

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
gerald.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
Felicia.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

1st Sunday of Lent— 8th and 9th 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.

Lenten Message from Fr Jerald

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this holy season of Lent, we do so in the grace of the Jubilee Year 2025, embracing the theme Pope Francis has given us: "Let us journey together in hope." Lent is a time of conversion, renewal, and deepening our trust in God's promise.

The Holy Father reminds us that we are pilgrims on a journey, just as the people of Israel journeyed to the Promised Land. This journey is not one we undertake alone; as Christians, we are called to walk together, to support one another, and to be a Church that listens and accompanies. Lent invites us to embrace this call by strengthening our faith, opening our hearts to others, and committing ourselves anew to prayer, fasting, and charity.

Hope is at the heart of our journey. St. Paul reminds us: "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5). We are invited to trust in God's promise of eternal life and to allow this hope to shape our Lenten pilgrimage toward the joy of Easter. May this season be one of grace, drawing us closer to Christ and to one another.

We hope that you will be able to utilise all the Lenten initiatives on offer in order to help you prepare for Easter.

Let us journey together in hope, renewed in faith and love.

☐ Happy Lent! Fr Jerald

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.



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.

Thank you for your continued support in building a vibrant and connected parish!

RCIA Rite of Sending – Sunday, March 9, 2025

At the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, March 9, 2025, we will witness and celebrate the Rite of Sending for this year's RCIA Catechumens and Candidates. Following this special moment, they will journey to Saint Patrick's Cathedral to complete the next step of their faith formation. Please keep them in your prayers and join us in offering our warmest congratulations as they continue their path toward full initiation into the Church.



Catechumens and Candidates:

Anders van Vliet	Sharon Burroughs
Lincoln Power	Denzel Marthinussen
Jen Bui	Claire Tang
Shaun Kadane	Luke Greig
Aelaine Greig	Anthony Dumitru
David Rixon	Nethini Boteju

PREPARE YOUR HEART THIS LENT AT ST. SIMON'S

With **Ash Wednesday**, we enter the holy season of **Lent**—a time of prayer, reflection, and renewal as we prepare for Easter.

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

☐ **Friday Night Lenten Speakers** – On Friday the 5th of April Fr Bernard Teo will join us to facilitate the Stations of the Cross and will provide his reflections on each station. Join us as we journey with Fr Bernard .

On 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 Night **April 25th at 10.30am** **in the Parish Cinema** **Entry by donation**

Fautina, a film by Jerzy Lukaszewicz. This is a wonderful documentary to watch on the life of Saint Fautina, 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 on the weekend of the 15th and 16th of March.

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: Isabella D'Souza

Anniversary of Death: Ophelia Paraan, Daniel Namasivayam, Natasha Dickson, Elliot Rees, Craig McLeod, Graziano Martino, Simone Valadon, Raymon Rob

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.



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

First Sunday of Lent **8th and 9th of March 2025**

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.

Lector and Commentator Training.

Will take place on Wednesday the 12th of March at 7.00pm in the Church. If you would like to join this exciting ministry, please just come along on Wednesday the 12th of March to join the training.

Sts. Simon's & Jude's Mission Warriors

SUN, **9th of March @ 6pm** @ St Simon's (Parish Centre)



- ★ **Young Adults + Groups** 16yo+
- ★ **Learn** about the bible, Saints, Catholic 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.

Any assistance in finding accommodation is gratefully received.



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Please donate to- day.

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

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**.

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First Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

Moses said to the people: ‘The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: “My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.” You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

R: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading: Romans 10: 8-13

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for

everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Luke 4: 1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.’ But Jesus replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.’ Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, ‘I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.’ Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God’, he said to him ‘throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.’ But Jesus answered him, ‘It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’ Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH DIARY— Mass Schedule and ONLY Parish Run Ministries and Events

MON — 10th- March	TUE — 11th March	WED — 12th March	THU — 13th March	FRI — 14th March	SAT — 15th March	SUN — 16th March
OFFICE CLOSED No Mass 7.00pm (Parish Meeting Room) Lenten Group	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald) 1.30pm Parish Centre Craft Group 4.00pm Parish Centre ASRE—Reco 7.00pm (Parish Meeting Room) Lenten Group 7.30pm (Church) RCIA	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald) 7.00pm (Church) Lector Training	9.15am Communion Service (Supply Priest) 5.00pm (Church) 3S Choir Practice	9.15am– Mass. (Supply Priest) 10.00am (Church) Morning Cuppa 10.00am (Parish Meeting Room) Lenten Group 6:00 pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration 6.00pm (Cinema) Warriors 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 (Fr Steve Tynan) (Livestream)	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am Mass (Fr Steve Tynan) 11:00 am Mass (Fr Steve Tynan) 2.00pm (Church) Chaldean Community 3.30-5pm (Parish Centre) Chaldean Community 5.00Pm Youth Mass
MASS TIMES: SAT, 15th of March @ 6:00 pm SUN, 16th March @ 9:00 am SUN, 16th March @ 11:00 am						
Commentator	Alden/Sam D'Couto			Tony Fry		Estela Banac
Reader 1	Terry O'Donnell			Phil Mawdsley		Buena Di Nuzzo
Reader 2	Anthony Thabesan			Paige Law		Junius De Silva
Welcome Desk	Seymon Martino			Maggie Braganza		Josie Fanti
Children's Liturgy	No Childrens Liturgy			No Children's Liturgy		Therese W / Lldi C
Flowers:	Nilmini Fernando	Altar Society:	Sheila Kelaart and Bernadette Fernando	Church Cleaning:	Judy and Caroline Schmidt	