

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 **Youth Mass**

RECONCILIATION

Fri: 6 - 7pm *Adoration and Reconciliation*
Sat: 5.30pm - 5.50pm *Reconciliation*

OFFICE HOURS

Tue - Fri 9am - 4pm



OUR PRIESTS

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Jerald Mariadas (Away on holiday)
jerald.mariadas@cam.org.au

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Rev Libeesh Kuriakose
libeesh.kuriakose@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

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

Wednesday 4.00pm

St Simon the Apostle Parish

A compassionate community celebrating and living in Christ
2 Taylors Lane, ROWVILLE VIC 3178 | melbcatholic.org/s/rowville



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD | 10/11 JANUARY 2026 | YEAR A



Matthew 3:13-17 | 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him'

On this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we are invited to pause at the waters of the Jordan and to listen carefully to what unfolds there—not only for Jesus, but for each of us. The scene is simple and quiet, yet filled with deep meaning. As Jesus emerges from the water, the heavens open. God is no longer distant or silent. God draws close.

The Spirit descends like a dove—not with force or drama, but with gentleness. It is an image of tenderness, reminding us that God's presence rests upon us not to overwhelm us, but to dwell with us in peace. Then a voice is heard: *"You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you."* These words are spoken before Jesus begins his ministry. He is named and claimed not for what he will do, but for who he is.

This is the heart of baptism. It is not something we earn or achieve. It is a gift received. In our own baptism, God's Spirit was poured into us, and the same loving truth was spoken over our lives: you belong, you are cherished, you are loved.

Over time, that voice can be drowned out by other voices—fear, failure, or doubt. Today's feast invites us to remember. When we live from our baptismal identity, we begin to see ourselves and one another through the lens of grace.

May we walk gently in that truth, confident that love—not achievement—is the deepest truth about us.

With Blessings, Fr Jerald Mariadas

WE REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

For those who have died recently
Surendra Wijeyeratne, Carmelina Sizritas, Rogelio Noveloso and those whose memories are sacred to us at this time especially Percy Baldrey, Frank De Rango, Andrew Kelaart, Malaikal Joseph

For the Sick: Bill Leane, Yana Jong, Perry Law, Brooke Hiho, Bente Jobsz, Jenny Liston, Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Adrien Cerdor, Nigel Quadros, Anita Crowley, Gillian Elias, Lisette & Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette and Murray Ukena, Paul Dusdale, Flora Palleschi, Alex Zunica, Lisette Visenjoux, Ruevin Serrand, Elenor Augustus, Benedict Lim, Noelle Parsons, Jonathan Salerno, Barbara Kirsch and Daniel.



▶ To access our
livestreamed Masses
please scan the QR Code

☎ (03) 9764 4058 @ rowville@cam.org.au

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Preparation Classes for the
Sacrament of
Reconciliation has begun
for children in
Grade 3 & above
in non-Catholic schools.

Classes begin on Tue 3 Feb, 4.00pm
at St Simon's Parish Centre
Please scan the QR code to register
or call the Parish office.



2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

*for Primary and Secondary
School Students*

We are now taking enrolments for the 2026 sacramental program for families with children in primary and secondary schools who wish to have their child baptised, receive Holy Communion or confirmation. If you would like to know more or to register your interest, please contact:-
St Jude's Parish: 9763 7302 or
St Simon's Parish: 9764 4058

Gardening Group Our parish gardening group is seeking a few extra helping hands. If you are able to spare a few hours on **Thursdays**. Contact Liza on liza.jansz@cam.org.au for further details.



The Baptism of the Lord

10/11 January 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7 —

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon

Responsorial Psalm 28

Response: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to



realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

Farewell to Fr Libeesh

We share the news that Fr Libeesh will conclude his appointment at St Jude's and St Simon's and begin ministry at St Mary's Church, Greensborough on 3 March 2026. Over the year he has become part of the parish through his care, ministry and dedication. **Farewell Masses: 14–15 Feb St Simon's; 28 Feb–1 Mar St Jude's.** We wish him blessings and assure him of our prayers.



IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 12 JAN	TUE 13 JAN	WED 14 JAN	THUR 15 JAN	FRI 16 JAN	SAT 17 JAN	SUN 18 JAN
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Libeesh)	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Mass (Fr Libeesh)	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	9.00 am Mass (Fr Libeesh)
7.00pm (Parish Centre PC) SVDP Meeting	10.30am Funeral Mass for Carmelina Sizritas	10.30am Funeral Mass for Rogelio Noveloso	1.30pm (Church) Funeral Mass for Surendra Wijeyeratne	10.00am (Parish Centre) Movie Morning	6.00 pm Mass (Fr Libeesh)	11.00 am Mass (Fr Tony Alex)
7.30pm (Online) Reflection	2.00pm (PC) Craft Group		5-9.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	PLEASE NOTE: THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY	2.00pm (Church) Chaldean Community
	7.30pm (PC) RCIA Meeting			8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice		3.30-5pm (PC) Chaldean Community
Fr Jerald will be on holiday from 12 January to 6 February						5.00pm Youth Mass
WEEKDAY MASSES St Simon's—Tuesday and Friday St Jude's—Wednesday and Thursday COMMUNION SERVICE St Simon's—Wednesday and Thursday St Jude's—Friday						6.30pm (PC) Youth Group

NEXT WEEKEND

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — 17 / 18 JANUARY 2026 — Isaiah 49:3. 5-6, 1 Corinthians 1:1-3, John 1:29-34

MASS TIMES	17 JAN, SATURDAY 6.00PM	18 JAN, SUNDAY 9.00AM	18 JAN, SUNDAY 11.00AM	18 JAN, SUNDAY 5.00PM
Commentator	Alden/Sam D'Couto	Margaret Ng	Theresa West	
Reader 1	Buena Di Nizzo	Dorothy Stack	Colin Maslen	
Reader 2	Stephen White	Enakshi Jayamanne	Christina Liew	
Welcome Desk	Bernie Fernando	Julie Ashman	Josie Fanti	
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	
Flowers	Nilmini Fernando	Altar Society	Melanie Jacobs & Yvonne Muspratt	Church Cleaning
			Jeanette Wallis, Vicki Bowers, Phil Mawdsley	Giselle Garcia