

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
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

Cyrrilla D'Souza (Tue - Fri)
cyrrilla.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/srowville



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 7/8 FEBRUARY 2026 | YEAR A



Matthew 5:13-16

**Salt of the earth,
light of the world.**

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers his disciples two simple yet powerful images: salt and light. Neither is extravagant. Both are ordinary, familiar elements of daily life. And yet, without them, life is diminished. Food loses its flavour. Darkness becomes disorienting. Through these images, Jesus reminds us that discipleship is not about drawing attention to ourselves, but about quietly transforming the world around us.

Salt does its work by dissolving. It blends in, yet changes everything. In the same way, we are called to live our faith not through grand gestures, but through presence — through kindness, patience, integrity, and care in the ordinary places of our lives. Our good works do not flow from appearances, but from who we are becoming in Christ. God's grace, alive within us, becomes grace offered to others.

Light, too, does not exist for itself. A lamp is meant to shine, not to be hidden. When we live with compassion and courage, when we choose mercy over indifference, our lives become a quiet witness that points beyond us to God. Often, we are light for others without even realising it — a word of encouragement, a listening ear, a faithful act repeated day after day.

Jesus does not ask us to be extraordinary, only faithful. God delights in working through ordinary people and everyday moments. As salt and light, we are invited to live the ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way, so that, through us, others may glimpse the loving presence of God.

**With Blessings,
Fr Jerald Mariadas**



**At the 11am Mass, 8 February we welcome
our new St Simon's School Families**

Please join us for a sausage sizzle after Mass.

Beginning of School Year Mass is on Friday, 13 February 2026, 9.15am

*All parishioners are warmly invited to join us
as we welcome and support our growing school community.*



Now open for 2026



Our parish is blessed to journey with families as children prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Each of these Sacraments is an encounter with God's grace, deepening their faith and drawing them closer to Jesus Christ and His Church.

**To register your child or to obtain further
information, please email or contact the
Parish Office.**

We look forward to accompanying our young parishioners and their families.



**SACRAMENTAL
REGISTRATIONS**



PLEASE BRING IN YOUR
OLD LENTEN PALMS AND
PLACE THEM IN THE BOX
IN THE CHURCH FOYER
BY 8 FEBRUARY

Touch of Heaven

ALAN AMES
MINISTRY

A unique faith filled
experience of the
healing power of
our Lord



He's visited 40 countries and will speak of his
dramatic conversion from alcoholism and
violence to a prayerful and sacramental life.

10 Feb St Gregory the Great,
DONCASTER

11 Feb St Simon the Apostle, ROWVILLE

12 Feb St Martin de Porres, LAVERTON

6:30pm Rosary, 7:00pm Mass
followed by Alan Ames talk

Enquiries, please contact: Bernadette
O'Hanlon | 0407 007 708 or Divine Mercy
Publications 03 9830 4386



WE PRAY FOR

For those who have died recently **Patria Reynolds** and those whose memories are
sacred to us at this time especially Rogelio
Noveloso, Anthony Joel Selvanayagam,
Thresimma Mathew, Angelo Zaia, Andrea
Paratore, Rosa Bartolotta, Maria Loro, Jenny
Lim

For the Sick: Bill Leane, Jenny Liston, Perry
Law, Sam Russo, Jay Russel, Anita Crowley,
Lisette & Noah Vissenjou, Bernadette and
Murray Ukena, Lisette Visenjoux, Noelle
Parsons, Jonathan Salerno, Barbara Kirsch,
Mark Bramich, Charles, Daniel, Denzil Britto,
Trevor Cross, Sonani Cramer, Dawn Fernando.



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

RIDES • FOOD • MUSIC

TRASH & TREASURE • FUN FOR ALL AGES

WE NEED YOU!

JOIN THE FETE COMMITTEE AND BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL.

Please contact us and volunteer as soon as possible

We Need Volunteers

CONTACT

BILL LEANE 0411 289319 **JENNY MAXWELL** +61 403 832 731

Looking for a way to make a real difference?

Our parish is inviting new
volunteers to join our ministry
teams — especially the youthful
hearts who want to be more
intentional in their faith and
connected in community.

We're currently seeking
volunteers for:

Volunteer

- ☐ Gardening Group
- ☐ Music Ministry
- ☐ Eucharistic Ministers
- ☐ Cleaning of the church
- ☐ Hospitality & Welcomers

Serving in ministry is a way to:

- **Grow in faith**
- **Build meaningful community**
- **Share your gifts**
- Help our parish be a
welcoming home for all

Whether you can offer an hour
a month or more, **your
presence matters.** *Interested?*



Serve | Belong | Grow in faith

**Add your name to the list at
the Welcome Desk, or call the
Parish Office on 9764 4058
or email:**
cyrilla.dsouza@cam.org.au.

*You don't need experience —
just an open heart and a
willingness to serve.*

PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM 2026



Sessions will be held at the following times, in the Parish Meeting Room/Chapel, and you are welcome to attend whichever session best suits your schedule:

Monday 16 February: 7.00 – 8.30pm

Tuesday 17 February: 7.30 – 9.00pm

Thursday 19 February: 10.00 – 11.30am, 7.00 – 8.30pm

Friday 20 February: 10.00 – 11.30am

Please register via the sign-on sheets at the Welcome Desk.



A Farewell collection for Fr Libeesh

As we prepare to farewell Fr Libeesh, we invite parishioners to contribute to a small gift in gratitude for his service and dedication to our parish.

Thank you for your generosity.

Please write your message to Fr Libeesh in the Book provided at the Welcome Desk



PREPARATION CLASSES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

have begun for children in Grade 3 & above in non-Catholic schools.

Please scan the QR code to register or call the Parish office.

Farewell Masses for Fr Libeesh

14–15 Feb, St Simon's;
28 Feb–1 Mar, St Jude's.
We wish him blessings and assure him of our prayers.

After each Mass we will gather to farewell Fr Libeesh.
PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE



Listening for God in your life – a prayerful space to discern God's presence and invitations.

Are you seeking a deeper relationship with God, a prayerful space to reflect on your faith and life? Are you wondering where God is leading or inviting you?

If you would like a listening ear of a qualified spiritual director, I offer spiritual direction / accompaniment as a prayerful, confidential, and non-judgemental conversation, supporting you to notice God's presence and discern where the Holy Spirit may be inviting you.

If you would like to enquire, please contact Ewa (pronounced as 'ever' J) on 0425 776 083, or toomeyewa2000@gmail.com. Looking forward to hearing from you.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year, it is ST SIMON'S turn to host the **World Day of Prayer service** for the Christian churches of Rowville and Lysterfield.

The service will be held at ST SIMON'S on **Thursday, 5 March at 7.00pm**, and will be followed by supper in the Parish Centre.

If you are able to help with supper, or can lend pictures or artefacts from the focus country, **Nigeria**, please leave your name at the Welcome Desk or contact Jeanette on 0466 261 632.



Ladies Group Coffee Morning

Thursday

12 February 2026 10am
in the Stonez Restaurant, Stud Park

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.

Super Steve's Cleaning Team

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<https://fairygisellecleaning.com>



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- ♦ Fridges / Freezers
- ♦ Test / Tag Services

Contact Ash: 0413 913 619

First Reading: *Isaiah 58:7-10*

Thus says the Lord:
Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm 111

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

When I came to you, brothers, it was not

with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.



I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only

be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Why do you think this particular teaching by Jesus immediately follows the Beatitudes?

IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK						
MON 9 FEB	TUE 10 FEB	WED 11 FEB	THUR 12 FEB	FRI 13 FEB	SAT 14 FEB	SUN 15 FEB
OFFICE CLOSED	9.15am Mass (Fr Jerald)	9.15am Mass (Fr Libeesh)	9.15am Mass (Fr Libeesh)	9.15am Beginning of School Year Mass (Fr Jerald)	5.30pm (Church) Reconciliation	9.00am Farewell Mass (Fr Libeesh)
7.00pm (Church) Chaldean Community	1.30pm (Parish Centre PC) Craft Group	6.30pm (Church) Rosary, Mass, Alan Ames Talk	10.00am Ladies Group Coffee Morning	10.30am (PC) Chaldean Community	6.00pm Farewell Mass (Fr Libeesh)	11.00am Farewell Mass (Fr Libeesh)
7.00pm (PC) SDVP Meeting	3.30pm (PC) Sacramental Prog		5.00pm (Church) SSS Choir Practice	6.00pm (Church) Eucharistic Adoration		12.30pm (Church) Chaldean Catechism
	7.30pm (Church) RCIA			7.15pm (PC) Bingo	PLEASE NOTE: THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY	2.00—4.30 Chaldean Community
				8.00pm (Church) 11am Choir Practice		5.00pm Youth Mass Fr Steve
						6.00pm (PC) Warriors

NEXT WEEKEND		Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time — 14/15 FEB 2026 — Sirach 15:15-20, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Matthew 5:17-37			
MASS TIMES	14 FEB, SATURDAY 6.00PM	15 FEB, SUNDAY 9.00AM	15 FEB, SUNDAY 11.00AM	15 FEB, SUNDAY 5.00PM	
Commentator	Stephen White	Margaret Ng	Estela Banac	Damon	
Reader 1	De Mel Family	Enakshi Jayamanne	Jacqui Giuliano	Saniru	
Reader 2	De Mel Family	Doroty Stack	Junius De Silva	Shanisse	
Welcome Desk	Bernie Fernando	Julie Ashman	Josie Fanti		
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	Ildi Citler & Therese West		
Flowers	Melanie Jacobs	Altar Society	Sheila Kelaart & Bernie Fernando	Church Cleaning	Jeanette Wallis, Vicki Bowers, Phil Mawdsley
					Giselle Garcia