

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 PRIEST

PARISH PRIEST

Rev 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

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
Email: cyrilla.dsouza@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>



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT | 21/22 MARCH 2026 | YEAR A

John 11:1-45 | 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

The raising of Lazarus is one of the most powerful signs in the Gospel of John. When Jesus arrives at the tomb, he is deeply moved by the grief of Martha, Mary and those gathered there. Jesus does not stand distant from human suffering; he enters into it. The shortest verse in the Gospel — "Jesus wept" — reminds us that God shares in our pain and loss.

Yet the story does not end with sorrow. Standing before the tomb, Jesus calls out, "Lazarus, come out!" With this command he reveals that death does not have the final word. Jesus shows that he truly is "the resurrection and the life."

But something striking happens next. Lazarus emerges from the tomb still bound in burial cloths. Jesus then turns to the people around him and says, "Unbind him, let him go free." While Jesus restores

Lazarus to life, the community is asked to help complete the work of freedom.

This moment speaks to our own Christian calling. There are many forms of "death" in our world — despair, isolation, fear, sin, and the wounds people carry through life. Christ brings the gift of new life, yet he also calls us to help "unbind" one another through compassion, forgiveness and support.

The Gospel reminds us that faith is never only personal; it is lived within a community that lifts others up.

As we draw closer to Easter, this story invites us to trust more deeply in Christ's promise of life. The Lord who called Lazarus from the tomb continues to call each of us out of whatever holds us back, inviting us to walk in freedom, hope and new life.

**With Blessings,
Fr Jerald Mariadas**

Lenten Reconciliation

As we prepare our hearts during Lent, reconciliation is a vital part of our journey towards the risen Christ of Easter.

You are warmly invited to join our Lenten Reconciliation service

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH, 7.30PM—ST JUDE'S

THURSDAY 26 MARCH, 7.30PM—ST SIMON'S

This liturgy is a time for reflection and an opportunity to see how we can change to become better versions of ourselves to those around us.

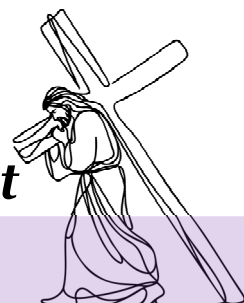


ST SIMON'S EASTER CALENDAR

Reconciliation (Second Rite)	26 March	7.30pm
Holy Thursday	2 April	8.00pm
Ecumenical Stations of the Cross @Rowville Community Centre	3 April	10.00am
Good Friday Passion of the Lord	3 April	3.00pm
Easter Sunday Dawn Mass	5 April	6.00am
Easter Sunday Mass	5 April	9.00am
Easter Sunday Mass	5 April	11.00am

Every Friday in Lent

Combined **Stations of the Cross** at St Simon's at 7pm after 6pm Adoration



Teen Alpha
Ages: High Schoolers
Next Event: 6:30pm, 22.03.26
St Simon's Parish Centre



Contact: Dinelle - 0416 810 541
Denise - 0435 742 838



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR
PARISH NEWSLETTER



Multicultural Prayer with Jesus and Mary

Wednesday 13 May 2026
7.30 – 8.30 pm

ST JUDE THE APOSTLE CHURCH,
SCORESBY

Programme:

- * Candle-lit procession and enthronement of Our Lady of Fatima
- * Procession of the Blessed Sacrament
- * Multicultural rosary in several languages
- * Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- * Benediction
- * Concluding hymn to Our Lady

WE PRAY FOR

For those who have recently died especially Anders Albin Johansson Moa and those whose memories are sacred to us at this time especially Maria Minotto, Peter Gan, George Cagliarini, Lim Wee Neo, Shirani Mendis, Rocco Iannello

For the Sick: Bill Leane, Jenny Liston, Perry Law, Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Aneta Crowley, Lisette & Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette Ukena, Brooke Hiho, Noelle Parsons, Jonathan Salerno, Barbara Kirsch, Mark Bramich, Charles, Daniel, Denzil Britto, Sonani Cramer, Revin Serrano, Paul McCole

**Project Compassion boxes
are to be returned by
Holy Thursday**

CARITAS AUSTRALIA
**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

You can also donate directly at the Project Compassion website (<https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/>). All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



*Where does the
word "Synod"
come from?*

The word Synod comes from the Greek *syn-hodos*, meaning "walking together on the road." This reminds us that the Christian life is never meant to be lived alone. Faith is a shared journey, where we support one another, listen to one another, and discern together how best to follow Christ.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has formally convoked a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. This important step continues our journey of listening, discernment, and renewal — a synodal way of being Church, walking together in faith under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

In the months ahead, parishes and communities across the Archdiocese will be invited to gather in prayer and conversation to reflect on how we are called to proclaim the Gospel more faithfully in our time and place.

The Synod will focus on three key themes: **Young Discipleship, Missionary Leadership, and Formation and Participation.** We are encouraged to ask: **Where is the Holy**

**Spirit leading us? Who are we called to accompany?
How can we reflect the face of Christ more clearly?**

The Synod Assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026. Over these next months, a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the Synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.

Please keep this journey in your prayers as we move forward together with hope and confidence in the Lord.

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD ANNOUNCED

**After EASTER SUNDAY DAWN MASS we welcome
the newly baptised members of our community
with a wonderful Breakfast!**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TABLE ARE MOST WELCOME.

PLEASE NOTE YOUR NAME AND PREFERENCE ON
THE SHEET IN THE CHURCH FOYER



SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY,
14 NOVEMBER 2026**

**Revised Dates—APRIL ReCare in
Parish Centre 8 and 22 April 2026**

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

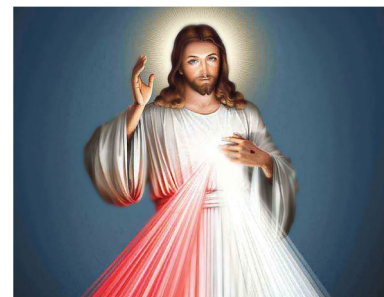
Pray for Peace

In these troubled times, when many around the world are living in fear and uncertainty, we hold in prayer all who are suffering because of War. We remember the innocent lives lost, families forced from their homes, and those who find themselves stranded and vulnerable in the midst of travel disruptions, including in airports and transit points.

Let us also pray for the Leaders of all Nations. May the Spirit of God grant them wisdom, right judgment, and the courage to work tirelessly for peace—seeking solutions that protect life, uphold human dignity, and avoid the tragedy of war.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we lift up all those affected by the ongoing war. Please protect the innocent, comfort the grieving, and give strength to those living in fear. Soften the hearts of leaders and guide them toward peace, wisdom, and understanding. May violence cease, may healing begin, and may hope rise even in the darkest places. Grant safety, unity, and lasting peace to all. Amen.



Divine Mercy Novena
daily, 3-11 April at 6pm

(except Saturday 4 & 11 April at 5pm)

Celebrating
Divine Mercy Sunday
12 April, 2pm - 4pm

Rosary

Divine Mercy Chaplet with
Adoration and Reconciliation
Mass and Afternoon Tea

Sacramentals will be blessed at Mass.

Sacramentals are available
for purchase in the foyer.
CASH ONLY

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation

24-Week Study Series



**NO YOUTH MASS ON
EASTER SUNDAY &
DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY (5 & 12 APRIL)**
**YOUTH MASS
WILL RESUME FROM
SUNDAY 19
APRIL**

Mondays: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: St Jude's conference room

Start: April 20th 2026

Cost: workbook tbc

Tea and Coffee Provided

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

To register interest please contact

Dinelle - 0416 810 541

Kim - 0403 323 353

Group Chat via WhatsApp

ECUMENICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY
10AM

**ROWVILLE COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 23 MAR	TUE 24 MAR	WED 25 MAR	THUR 26 MAR	FRI 27 MAR	SAT 28 MAR	SUN 29 MAR
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	9.00am Mass (Fr David)
7.00pm (Parish Centre PC) Lenten Program	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	7.00pm Men's Group	10.00am (PC) Lenten Program	10.00am (Meeting Room) Lenten Program	6.00pm Mass (Fr David Lemewu MGL)	11.00am Mass (Fr David)
7.30pm (via ZOOM) Lenten Program	2.00pm (PC) Shawl Group		10.00am (PC) Women's Group	10.00am (Cinema) Movie Morning-Miracle of Marcelino		12.30pm (Chapel) Chaldean Catechism
	3.30pm (PC) Sacramental Program		5.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	6.00pm (Church) Adoration		2.00 - 4.30pm Chaldean Community
	7.30pm (PC) RCIA		7.00pm (Meeting Room) Lenten Program	7.00pm (Church) Stations of the Cross		5.00pm Youth Mass
	7.30pm (Meeting Room) Lenten Program		7.30pm (Church) Lenten Reconciliation	8.00pm (PC) 11am Choir Practice		6.30pm Youth Group (PC)
				8.30pm (Church) Chaldeans Stations of the Cross		

First Reading:

Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm 129

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

PARISH NOTICE

Fr Jerald will be overseeing weekday Masses at both parishes for the time being. During this transition, the weekday schedule at **St Simon's**:

Tuesday & Friday — Holy Mass

Wednesday & Thursday —

Communion Service only

We thank you for your understanding, patience, and continued support during this time.

PLEASE NOTE THE PARISH CALENDAR IS ON PAGE 3

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

A Synod is not a parliament ?

“The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.”

**For all Bulletin Notices, please email cyrilla.dsouza@cam.org.au
Deadline Wednesday 4pm**

NEXT WEEKEND		Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord — 28/29 MARCH 2026 — Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14 – 27:66		
MASS TIMES	28 MAR, SATURDAY 6.00PM	29 MAR, SUNDAY 9.00AM	29 MAR, SUNDAY 11.00AM	29 MAR, SUNDAY 5.00PM
Commentator	Peter Evans	Margaret Ng	Colin Maslen	Damon
Reader 1	Malaika De Mel	Enakshi Jayamayne	Cyrilla D'Souza	Aarya
Reader 2	Tarique De Mel	Paige Law	Morris Dalton	Claire
Welcome Desk	Volunteer needed	Maggie Braganza	Volunteer needed	
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	
Flowers	Melanie Jacobs	Altar Society	Sheila Kelaart & Bernie Fernando	Church Cleaning
			Marina Ruffolo, Diana Paul-Anna, Kim Phoon	Volunteer Needed