



St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylors Lane, Rowville 3178



Office Hours: Tue - Fri | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm | ☎ (03) 9764 4058

📧 office@stsimonsparish.com.au | 🌐 www.stsimonsparish.com.au

14th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time — 9th July 2023

Parish Personnel

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Jerald Mariadas

(from the 19th July 2023)

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Rev Samuel Pearson

Samuel.Pearson@cam.org.au

BUSINESS & OFFICE MANAGER

Mr Peter Evans (Tue, Thu & Fri)

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Loretta Hughes (Volunteer - Wed)

BAPTISMS—1st & 3rd SUNDAY of the month

For application form refer to our website or call Parish office on 9764 4058.

Email: baptism@stsimonsparish.com.au (monitored only on a Wednesday)

CHILD SAFEGUARDING

Ms Delisa Gonsalves (by appointment)

PARISH COORDINATOR

Mrs Felicia Ahumada (Tue - Fri)

ST. SIMON'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mr Tom Wursthorn - 9755 4222

NAZARETH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Mr Sam Cosentino - 9795 8100

AFTER SCHOOL RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

Hedy Carvalho: 9755 4222

STANDARD CHURCH MASS TIMES

Sun: 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri: 9:15 am
Sat: 6:00 pm (Full details—on page 4)

STANDARD ONLINE MASS TIMES

Sun, live from Sat: 6:00 pm
Tue: 9:15 am (Full details—on page 4)

STANDARD RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 5:30 pm - 5:55 pm
(before the 6:00 pm Mass)

WEDDINGS & MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Contact Parish Office

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By private arrangement

Contact St Jude's on 9763 7302

PARISH CENTRE FACILITIES HIRE

Please Contact Parish Office

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE

1800 305 330

MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE

Andrea O'Loughlin

Available for Funerals & Weddings
Mobile: 0404 051 401

COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO LABOUR AND ARE OVERBURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.

One of the issues faced by the first Christians was how to speak about Jesus and his relationship with God. Within a decade the disciples were giving Jesus divine status and yet holding true to their Jewish creed, 'Hear O Israel the Lord our God is **one**.' They looked to the Old Testament to find precedents for the paradox they experienced—the oneness of God and the divine status of Jesus. Matthew's Gospel draws on the image of Divine Wisdom—present with God from the beginning, coming forth from God and coming into the world. For his Jewish community, Matthew presents Jesus as Divine Wisdom who invites all to come and 'team up with' (be yoked to) him.

Listen to Wisdom describe herself in the Old Testament book of Sirach:

Come to me, you who are untaught, and lodge in my school. Put your neck under the yoke, and let your souls receive instruction; it is to be found close by. See with your eyes that I have laboured little and found myself much rest (Sir 51:23, 26-27)

The wisdom Jesus offers contradicts the wisdom of the world which is why the learned and clever cannot accept it but those with childlike simplicity of heart can. Jesus has a vision of what is essential that cuts through the many false complexities life suggests as ways to find meaning—busyness, wealth, power, having more of everything. The soul finds no rest in such things. In words of St Augustine,

You have made us for yourself O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee.

Sundays under the Southern Cross
—Mary Coloe PBVM

UPDATE ON THE PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM—THANKSGIVING

Thanks again to those who responded offering generously of their finances. A few follow-up items remain from this program:

- 1) If you are in the Thanksgiving program and have not collected your box of envelopes (weekly givers) or envelope in a letter (if you give by envelopes less frequently than weekly, by direct debit or by credit card), then please collect your box / letter from the right table in the foyer. We still have a lot of letters to be collected.**
 - a. Please note that the amount reported as your pledge in the letter is only for Thanksgiving to the church (current second collection). If you did pledge to the Presbytery collection for priests (current first collection), we have recorded it in our systems.
 - b. If there is no letter for you (and it hasn't been collected by someone else) and you wish to join thanksgiving in our Parish, please leave your name on the sheet next to the envelopes.
- 2) If your giving is by envelope, please use the new envelopes from now on and not the old envelopes.** Some envelope numbers have changed, and it helps our admin team greatly if you use the new set.
- 3) We are trialling a change (until end of July) to move from two collection plates each weekend Mass to a single collection plate.** This will be passed around after the Prayers of the Faithful, before the Eucharistic Prayer, which is when we have been taking up the second collection. If giving by envelope, please put it in this collection. If you are giving cash not in an envelope, then please put it on the collection plate. It will be split between Presbytery (for priests) and Thanksgiving (for church / parish) on a pre-defined 2/3 to Presbytery and 1/3 to Thanksgiving basis. This matches what we do now for giving by credit card on the Donation Tap Point devices in the church foyer. We will review this new approach with Fr. Jerald, our new Parish Priest, after he joins us in mid-July.

FETE STALL CAPTAIN MEETING—18th July 2023 @ 7:00 pm (Parish Centre)

This is major fundraising event for our Parish and School community. Anyone interested in helping at this year's fete, please attend this meeting. All welcome.

TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL UPDATE

In his comments at the Masses of 10/11 June 2023 after the Parish blessing on him, Fr. Mark mentioned recent consultation sessions about the Archdiocese's *Take the Way of the Gospel* initiative. (For more information on the overall initiative, please have a look at <https://melbournecatholic.org/about/take-the-way-of-the-gospel>).

There have been two of these consultation sessions with Parishes across Melbourne so far in 2023, with those for the Eastern Region (to which St Simon's belongs) being on: 3 May – Leading for Mission.

8 June – Collaborating for Mission.

The summary across the four sessions (one for each region) of the *Leading for Mission* round is available [here](#), with printed copies of this summary being available in the Church foyer. We encourage you to read it online or take a printed copy home and read it, then reflect upon it and what it might mean for our Parish.

The summary of the second session will be published to the Parish when it is available.

The final consultation session for the Eastern Region is on 29 August, with a focus on *Formation for Mission*. The summary from that session will also be made available when it is finalised.

If you have any questions or comments on these sessions or the overall initiative, please send them to Peter Evans (Parish Business Manager) at: peter@stsimonsparish.com.au and he will do his best to answer them or point you to the right resource.

We will be exploring with our new Parish Priest, Fr. Jerald, how best to engage the Parish in discussions about the Archdiocesan initiative after he starts with us on Wednesday, 19 July.

JOINING A MINISTRY

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED US OR COMPLETED A MINISTRY FORM. We hope to get back to you as soon as we can.

Ministries within the parish can be very rewarding and just a little of your time can lighten the load and share your talents! If you are interested in joining any of our teams, please contact the Parish office on 9764 4058.

Baptism Preparation

Our Baptism Preparation Team performs a vital role in our Parish: preparing parents for the sacrament of Baptism for their child and their responsibilities as Christian parents beyond that. We are looking for individuals or couples who will join this important ministry.

Church Cleaning, Altar Society, and Commentating

We are needing to fill some of our existing ministry teams. These ministries are based on a roster system. If you can spare some time and are interested in finding our more, please call the parish office on 9764 4058 or email on: office@stsimonsparish.com.au—Training will be provided.

Garden Group

This Group meets mostly on a Thursday with a cuppa break mid-morning and occasionally on a Saturday morning. Odd jobs can be done at any time. The Group maintains the Church/ Parish garden throughout the year. If you enjoy gardening, good company and you are interested in joining this group, email the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

THIS SATURDAY, 8 July (6:00 pm Mass)

NEXT SUNDAY, 16 July (11:00 am Mass)

Please note, any child not of school age should be accompanied. The children will return from their session by the 2nd collection for the offertory procession.

STUDENTS PREPARING FOR FIRST SACRAMENTS

Loving God, may these children grow closer to you, and come to know your special love for them. May this time of preparation be a time of blessing and unite us all in your great love. Amen.

FACE COVERING REMAINS OPTIONAL AT ST SIMON'S

Parishioners are encouraged to be sensitive to the well-being of others when in close proximity. To support this, face coverings (masks) are strongly recommended to be worn indoors, especially at 9:00 am Mass.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

THIS MONDAY, 10 July @ 7:30 pm via Zoom
Contact Loretta at: loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

CRAFT GROUP

THIS TUESDAY, 11 July @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
(Parish Centre)

Do come along and learn or show us a new craft!
All we require is your time. Materials will be supplied.

RE CARE

THIS WEDNESDAY, 12 July 2023
from **11:30 pm - 2:30 pm** (Parish Centre)



NEEDING permanent Kitchen help volunteers (on a roster basis) If this is something that interests you please contact Brian Crowley on 0429 090 770.

MORNING ROSARY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

10:00 am on Wednesdays after morning 9:15 am Communion Service.

EVENING ROSARY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 7:30pm.
Contact Ricardo at: ricardo_drozario@hotmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION—FRIDAY'S 6PM AT ST SIMON'S

Pope Francis has encouraged all Catholics to spend some time in quiet, contemplative prayer with the Eucharist.

He said: *"The Eucharist is here to remind us who God is. It does not do so just in words, but in a concrete way, showing us God as bread broken, as love crucified and bestowed..."*

We do well to spend time in adoration before the Eucharist in order to contemplate... Let's make time for adoration."

All are welcome to join fellow parishioners for quiet prayer, contemplation and meditation with the Blessed Sacrament.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

ON THURSDAY

20 July @ 10:00 am

(Parish Centre)

Theme:

CHRISTMAS IN JULY!



MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

PLEASE NOTE **DAY CHANGE FOR NEXT EVENT.**

THURSDAY, 3 August @ 7:00 pm (Parish Centre)

GOD AND BEER JULY: DEACON HAROLD FROM THE USA

Meeting Jesus in the Truth and Beauty of the Catholic Faith
Speaker: Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers

Date: MONDAY, 17 July **Time:** 6:30 pm dinner available for purchase, **7:30 pm** for the talk.

Venue: Notting Hill Hotel (Steakhouse Room), 260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill, VIC

RSVP: Godandbeer.com.au **Contact:** jtsmyth@gmail.com

COMING FAITH DEVELOPMENT EVENTS AT ST SIMON'S

Super Soul

THIS SATURDAY MORNING: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Date: 15 July Venue: St Simon's Church, Rowville.
Speaker: Rev Dr. Elio Capra SDB. BTh, MTh, MTh, DTh.

Reverend Dr Elio Capra SDB is a lecturer at CTC and is a member of the Department of Systematic Theology.

Theme: JESUS' REVOLUTION OF LOVE THROUGH ART

The Well

THURSDAY, **3 August @ 10:00 am** (Parish Centre).

Group Spiritual Direction to help us journey through life. A time to contemplate, share and grow spiritually and personally. Email: loretta@stsimonsparish.com.au

POT LUCK DINNER—Sign up Sheet in Church Foyer.

3rd Friday of every month at St Simon's Parish from 7pm. NEXT MEETING on the 21 July.

Bring your favourite dish and enjoy a relaxed evening with great food and company!

YOUTH GROUP FOR ST SIMON'S & ST JUDE'S!!

SUNDAY, **30 July** (Parish Centre)

Who: Year 5-10 Students **Time:** 5:30-7:00 pm
Theme: Movie Night! **Dinner provided:** \$5 Donation.

Contact: youthteam@stsimonsparish.com.au



DARE TO PAUSE

The Salesian Sisters invite you to **a day for the young and the young at heart, 16 years and over.**

Take time out of your busy lives for some "Me & God" time. In a beautiful and serene environment, through Prayer, reflection, adoration, music, food, and good company and an opportunity to **Discover the "Pearl of Great Price" within you.**



When: SATURDAY, **5 August 2023.**

Where: At the Sisters Convent Hall (43 George Street Scoresby)

Time: 10:00 am—3:30 pm **RSVP:** 31st July

Cost: Gold Coin Donation-Light Lunch provided.

Scan the QR code to register via Google Form.



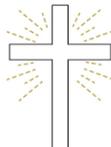
VINNES WINTER APPEAL

For supporting the people in need through difficult times. Your donations have been greatly welcomed. Please contact the Parish Office on 9764 4058. Donation Tub in church foyer.

Your local Vinnies Conference - Rowville

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Death: Peter Blake



Prayer of the sick:

Damien Tavella, Fran Steffanoni, Jenny Liston, Rupert Ferdinands, Loredana Pellegrini, Yvonne White, Gillian Ellis and Christine Fernando.

We lift up our prayers to you Lord.

FINANCE

Month of JUNE 2023

Presbytery	\$ 7,335.53
Loose donations	\$ 3,035.94
Envelopes	\$ 5,186.00
Credit Cards/Direct Debit	\$ 14,038.50

SAFEGUARDING

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne requires that ALL Volunteers at St Simon's, Rowville **MUST HAVE** a CURRENT

Working with Children Check Card

registered with St Simon the Apostle, Rowville.

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.

PARISH FETE



11 Nov 23

We are looking for **CAPTAINS** for **DUTCH PANCAKES, DEVOSHIRE TEA & COFFEE STALLS.**

Coffee stall needs someone who has experience as a barista (manual coffee machine).

Register online via our website or email our fete committee via: fete@stsimonsparish.com.au

GARDENATOR

LAWN AND GARDEN MAINTENANCE SERVICES

- Ride-On Mowing
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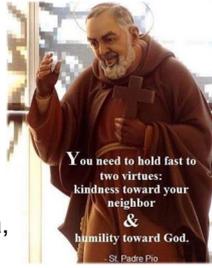
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FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this:

Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.



and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Next week's Readings: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 44(145):1-2,8-11,13b-14

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING Romans 8:9,11-13

Your interests 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, 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.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,

FAITH INSPIRATIONS

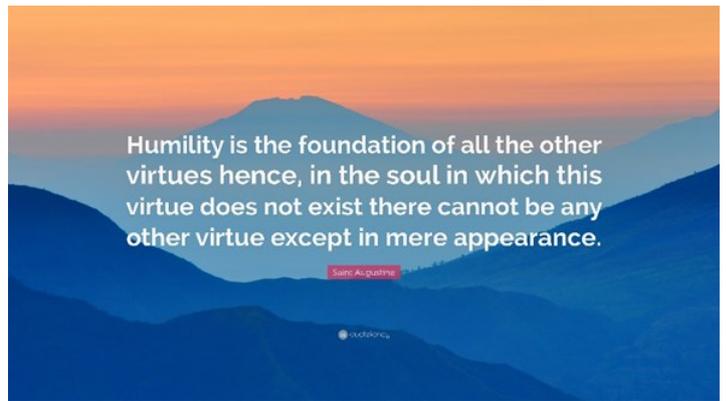
In today's readings we are invited to reflect on the virtue of humility and our need for God.

Jesus himself displays this virtue as a servant King. Humility is not a sign of weakness, timidity, or fear; it is an indication that we know where our true strength lies. We learn from St Therese of Lisieux that humility is the virtue which keeps us honest about ourselves of who we are, and who God is. The word humility comes from the Latin word humus, which means earth or ground.

Jesus uses the example of a child to teach us not to be self-reliant but acknowledge our need for God. Are we willing to accept our limitations, humble ourselves and find peace of mind and heart as we rely on God's goodness.

"God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6)

Provided by **St Simon's Faith Development Team**



PARISH DIARY

Mon — 10 July	Tue — 11 July	Wed — 12 July	Thu — 13 July	Fri — 14 July	Sat — 15 July	Sun — 16 July
Gospel Reflection 7.30 pm (Via Zoom)	9:15 AM Mass <u>Livestream</u> Craft Group 1.30 pm (Parish Centre) Parent Info Night Confirmation 6.00 pm (Church)	9:15 AM Communion Service Rosary Prayers 10:00 am (In Church) We Care for You 11:30 am (Parish Centre) SVDP Meeting 7.00 pm (Parish Centre)	9:15 AM Communion Service Women's Group 10:00 am (Parish Centre)	9:15 AM Mass Euch. Adoration 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm (Church)	Super Soul 10:00 am (Parish Centre) With Dr. Elio Capra 6:00 PM Mass <u>Livestream</u>	9:00 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass With St Joseph's College + Children's Liturgy

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: 15 & 16 July

MASS TIMES:	SATURDAY, 6:00 PM	SUNDAY, 9:00 AM	SUNDAY, 11:00 AM
Commentators	Marcello Martino	Pam Comerford	Abbie Ferdinands
Reader 1	Terry O'Donnell	Neela Tatnell	Christina Liew
Reader 2	Graham Edwards	Peter Kean	Terry Redden
Help Desk	Felicia Ahumada	Zita Ragg	Val D'Souza
Children's Liturgy	N/A	N/A	Ildi C/ Therese W
FLOWERS: Melanie Jacobs	ALTAR SOCIETY: Lidwin & Samuel Hudson		
CHURCH CLEANING: Marius Francis, Antony Singarasa			