St Gabriel's and St Raphael's); church sacristans: Ange & Ofelia Braysha, Danasha De Silva, Vince & Carmel Colosimo, Nick Cachia, Rocco Alberti, Shane Miranda & Preethi Saldhana, Liliana Keating; flowers: Antonietta Gaggiano, Diem Nguyen; regular and generous contribution of those who take up the collection at weekend Masses, and count the collection at St Joseph the Worker.

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools has announced the appointment of **Ms Rosalba Squarci** Principal St Raphael's School Preston West. Rosalba stood out amongst the applicants; she has also done a fantastic job leading St Raphael's as Acting Principal this year. *Congratulations!*

Congratulations to all involved with this year's **St Gabriel's Theatre Group** production Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Many months rehearsal and practice have been rewarded with a quality presentation, singing and acting, enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

PARISH RCIA

Thursdays 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre

PARISH LUNCH

Thursday 5 December 12noon
Darebin RSL 402 Bell St Preston
Register: St Raphael's Church foyer

END OF YEAR MEETINGS

St Gabriel's Parish Centre Monday 16 December

- Our Parish St Vincent de Paul conference concludes a full and busy year with their final meeting and dinner.
- Our parish Legion of Mary Praesidium concludes this year's apostolic work.

PIETY STALL

St Gabriel's & St Raphael's Churches

Columban Calendar 2025 \$10
Majellan Christmas Cards pack of 10 \$7.50
Daily Mass Book \$25

CATHOLIC MEN

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne 10am
melbournemensrosarycrusade.com

BUS TRIP TO SHEPPARTON CHERRY FARM

Tuesday 10 December \$50
Departs St Joseph the Worker car park 7.30am;
6pm return. Includes Holy Mass, morning tea,
bbq lunch & drinks. 45 persons.
Contact: Nadia 0409 409 467

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

The situation for Catholics in Lebanon has become especially dire. Aid to the Church in Need has launched an emergency appeal for them. Any gift you can give to support our suffering Catholic family in countries such as Lebanon, will be used by ACN to provide much needed and urgent help.

aidtochurch.org/lebanon

PARISH OFFICES

St Gabriel's Parish Office

closes Friday 20 December 9am –3pm
Opens Wednesday 15 January 2025 9am—1 pm

St Joseph the Worker Parish Office

Closes Friday 20 December 9am –5pm
Opens Monday 27 January 9am-5pm

Phone and email checked regularly
2025 9am—5pm



Happy Advent! This season of waiting and preparation is just what we need to get ready to welcome the Lord at Christmas. Yet Advent can so quickly become filled with parties, gift buying, and card writing, as well as apprehension or fears concerning difficult family situations. So how can we better embrace this season and the grace God has in store for us? Today's first reading gives us a beautiful image that can help us: "a just shoot" rising up to give us new life. Jesus, the true just shoot, wants to help us embrace a sense of peaceful waiting and joyful expectation in the midst of all the busyness and crowds. As we set aside time to be with him, he can help us lift our eyes to the heavens and ponder the star that is approaching Bethlehem and the empty manger that is waiting for the Savior. He can also help us prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts as we consider the ways in which our lives have become cluttered with self-centeredness or anger or pride. Jesus, the just shoot, give us the grace to see our sins and our anxieties more clearly and to bring them to him for forgiveness and healing. If you're feeling the weight of the expectations and perhaps the tensions of the coming weeks, you're not alone. Say yes to God's invitation—to the disarming, gentle, just shoot that can bring you new life. Say yes to the One who longs to give you rest in the midst of the pressures in your life. This Advent, commit yourself to trusting in Jesus, the just shoot. Let him meet you where you are, lead you to deeper surrender, and make you ready to receive his presence at Christmas!

wau.org.au

Our dead, called to salvation

Recently Deceased

Pompeo Brunetti, Antonino Vecchio,
Vincent Mckernan, Carmela Iaria, Salvatore Cirillo
Armando Capaldo, Sr Letizia Selle, Arnaldo Di Luci

Anniversary of Death & Remembrance

Lloyd jnr, snr & Jean Harris, Joseph Georges,
Paddy Fitzgerald, Nella Spinosa,
Domenico & Nicolena Licastro,
Antonio Leggieri, Francesco Multari, Giovanni Calvi
Giuseppe Annetta, Lucia Alifrico, Rosa Fiumara
Vincenzo, Nazzarena & Renato Morfuni
Giuseppe, Marianna & Elisabetta Schipano
Bruno, Giuseppe, Michele & Concetta Ceraso

Next weekend

2nd Sunday of Advent Yr C

Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:4-6,8-11 Luke 3:1-6

Advent & Christmas 2024

God prepared for the coming of his Son over the centuries. He awakened in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming and he prepared for it specifically through the Old Testament, culminating with John the Baptist who was the last and greatest of the prophets. We relive this long period of expectancy in the annual liturgical celebration of the season of Advent.

Compendium 102

HOLY ROSARY

Fridays December 16, 13, 20 8.30am
St Gabriel's Reservoir

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

Sunday 8 December 9am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir

WEEKEND 14-15 DECEMBER GAUDETE

Coffee & Cake after Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North Saturday 5pm
St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East

Saturday 6.30pm

St Joseph the Worker Sunday 9am

Fresh Roast Mobile Café

after Sunday 9am Mass St Gabriel's Reservoir

Blessing of Roses

St Raphael's Preston West 10.30am Mass

SCHOOLS END OF YEAR MASS

Tuesday 17 December

9.15am St Raphael's Preston West

12noon St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North*

*Please note no 9.15am Mass

NORTH WEST RESERVOIR ITALIAN CITIZENS PENSIONERS CLUB

Thursday 19 December 10am Mass Italian, Luncheon
St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North*

*Please note no 9.15am Mass

BLESSING OF STATUE

OF ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

Sunday 22 December 9am Mass

St Gabriel's Reservoir

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday 24 December

St Stephen's Reservoir East 6pm Vigil Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
5.30pm Carols 6pm Vigil Mass

St Gabriel's Reservoir 7.30pm Carols 8pm Mass

St Raphael's Preston West 8pm Mass

Wednesday 25 December

St Gabriel's Reservoir 9am Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North
9am Mass English/Italian

St Raphael's Preston West
10.30am Mass English/Italian

NEW YEARS DAY Wednesday 1 January 2025

St Gabriel's Reservoir 9am Mass

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North 9am Mass

St Raphael's Preston West 10.30am Mass

CHRISTMAS SEASON BLESSING OF HOMES

The Christmas season is a traditional time for families to welcome their pastor for the blessing of family members and the household

Register: Parish Office

reservoir@cam.org.au

reservoirnorth@cam.org.au

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

At Christmas we provide extra support to our Bishops and priests, retired and sick priests. The Christmas offering envelope is included in our parish Thanksgiving envelopes. Christmas offering envelopes are also available at each church: St Gabriel's, St Stephen's, St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker.



St Vincent de Paul Society

VICTORIA

good works

Our St Vincent de Paul conference asks our support for their outreach to needy families at this time.

The Christmas Appeal envelope can be placed in the weekend collection.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Raphael's Preston West

Wednesdays 4, 11, 18 December 7.30pm

Saturdays 7, 14, 21 December 9.30am

St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East

Wednesdays 4, 11, 18 December 9.30am

Saturdays 7, 14, 21 December 7.15pm

St Gabriel's Reservoir

Sundays 8, 15 December 8am

Sunday 22 December 8am, 3pm

Tuesday 17, Thursday 19, Friday 20 December
9.30am and 7pm

St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North

Fridays 6, 13, 20 December 7.30pm English/Italian

Saturdays 7, 14, 21 December 4pm

Sundays 8, 15 December 8am

Sunday 22 December 8am, 3pm English/Italian

**We welcome
Fr Edwin Agius MSSP**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted;
let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you
be put to shame.

ADVENT WREATH

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of her Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

Response:

**To you, O Lord,
I lift my soul**

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth,
and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R**

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path
to those who stray,
He guides the humble
in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor. **R**

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep
his covenant and law.
The Lord’s friendship
is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.
To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. ‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to

happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth
shall yield its increase.

**May the Sick experience
the healing touch of God**

Giuseppina, Cabrini, Dorothy, Marie, Raffaella, Claudia, Cesarina, Pauline, Graeme, Patrick, Luana, Gitti, Coradina, Angela, Tanya, Narelle, Trish, Grace, Marelle, Peter, Isidoro, Anne, Kevin, Daniella, Nelson, Adam, Joseph, Grazie, Frances, Mariana, Kristiana, Alice, Melvin