

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 Corroya
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

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YR C 8 DECEMBER 2024

TUESDAY

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
5pm Mass Yr 6 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.*

We give thanks to God for the blessing of men and women who seek life in the Catholic Church and set out on the path to the Easter Sacraments as they are accepted into the **Order of Catechumens** (Sunday 9am Mass St Gabriel's)

The program for **Advent and Christmas** is included in today's bulletin, including opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. An Examination of Conscience in English is provided today and in Italian next weekend.

Today Sunday marks the anniversary of the laying of the **foundation stone** St Raphael's Church 8 December 1963.

On 24 December Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica to formally inaugurate the **Holy Year Pilgrims of Hope 2025**. It was 725 years ago when a Holy Year or Jubilee was first proclaimed by a Pope. This is a special gift of grace for the entire Church. Following the difficult years of the pandemic, the escalating violence in the world and so many other crises, Pope Francis wants to restore a climate of hope and trust. He invites us in particular to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Fr Fragapane is visiting Parish aged care homes with Holy Communion and anointing of the sick. He will celebrate end of year and graduation Masses for St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker MACS. Pilgrims to Greece and Turkey 2025 will be present at 10.30 am Mass St Raphael's Preston West next Sunday 15/12.

Partnered Parishes Safeguarding Committee continues to work on WWCC and VTA registrations. Small group training will be offered at St Gabriel's Parish Centre Monday 10 February 2025. Representatives from St Joseph the Worker Reservoir North will be invited to join the Safeguarding Committee. Safeguarding policies are mandated by Victorian law and diocesan regulation.

Renovation works on St Raphael's and St Joseph the Worker presbyteries have commenced. 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.

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

RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

*After the Sign of the Cross and Greeting all sit.
The candidates step forward and formally request life
in the Catholic Church and the Gospel.
Their sponsors and parish family affirm their request:*

Celebrant: Sponsors, you now present Deborah and Joshua to us; are you, and all who are gathered here with us, ready to help them find and follow Christ?

All: We are.

Celebrant: Father of mercy, we thank you for your servants. You have sought and summoned them in many ways and they have turned to seek you. You have called them today and they have answered in your presence: we praise you, Lord, and we bless you.

All: We praise you, Lord, and we bless you.

They are then marked with the Sign of the Cross.

Celebrant: Receive the cross on your forehead. It is Christ himself who now strengthens you with this sign of his love. Learn to know him and follow him.

All: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*After the Homily, the new catechumens
and candidates receive a book containing
the Holy Gospels (Sunday Missal)*

Celebrant: Deborah, Joshua, Ethan:
Receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Celebrant: Deborah, Joshua, Ethan: although you cannot yet participate in the Lord's Eucharist, stay with us as a sign of our hope that all God's children will eat and drink with the Lord and work with the Holy Spirit to re-create the face of the earth.

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RCIA Thursdays 7pm St Gabriel's Parish Centre

Our Parish **St Vincent de Paul** conference concludes a full and busy year with their final meeting and dinner on Monday 16 December.

Our parish **Legion of Mary** Praesidium concludes this year's apostolic work with a final meeting on Monday 16 December.

Bus trip to Shepparton Cherry Farm
Tuesday 10 December. Departs St Joseph the Worker car park 7.30am; 6pm return. Includes Holy Mass, morning tea, bbq lunch & drinks.
Contact: Nadia 0409 409 467

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

Melbourne Summer School of Evangelisation
6 – 12 January 2025 Glenmore, Vic 17 – 35
Week-long retreat for youth and young adults. Be renewed in your Catholic faith and empowered to be missionary disciples through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This vibrant experience of Christian community includes Sacraments, prayer, worship, and quality faith formation. Hosted by the Disciples of Jesus Community Melbourne.
Enquiries: melbourne.sse@gmail.com

Examination of Conscience for Advent

Am I wholehearted in accepting the Church's teaching?
Have I been involved with superstitious or occult practices?
Do I avoid dangers to the faith?
Have I love and reverence for God's name?
Have I used God's name in vain: lightly or carelessly? Have I been angry with God?
Have I wished evil upon another person?
Do I pray daily?
Do I receive the sacraments regularly?
Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred?
Have I tried to observe Sunday as a family day and a day of rest?
Have I tried to grow in the life of the Spirit through prayer and reading the Word of God?
Do I trust God's goodness and providence, even in times of crisis and doubt?
Do I respect my own body as a gift from God?
Have I made good use of the gifts God has given me?
Do I waste time at work, school or at home?
In family life, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the rest of the family by patience and genuine love?
Have I been lazy and given too much time to leisure or entertainment?
Have I been patient in accepting the sorrows and disappointments of life?
Have I been angry or resentful?
Have I verbally or emotionally abused another person?
Have I stolen the property of others or damaged it?
Have I returned or made restitution for what I have stolen?
Am I honest? Do I value truth? Have I lied?

*Lord Jesus Christ,
you are the Lamb of God:
you take away the sins of the world.
Through the grace of the Holy Spirit
restore me to friendship with your Father,
cleanse me from every stain of sin
in the blood you shed for me,
and raise me to new life
for the glory of your name.*

Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to people every confessor, without any exception and under very severe penalties, is bound to maintain "the sacramental seal" which means absolute secrecy about the sins revealed to him in confession.

Advent & Christmas 2024

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

presented by Basilica Funerals

St Raphael's Preston West 10.30am Mass

Christmas Carols

*Presbyterian Church 81 Edwardes St Reservoir
Sunday 15 December*

6.30pm BBQ 7.30pm Songs & Stories

HOLY ROSARY

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

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 11, 18 December 7.30pm

Saturdays 14, 21 December 9.30am

St Stephen of Hungary Reservoir East

Wednesdays 11, 18 December 9.30am

Saturdays 14, 21 December 7.15pm

St Gabriel's Reservoir

Sundays 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 13, 20 December 7.30pm English/Italian

Saturdays 14, 21 December 4pm

Sundays 15 December 8am

Sunday 22 December 8am, 3pm English/Italian

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come
to save the nations,
and the Lord will make
the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 125(126)

Response:

***The Lord has done great things
for us; we are filled with joy.***

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths:
all people shall see
the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

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

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Recovery to Health

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

Recently Deceased

Rosario Bruni, Giovanni Croce

Anniversary of Death & Remembrance

Carmelo Mazzarella,
Guiseppe Colosimo,
Barbara Kelly-Cavedon,
Johnny & Concetta (Tina) Forte

Pastors of St Raphael's

Frs Leo O'Rourke,
Brian Leonard, John McEntee