

IN THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL WE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Rebecca Arden, Luke Jackowski, Dianne Hutchinson and those of our community.

Recently Deceased:

Repose of the Souls: Those whose anniversary occur about this time and those whose names are on the memorial wall.

Church
Cleaning

Saturday 29th August — Indian/Sri Lanka Community

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people.

St Dominic's Community holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children as a fundamental responsibility of the church. This commitment is drawn from, and inherent to, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and dignity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. A cultural of safety within the Church ensures that children can actively and fully participate in the life of the Church and realise their potential in a faith community. **We are committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.**

For those families with children, they are very welcome, and if your children become unrest during the celebration of the Holy Eucharistic, please use the Children Room on the side of the church, you can still listen to the homily from there.

Safeguarding Officer: Laura Garland
Saturday 29th August at 6.00pm Mass

Next Saturday Laura is visiting us from the Archdiocese of Melbourne to explain us the importance that is for all volunteers to register with the Department of Government Service and get the Working With Check Card and to those who are holding Church Keys to have the Police Check. It is our responsibility to provide a safe environment to young people and vulnerable adults.

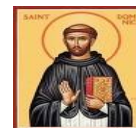
**PLEASE DO NOT BRING UNWANTED ITEMS INTO THE CHURCH
AND DO NOT PLACE ANY DECORATION OR ITEMS IN THE GROTTOS.**

**THANKSGIVING
OFFERING ONLINE TO:
ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH
BSB: 083 347
ACCOUNT NUMBER:
67441 1404**

PLEASE TYPE YOUR THANKSGIVING
ENVELOPE NUMBER WHEN YOU DO
THE TRANSACTION.

The Parish has the facility of
**EFTPOS DEBIT, VISA CARD
and MASTER CARD.** This is a
good option for those who do
not carry cash and would like
to contribute to the church.
**The set up is of: \$5.00;
\$10.00; \$20.00 and \$50.00**

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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PARISH PRIEST: Fr Octavian Masao, CSSp; Email: Octavian.Masao@cam.org.au

ASSISTING PRIEST: Fr Rogasian Msami CSSp; Email: Rogasian.Msami@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARY: Ana Miriam Guardado

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 8.00am-2.00pm

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL—PRINCIPAL: Katie Broadbent, Phone: 03 9309 4146

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sundays: 6.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday evening)
9.00am 1st & 3rd Sundays: Vietnamese Mass
9.00am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays: English Mass
11.00am: English Mass
1.00pm: Spanish Mass

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am Mass
Morning Prayer of the Church: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.25am

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday before Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Benediction: Every Friday following the 9.00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tuesday to Saturday before or after Mass.

Baptism Information/Preparation: Every First Sunday of the month at 3.00pm.

Anointing of the Sick: Every Third Wednesday of the Month at 9.00am Mass.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

23rd August 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 22: 19 – 23

I place the key of the house of David upon his shoulder.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137: 1 – 3. 6.8

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of
your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 11: 33 – 36

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13 -20

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS: Jeremiah 20: 7 – 9; Romans 12: 1 -2; Matthew 16: 21 – 27

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BCE Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Philippi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. By people identifying Jesus with other great prophets they were projecting Jesus into the same mould as that prophet. What they were saying was that Jesus will be a great leader in the style of John the Baptist, or Elijah or even Jeremiah. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah.

When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name (in Greek, petros = Peter and Petra = rock), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.

Have you thought? What's in a name?

On many occasions in the Bible a character is given, or takes on, a new name when they take on a new role or move to a new level in their faith and relationship with God. Abram became Abraham; Sarai became Sarah; Jacob became Israel; and Saul became Paul. In all of these circumstances the person took on a new name to reflect their new relationship with God. This tradition has continued right to this day. Men and women entering religious life have traditionally taken on a new name to indicate the new life they are entering. When a new Pope is chosen, he takes on a new name to indicate the new role and the new life he is beginning.

Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

Gospel Focus

Jesus' words to Peter, 'on this rock I will build my church', are obviously the gospel writers' words and not the words of Jesus himself. (Jesus did not set out to build a church community; that did not emerge until later.) In fact they appear only in this particular gospel. The other synoptic gospels have Peter's confession of faith but not these words attributed to Jesus. The words are sometimes understood as asserting that Peter himself is the rock on whom the church will be built, rather than his declaration of faith being the rock. This has then sometimes become confused with the line of popes beginning with Peter.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Keys are a symbol of trust and authority, along with responsibility.

When have you been given keys? Do you have a key to your family's house? your family's car? your place of work? a room at school? What responsibility comes with being entrusted with a key? Have you ever locked your keys in a car? Have you ever locked yourself out of the house? If so, how did it happen? How did you feel? What did you do?

A rock is a symbol of solidness and strength. Rocks are hard to break, but they can break other things easily.

Why is a rock a good symbol for faith? How would you describe your own faith? Is it as strong as a rock? Or is it more like a soft, weak substance, such as mashed potatoes, shaving cream, or a dried-out, crumbling leaf? Peter isn't perfect. Remember, before Jesus is crucified, Peter denies him three times, just as Jesus predicted he would. Yet Jesus trusts him to be the leader of his disciples.

Why would Jesus trust Peter to be the leader of his disciples?

If being perfect is not a condition for having faith, what are the qualities that mark a strong faith?

St Dominic's Youth Group!

Meeting every Thursday at 7.00pm.

Please come and join us to share and learn the word of God.



SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Listen • Reflect • Act

Event Details
3-4 September 2026

- Online
10 – 4:30 pm (AEST)
- Registration:
\$20 per person / \$100 per parish

www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026

Caritas Australia and Catholic Religious Australia warmly invite you to participate in the Catholic Earthcare **Season of Creation Gathering 2026: Listen, Reflect, Act**, a national online event on **3-4 September 2026**. - The Gathering offers inspiring keynote presentations and practical workshops to help participants deepen their faith and respond to the call to care for our common home. Parishioners can register individually for **\$20**. Learn more and register: www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

Raffle 2026

TICKETS \$2 EACH

PRIZES:

1 ST	1st Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card to the value of	\$12,000
2 ND	2nd Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card to the value of	\$4,000
3 RD	3rd Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card to the value of	\$2,000
4 TH	4th Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card to the value of	\$1,000
5 TH	5th Prize: Coles/Myer Gift Card to the value of	\$500

COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE 2026

Please support our Fundraising by buying tickets and taking books to sell with your family and friends.

Tickets are on sale at the piety stall after each mass.

All funds towards the maintenance of the church.