

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 **Charismatic 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

Fr 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

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN NOTICES

Wednesday 4.00pm

Email: cyrilla.dsouza@cam.org.au



To access our
livestreamed
Masses
please scan the
QR Code



Scan the QR code
to subscribe to our
Parish Newsletter

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

St Simon the Apostle Parish

A compassionate community celebrating and living in Christ

2 Taylors Lane, ROWVILLE VIC 3178 | <https://www.melbcaholic.org/s/rowville>



30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24/25 OCTOBER 2026 | Year A

Matthew 22:37-40 | *"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind ... love your neighbour as yourself".*

The Heart of Our Christian Faith: Love

In today's Gospel, Jesus brings us to the very heart of what it means to be His disciple. When asked which is the greatest commandment, He responds by joining two inseparable calls: to love God with all our heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Jesus is reminding us that faith is not simply about following rules or fulfilling religious obligations. It is about a relationship of love that transforms who we are and how we live.

To love God with our whole heart means giving Him more than the parts of our lives that are convenient. It means allowing Him into our fears, disappointments, ambitions and struggles. It means trusting Him even when His ways are difficult to understand, and seeking His presence not only in prayer, but in the ordinary moments of each day.

But Jesus does not allow us to separate our love for God from our love for others. The authenticity of our relationship with God is revealed in the way we treat those around us. It is easy to love those who appreciate us, agree with us or make us

feel valued. The real challenge comes when we encounter someone who hurts us, misunderstands us or tests our patience.

To love our neighbour does not mean we will always agree or find relationships easy. It means recognising the dignity of each person and choosing compassion over judgement, forgiveness over resentment, and understanding over indifference.

Perhaps the most challenging question this Gospel places before us is this: Can we truly say we love God if we close our hearts to our neighbour?

As a Christian community, we are called to make God's love visible through our welcome, our service and our willingness to walk alongside one another. Love is not merely something we feel; it is a choice we make, day after day.

May we ask the Lord to soften our hearts, deepen our love and help us become living witnesses to His presence in the world.

**In Christ,
Fr Jerald**

Anointing Masses

You are warmly invited to
our Anointing Mass
Friday, 6 November, 9.15am

This special liturgy is open to everyone, with a particular welcome to those who are elderly, unwell, or seeking healing-physically, emotionally, or spiritually.

During the Mass, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Following the liturgy please join us for a cuppa and conversation in the Parish Centre.



Wednesday, 28 October
9.15am
St Simon's Feast Day
Mass

**A special Mass will be
celebrated on
Wednesday @ St Simon's**
Please join us as we celebrate this
special occasion with
St Simon's School children in
attendance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

In Loving Memory of Estelle Thompson

We offer our heartfelt condolences to her family and loved ones. May they find comfort in the love of Christ and the support of our parish community.

Estelle's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on

Tuesday, 27 October at 10.30am

@ St Simon's

May she rest in eternal peace.

Men's Group next meet up

28 October @ 7pm

At the Parish Centre



Women's Group meet next at Stonez Restaurant

29 October @ 10am



All Souls Day Mass—2 Nov

9.15am @ St Jude's

7.30pm @ St Simon's

2
Nov



SPECIAL MEMORIAL MASS

Remembering Our Loved Ones

Tuesday, 10 November | 7.00pm



10
Nov

21 Nov SUPER SOUL SATURDAY

21 November, 10am to 12pm

Guest Speaker: Fr Bernard Teo CSsR

**Pope Leo XIV's encyclical
'Magnifica Humanitas'**

Exploring Pope Leo XIV's teaching on AI and its implications for our lives and society.



COMBINED PARISHES CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Saturday, 12 December at 7:00pm

Join us at St Simon's for a joyful evening of Christmas carols, celebration and fellowship as our combined parish communities come together to share the spirit of Christmas. **Carols will follow the 6.00pm Combined Parishes Vigil Mass.** All are warmly invited!



12
Dec



28
Oct

9-Day Novena and Mass on the Feast of Sts Simon & Jude

We continue to come together in prayer, seeking their powerful intercession for our families, our parish, and our personal intentions.

ST JUDE'S CHURCH

24 Oct 6pm Vigil Mass

**7pm Novena prayer,
and Adoration**

**25 Oct 7pm Novena prayer,
and Adoration**

26, 27 October

6.30pm Holy Mass

**7.00pm Novena prayer,
and Adoration**

FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday, 28 October

6.30pm Rosary

7.00pm Feast Mass

Followed by refreshments



WE PRAY FOR

Those who have recently died
Estelle Thompson and whose memories are sacred to us at this time:
Noel & France D'Argent, Ennio Colli, Michael Kovacs, Helen Wellsford
For the Sick: Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Aneta Crowley, Lisette & Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette Ukena, Brooke Hiho, Mark Bramich, Denzil Britto, Rvevin Serrano, Paul McCole, Silivelia Talia, Ropeti Talia, Paul Dugdale, Teresa & Paul Guiliano, Alex Zunica, Flora Palleschi, Vlad, Delene Jones, Joe Vail, Tania Stewart, Jacqueline White, Kevin Liston

14
Nov



Volunteers needed:

Friday set-up from 1pm

Saturday pack up from 4pm

Parking attendants (Sat morning)

Food Stalls

Trash & Treasure

Books, CD's toys and trash 'n' treasure:

Donations can be dropped off
Saturday mornings 10am-12pm
@ the school hall.

24/10, 31/10

Corflute Signs:

These are an important promotion for our fete. If you can display one please collect from the foyer after mass.

Fete Raffle:

We need your support

Tickets \$2 - 13 prizes

On sale after mass, pick up a book to be in it to win it.

Wristbands:

Pre-purchase your ride & activity wristband to get a discount.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DLHEX>



Stall Captains Meeting:

Next meeting 29/10, 7pm @ the school



Need information call

Toni Coates 0409 855 889
Bill Leane 0411 289 319
Jenny Maxwell 0403 832 731



ON SALE

TO DRAW 3PM ON

SAT 14TH NOVEMBER





**PRICE BEAT
GUARANTEE**

FIND A COMPETITOR'S LOWER PRICE (INCLUDING GST
AND CHARGES) ON THE SAME HOLIDAY PACKAGE.
WE'LL BEAT IT BY 5%.

Saturday 14th November
at St Simon's School



TRAVEL EXPO

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10am - 3pm (Every 30min)

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0407 522 134

*Sign up sheet in
Church Foyer*

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- Contact Ash: 0413 913 619**

PARISHIONER CORNER

A Place to Belong, a Faith to Share



My family and I have been part of St Simon's Parish for more than ten years. It is where my daughter attended primary school, received her sacraments and grew in faith, surrounded by a caring community. Over the years, the parish has become our second home.

Like many working parents, balancing a full-time career and family life leaves little spare time. Yet I have discovered that being part of parish life does not require a large commitment. Sometimes, it simply means sharing our gifts and skills when we can.

I first became involved by offering my marketing and design skills to support the Parish Fete. Seeing the logo I created still being used gives me a quiet sense of pride and connection. It reminds me that even a small contribution can become part of our parish's story.

Having lived overseas for much of my life, I have always found belonging through church communities. A parish is much more than a place we attend on Sundays; it is a community where faith grows through relationships, generosity and care for one another.

One of my greatest joys is seeing my daughter take her own place in this community as a reader at our Sunday Youth Mass. Watching her participate is a beautiful reminder that faith and generosity are values we pass on through our example.

For me, contributing to parish life is an expression of gratitude for all that our community has given my family. It brings a deeper sense of connection and belonging.

My message to fellow parishioners is simple: you do not need lots of spare time to make a difference. Whether you share a professional skill, help at an event or participate in a ministry, there is a place for your gifts.

Perhaps this is what discipleship looks like in everyday life — recognising the gifts God has given us and finding simple ways to share them. Together, we become part of something bigger than ourselves. - *Flavia*

Are you new to St Simon's?

Welcome to our parish!

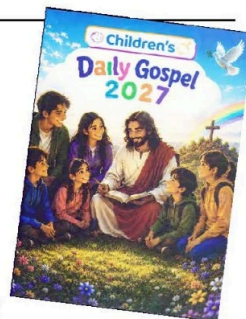
If you're new or recently joined us, please add your details to the **New Parishioner Book** at the welcome desk so we can stay connected.

You are very welcome here
and in our prayers.

Children's Daily Gospel 2027 – OUT NOW

This beautiful little book offers short daily reflections to help children grow in faith and love for God's Word throughout the year.

Please visit the Welcome Desk to get your copy



\$15

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

MON 26 OCT	TUE 27 OCT	WED 28 OCT	THUR 29 OCT	FRI 30 OCT	SAT 31 OCT	SUN 1 NOV
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am (Fr Jerald) Feast Day Mass	9.15am Communion Service	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	2.00pm (Cinema) Movie— <i>Soul on Fire</i>	9.00am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)
6.30pm (at St Jude's) St Jude Novena	10.30am Funeral Mass for Estelle Thompson	11.30am (PC) VIV's ReCare	10.00am (Stonez Restaurant) Women's Group	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	11.00am Mass (Bishop Tomlinson)
7.30pm (Online) Gospel Reflection	1.30pm (PC) Craft Group	5.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	7.00pm (PC) Sycamore	8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice	6.00pm Mass (Fr Steve)	12.30pm—4.30pm Chaldean Community
7.30pm (PC) Combined Christmas Carols Meeting	6.30pm (at St Jude's) St Jude Novena	7.00pm (PC) Men's Group	7.00pm (St Simon's School) Fete Meeting			5.00pm (Church) Charismatic Youth Mass
	7.30pm (PC) RCIA	7.00pm (at St Jude's) Combined Parishes Feast Day Mass				6.00pm (PC) St Simon's Warriors

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 24/25 October 2026

First Reading: *Exodus 22:20-26*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm 17

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants

of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: *Matthew 22:34-40*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'



SPECIAL MEMORIAL MASS

Remembering Our Loved Ones

Tuesday, 10 November | 7.00pm

Join us for a special Memorial Mass to honour and remember loved ones who have passed away between November 2025 and October 2026.

Together, we gather in prayer, support one another in grief and give thanks for the lives of those who remain forever in our hearts.

Light refreshments will be served in the foyer after Mass.

Please bring a plate to share.

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE To have your loved one remembered during the Mass, please write their name on the slip provided and place it in the collection box in the foyer.

Thank You

WYD27 Food Stall Fundraiser

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our WYD27 Food Stall Fundraiser. Thanks to the generosity of our parish community, we raised **\$970** towards supporting our young pilgrims on their journey to World Youth Day 2027.

Our sincere appreciation goes to our generous cooks, **Francis Dragwidge, Bernie Fernando, Maria Martino and Rita Cristiano**, for preparing the delicious food, and to **Seymon Martino** for organising the fundraiser.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, purchased food and helped make this initiative a success. Your generosity helps nurture the faith of our young people as they prepare for this exciting journey.

2026 COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE (CCPR)

Please return your ticket butts with payment, to the Parish Office or at the Help Desk. Ticket butts returned after 8 November will NOT go in to the draw.

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER

ALL SAINTS DAY — 31 OCT / 1 NOVEMBER 2026 | Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

		MASS TIMES			
		31 OCT, SATURDAY 6.00PM		1 NOV, SUNDAY 9.00AM	
		1 NOV, SUNDAY 11.00AM		1 NOV, SUNDAY 5.00PM	
Commentator		Tineke Edwards		Margaret Ng	
Reader 1		Clement Lobo		Neela Tatnell	
Reader 2		Saniru Perera		Paige Law	
Welcome Desk		Yvonne Muspratt		Victoria Kong	
Children's Liturgy				Janine F, Yasinta N	
Flowers		Nilmini Fernando		Altar Society	
		Sheila Kelaart & Bernie Fernando		Church Cleaning	
				Sharon Melder, Danusha Ladd & Asela Angammana	
				Thabesan Family	