MASS TIMES
Tue , Wed, Thu, Fri: 9.15 am
Fri: 6-7pm Adoration
Sat: 6.00 pm (Livestream)
Sun: 9.00 & 11.00 am
RECONCILIATION
Fri: From 6-7pm
Sat's from 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm

OFFICE HOURS:
Tue to Fri 9am-4pm
St Simon the Apostle
2 Taylors Lane, Rowville, 3178
Tel: 9764 4058
Email: Rowville@cam.org.au

PARISH PERSONNEL
PARISH PRIEST
Rev Jerald Mariadas
jerald.mariadas@cam.org.au

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
Loretta Hughes
loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

PARISH Coordinator
Liza Jansz (Tue and Wed)
Rowville@cam.org.au
Liza.jansz@cam.org.au

PARISH MINISTRY COORDINATOR
Mrs Felicia Ahumada (Wed to Fri)

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Mrs Melody Wells-Jansz
Melody.Wells-Jansz@cam.org.au

CHILD SAFEGUARDING
Felicia Ahumada
Feliclia.Ahumada@cam.org.au

SACRAMENTS
BAPTISMS—3rd SUN of the month
For application form refer to our web-site or call parish office on 9764 4058.
Email:
baptism@stsimonsparish.com.au

AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS PROGRAM & SACRAMENTS
Theresa Abraham (Tue)

WEDDINGS, MARRIAGE PREP.
Contact parish office on 9764 4058

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
By private arrangement
Contact St Jude's Parish office on 9763 7302, or
St Simon's on 9764 4058

FUNERALS (Tue—Fri)
Contact parish office on 9764 4058

SERVICES

PARISH CENTRE FACILITIES HIRE
Please Contact Parish Office

ST. SIMON'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Mr Tom Wursthorn - 9755 4222

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE
1800 305 330

MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE
Andrea O'Loughlin
Available for Funerals & Weddings
Mobile: 0404 051 401

LIVESTREAMING IN RESIDENCE
Corey Payton
Available for Funerals & Weddings
Mobile: 0498 185 295

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN NOTICES
4.00 pm on WED of this week.

St. Simon the Apostle Parish

"A compassionate community celebrating and living in Christ."

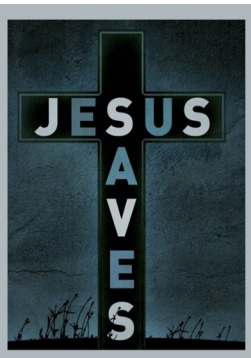
Address: 2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178 **Telephone:** (03) 9764 4058
Email: rowville@cam.org.au
YouTube Channel: tinyurl.com/s36hstf **Website**: stsimonsparish.com.au

2nd Sunday of Lent— 15th and 16th of March 2025

Join Us for the Stations of the Cross

As we begin our Lenten journey, we invite you to walk with Christ through the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 PM in the church after adoration. This solemn devotion helps us reflect on Christ's passion and draw closer to Him in prayer. All are welcome to participate. Let us prepare our hearts for Easter together.

HOLY WEEK MASSES AT ST SIMON'S



RECONCILIATION	8th April 2025	7.30PM
HOLY THURSDAY	17th April 2025	8.00PM

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS
18th April 2025 10.00AM
at Rowville Community Centre
(Meeting point parking lot behind Police Station)

PASSION OF THE LORD	18th April 2025	3.00PM
EASTER DAWN MASS	20th April 2025	6.00AM
EASTER SUNDAY	20th April 2025	9.00 AND 11AM

Exciting News! Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

- Dates: 3rd – 19th October 2025
- Destinations: Assisi – 3 nights
  San Giovanni Rotondo (Padre Pio) – 3 nights
  Split – 1 night
  Medjugorje – 5 nights
- All-inclusive cost: $6,000
- **Very limited seats available!**

Interested? Sign up now!
- This pilgrimage will be led by Fr Jerald.

A clipboard for expressions of interest is available at the Help Desk.
For more details, contact the Parish Office.

Welcome to Fr Libeesh Kannampalil

This week we welcome Fr Libeesh Kannampalil CMI to our community. Fr Libeesh will be staying with Fr Jerald for a period of up to 2 months. During this time, he will be assisting Fr Jerald when he is able to .
Welcome Fr Libeesh– hope you enjoy your stay in our community.

Funeral

The Funeral of Mario Antonio Di Fiore will be held here at Ss Simon's on Friday the 21st of March with Rosary at 10.30am and Funeral Mass at 11.00am.

May his soul rest in peace.

Save the Date – Parish Retreat

Mark your calendars! Our Parish Retreat will take place on September 13th & 14th at Holy Cross Centre, Serpells Road, Templestowe. Led by Fr. Ray Sanchez, this retreat offers a special time for reflection, prayer, and spiritual renewal. You may choose to attend overnight or for the day.

More details to come—stay tuned!

Care to Connect Ministry – Renewed and Ready to Serve

We are pleased to announce that the Care to Connect Ministry at St. Simon's has been reformed to better serve our parish community. Our dedicated volunteers are here to offer support and companionship to those who are sick, lonely, bereaved, or housebound.
If you know someone who would benefit from a friendly call or visit, please leave their details in the Care to Connect book at the Help Desk. Together, we can ensure that no one in our parish feels alone.

Viv's RE Care —WED, **19 March** from **11:30 am—2:30 pm .** FREE morning tea, lunch and entertainment.
For more info., contact Brian Crowley on 0429 090 770

Parish Social Committee

You are invited to join our Parish Social Committee as we gather to plan social activities to bring our community together.
 Next Meeting: 18th March at 7:00 PM in the Parish Centre
 Invitation to Join: If you are interested in being part of this exciting initiative, we warmly invite you to attend the next meeting.

PREPARE YOUR HEART THIS LENT AT ST. SIMON'S

To help deepen your Lenten journey, **St. Simon's Parish** is offering a range of **Lenten activities and programs**:

 Metanoia Lenten Groups:
* **Mondays** – 7:00 PM in the Parish Meeting Room
* **Tuesdays** – 7:00 PM in the Parish Meeting Room
* **Thursday**—7.00pm in the Parish Meeting Room.
* **Fridays** – 10:00 AM in the Parish Meeting Room

Lenten Reflection Group by Zoom – **Mondays at 7:00 PM** (Join from the comfort of your home) - contact the Parish Office for details.
Stations of the Cross – Every Friday in Lent at 7:00 PM

Super Soul Saturday the 5th of April at 10.00am in the Parish Centre—join us as we welcome Fr Bernard Teo for a Lenten Talk entitled: Conscience: The Gentle Voice of God inviting us to Conversion and to Communion with him.

We encourage you to take part in these opportunities for prayer and reflection as we journey together towards Easter.

Movie Morning
April 25th at 10.30am
in the Parish Cinema
Entry by donation

Faustina, a film by Jerzy Lukaszewicz. This is a wonderful documentary to watch on the life of Saint Faustina, The Apostle of Divine Mercy.
Come along on the 25th of April, no need to register and enjoy the documovie.
Tea and Coffee will be available after.

Viv's RE Care

Brian Crowley from Viv's RE Care, will be speaking at all Masses this weekend .

Brian will share insights about the important work of Viv's RE Care and how it supports those in need within our community.

Recent Death: Giuseppe (Joe) Rubbino and Mario Antonio Di Fiore

Anniversary of Death: Joseph Tri-Duc-Ngo

Prayer for the Sick Bill Leane, Valerie La Butte, Yana Jong, Jenny Lim, Perry Law, Brooke Hiho, Bente Jobsz, Jenny Liston, Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Adrien Cerdor , Nigel Quadros, Mario Di Fiore and Andrew Bianchin, Aneta Crowley, Gillian Elias, Lisette & Noah Vissenjou ,Jackie Xavier, Vince and Donna Montello.

Missed a Sacrament in primary school? Enrol now for classes!

If your child has missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in primary school, we invite you to contact the parish office on 9763 7302 to enrol in preparation classes. Additionally, if your child has not yet received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, please reach out to the office to arrange classes for these as well.

Confirmation will be celebrated on July 30 at St Patrick's Cathedral

Lector and Commentator Training.

Will take place on Wednesday the 2nd April at 7.00pm in the Church. If you would like to join this exciting ministry, please let the parish office know.

Sts. Simon's & Jude's Mission Warriors

SUN, **23rd of March @ 6.30pm** @ St Simon's (Parish Centre)

- ★ **Young Adults +** Groups 16yo+
- ★ **Learn** about the bible, Saints, Cathoic Teachings and More.
- ★ **Discuss** challenging social topics with other Catholic Youth.
- ★ **Outreach** Cooking and helping the poor/less fortunate
- ★ **Events & Travel—**Movies, Music, Food, Games, Retreats, Pilgrimages and Youth Conferences.

For enquiries, please call Kim—0403 323 353 or Elysia—0432 079 978

Parishioner looking for a Studio Apartment

A parishioner has come forward looking for assistance in finding accommodation in the Rowville area.
If you or someone you know has a studio apartment/room in the Rowville Area, please get in touch with Jean on 0451 571 359.

Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION

Second Sunday of Lent
15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.

Photo credit: Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.
Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Financial Counselling—Are you experiencing money stress?
(disconnection notices, missed loan payments or just need some help with Centrelink applications, etc.)

For a free and confidential chat (via Phone consultations), please call Gina on 0408 107 038 (Mon-Wed 5:30 - 7:00 pm). Spots are limited and will be a maximum of 20 mins.

SAFEGUARDING

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne requires that ALL **Volunteers** MUST HAVE a CURRENT **Working with Children Check Card** REGISTERED with St Simon's Parish.

Unfortunately, any person that does not have this card, will no longer be able to volunteer in any capacity.

If you need assistance or for more information, please contact the parish office on **9764 4058.**

Please contact the parish office if you would like to advertise your business in this space.

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E: joseph@assuranceib.com.au

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READING FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three -year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: Philippians 3: 17-4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 9:

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH DIARY—MASS SCHEDULE AND ONLY PARISH RUN MINISTIRES AND EVENTS

MON — 17th-March	*TUE — 18th March*	*WED — 19th March*	*THU —20th March*	*FRI — 21st March*	*SAT —22nd March*	*SUN — 23rd March*
OFFICE CLOSED **No Mass** **7.00pm (Parish Meeting Room)** Lenten Group	**9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)** **2.00pm Parish Centre** Craft Group **4.00pm Parish Centre** ASRE—Reco **7.00pm (Parish Meeting Room)** Lenten Group **7.00pm (Parish Centre)** Parish Social Committee **7.30pm (Church)** RCIA	**9.15am Communion Service** **11.00am (Parish Centre)** Viv's RE Care **6.00pm (Parish Centre)** Rowville Lion's Club	**9.15am Communion Service** **5.00pm (Church)** 3S Choir Practice	**9.15am– Mass. (Fr Jerald** **10.00am (Parish Meeting Room)** Lenten Group **10.30am (Church)** Rosary for Mario Di'Fiore **11.00am (Church)** Funeral Mass for Mario Di'Fiore **12.00(Parish Centre)** Gathering for Mario Di"Fiore **6:00 pm (Church)** Eucharistic Adoration **7.00pm (Church)** Stations of the Cross	**OFFICE CLOSED** **3.30 pm to 5.00pm** Chaldean Community in the Side Chapel **Reconciliation 5:30 pm** **6:00 pm Vigil Mass (Bishop Tomlinson) (Livestream)**	**OFFICE CLOSED** **9:00 am Mass (Fr Bernard Teo)** **11:00 am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)** **2.00pm (Church)** Chaldean Community **3.30-5pm (Parish Centre)** Chaldean Community **5.00Pm Youth Mass**

MASS TIMES	SAT 22ND MARCH @6.00PM		SUN 23RD OF MARCH @9.00AM		SUN 23RD MARCH @ 11.00AM	
COMMENTATOR	Tineke Edwards		Margaret Ng		Christina Liew	
READER 1	Julie Faul		Enakshi Jayamanne		Maria Pirotta	
READER 2	Tineke Edwards		Pam Comerford		Jacqui Giuliano	
WELCOME DESK	Yvonne Muspratt		Julie Ashman		Pia Pagotto	
CHILDREN'S LITURGY	Malaika P and Gillian E		Elysia G and Sebestian H		No Children's Liturgy	
	FLOWERS	Nilmini Fernando	**ALTAR SOCIETY**	Elaine Gannon	**CHURCH CLEANING**	Sharon Melder, Danusha Ladd & Asela Angammana