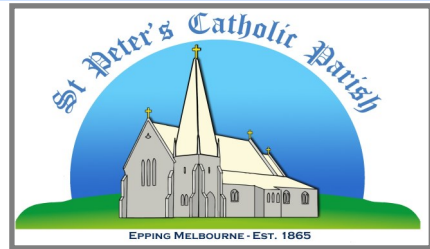


**26th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A
27th Sept 2026**

The Parish of St. Peter's, Epping, Epping North and Wollert as a community of faith inspired by Love for God welcomes everyone who joins us as we worship together the same Lord in the same Tradition. Our vocation is to listen, share and live the Word of God actively.



Parish Priest: Fr Anh Nguyen
Assistant Priest Fr Isaac Zaki
Sacrament Co-Ordinator:
Sr Huyen Nguyen LHC
Sick & Homebound Co-Ordinator:
Sr Phuong Nguyen LHC

Parish Secretary: Michelle Hood
(Mon- 9-3pm, Tue-Wed 9.30am-3.30pm]

Office Admin: Christine Paterson
(Wed & Fri 10am-3pm)
Seminarian: Xavier Ryan

Parish Office and St Peter's Church:
13 Davison St, Epping
Ph: 9401 6300

Email: epping@cam.org.au
Web: <https://www.melbatholic.org/epping>
Facebook: StPetersCatholicParishEpping
ABN:- 70 309 275 608

WEEKEND MASSES

St Peter's Saturday 9.15am, 6.30pm,
Sunday 9am & 10.30am

St Mary of the Cross: Saturday 5.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Peter's

9.15am Tuesday - Friday

(Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

St Mary of the Cross

12 noon on Fridays during school terms only

Baptism

Baptism is celebrated on the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month at 12pm. A Baptism preparation class for parents of the child to be baptised is required.

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45-10.30am following the 9.15am Mass

Marriage

By appointment and three month notice required. Please contact the parish office.

Sacramental Programs for non-parish school children
9401 6300

Parish Schools / College

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
32 Wedge Street, Epping
Principal: Angela Tonkin Ph: 9401 1157

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop
47 Farmhouse Boulevard, Epping North
Principal: Claire Pitcher Ph: 8432 4500

Mary Glowrey Catholic Primary School
10 Baltrum Drive, Wollert
Principal: Tim Kelly Ph: 8579 6505

St Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School
58 Jardin Road, Wollert West. 3750
Acting Principal: Emma Sbizzirri

St Monica's College
400 Dalton Road, Epping
Principal: Brian Hanley Ph: 9409 8800

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE
Free Call 1800 305 330



**NEW TESTA-
MENT
COMMENTARY
by Mary Coloe
PBVM**

**'Which of the two
did the father's
will?'**

Today's Gospel comes towards the end of Jesus' ministry. He has just entered Jerusalem, been welcomed joyously by the Jewish crowds and driven out the traders in the Temple. (21:1-17) The chief priests and scribes challenge Jesus' authority to act as in this way: 'By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority?' (21:23) Jesus turns their question back onto them when he asks them about John's baptism. What was John's authority? The chief priests avoid an answer by claiming ignorance and then Jesus tells them the parable we read today of the two sons.

Jesus' question to his opponents places the focus on how people act, on what they *do* and not on what they say. 'Which of the two *did* the father's will?' Being a true religious person is a matter of what we do, and not what we say. Jesus criticised the religious leaders of his time for their behaviour. They did not undergo the repentance John called for, while the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Jesus reverses the standard for being a truly religious person. It is not a matter of status or position but deeds.

Jesus' deeds testify to his authority. He has not come to Jerusalem with a diploma, nor can he claim to have attended a rabbinic school. His only claim to be authorised by God is what he does.

Real authority, or we might say, integrity, is visible. It does not need the testimony of a diploma, or a public ritual conferring power; real authority comes from within.

Until there is integrity within, what right have we to offer moral guidance to others? The words we say must be matched by the integrity of our actions for justice within this wide community. I think this is the situation Jesus faced in today's Gospel when his behaviour was challenged by the religious leaders of his time. The brief parable of two sons invites us all to some deep soul searching to make sure that our actions match our words.

According to Matthew's view, the final judgment will not be asking about what we know, or the status we hold, but will raise the following questions:

Did you visit the sick? Did you clothe the naked? Did you feed the hungry? Did you welcome the stranger?

Our Christianity is judged on these very practical acts of concern for others. If our faith does not lead us to action then we find ourselves in the position of the second son, who sounds good but his words are hollow.

Pray for the Sick: Hirumali Dias, Marily Marquis

Offering Masses this week for:-

Death Anniversary:- Fanny De Angola, Paolo Selva, Reginald & Manel Dias,

Recent Death:- Zelma Harding

CHILD SAFETY STATEMENT

St Peter's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Children are to be supervised by a parent / guardian at all times in the church and when leaving the church for any reason.



Parish Baptisms

Joseph Theodore Panuccio
Mason James Millar
Jaxon Bloomer
Oscar Bloomer



Our Parish recognises the Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Willum Clan as the traditional owners of this place.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

27th September 2026

Entrance Antiphon

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows:
'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God

but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

Communion Antiphon

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.





St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

Invitation

Epping St. Vincent de Paul Conference members would like to invite volunteers, donors, parishioners and friends of the Society to the SVDP Preston Region Festival Mass which is to be held at St. Peter's Church on Saturday 3rd October at 11am. It will be followed by light refreshments in the Galilee Space (hall).

This event which celebrates our year in service includes the commissioning of Conference Presidents and members along with the presentation of long service badges and acknowledgement of Emeritus Vincentians.

Please join us for this joyous event.

RSVP by Saturday 26th September to assist with catering and planning.

epping.conf.pres@svdp-vic.org.au

Legion of Mary hosting Bible Study Online

The Mother of Divine Grace Praesidium invites you to join Bible Study sessions lead by resident seminarian Xavier Ryan.

Next three meeting dates at 8.30pm on Tuesdays 6th October, 20th October, 3rd November (Xavier is not available on the 22nd Sept)

Zoom link: <https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/83929824448pwd=TCtkNUFFSS9SK3o4U3ExZEYxZmxsQT09>

Also accessible via QR code



Rev. Rhys Lowther Deacon | Archdiocese of Melbourne - Invitation

Ordination Mass on Saturday 14 November 2026 at 10.00am at St Patrick's Cathedral (1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne VIC 3002).

First Mass on Sunday 15 November 2026 at 1.00pm at St Anthony's Catholic Church (90 Kees Road, Lara VIC 3212).

All parishioners are most welcome to attend

**1st October -First Thursday :-
Pray for Consecrated Vocations**



**2nd October -First Friday :-
Pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

**3rd October -First Saturday :-
Pray for Devotion to Mary**



THE MONTH OF OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

There are 2 baskets of Rosary Beads at the front of the church for anyone who would like to take one.

COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2027

We have received the 2027 Columban Calendars and they are available to purchase in the Parish Office.

Cost :- \$10 each calendar

WINDOWS IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Recently the window frames in the Parish Office were noticed to be rotting. Father Anh is getting quotes for the replacement of these frames and the windows also. Further information will be supplied when the decision is made to start this work

PARISH NEWSHEET

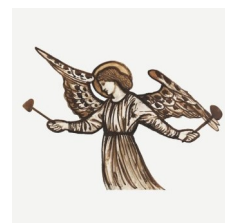
If you do not wish to take the Parish Newssheet home with you after mass, please replace it in the slots near the doors for others to use at the following mass.

READERS / LEADERS / SPECIAL MINISTERS

If you are unable to fulfill your volunteering role on your rostered date, please contact someone else from the roster to ask them to replace you that day or swap with you for that day.

The Angels

Angels are created spirits, without bodies, having understanding and free will. Angels are purely spiritual beings that do God's will. The angels are represented throughout the Bible as a body of spiritual beings intermediate between God and men. Angels appear in the Bible from the beginning to the end, from the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation.



It is as messengers that angels most often figure in the Bible, but their essential function is that of attendants upon God's throne in that court of heaven. The angels of the Bible generally appear in the role of God's messengers to mankind. They are His instruments by whom He communicates His will to men.

The Bible represents the angels not only as our guardians but also as actually interceding for us. Perhaps the earliest explicit declaration of it is to be found in St. Ambrose's words: "We should pray to the angels who are given to us as guardians" (De Viduis, ix).

Prayer to Your Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here
Ever this day be at my side
To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

DATE	Mass	LEADER	READER	Special Minister
26/9	5pm	Don Vandenberg	Leeni Joshua	Angela Vandenberg
	6.30pm	Volunteer please	Joan Bahen	Volunteer please
27/9	9am	Des Madden	Lesleigh Madden	Bernie Dias
	10.30am	Anne Toshack	Julie Cowell	Cathy Gatt
3/10	5pm	Leeni Joshua	Grace O'Brien	Melinda Pereyra-Henriques
	6.30pm	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	Charlie Aganetti
4/10	9am	Lesleigh Madden	David Howard	Des Madden
	10.30am	Cassie Martin	Cathy Gatt	Julie Cowell
10/10	5pm	Volunteer	Don Vandenberg	Volunteer
	6.30pm	Joan Bahen	Jaelene Jijo	Volunteer
11/10	9am	Kay Whelan	Dhihana Dias	Lesleigh Madden
	10.30am	Julie Cowell	Gabrielle Godinho	Andrew Dipierdomenico
17/10	5pm	Don Vandenberg	Volunteer	Angela Vandenberg
	6.30pm	Sheriz Moreno	Sherwin Moreno	Charlie Aganetti
18/10	9am	Cassie Martin	Chris Paterson	Dinesh Dias
	10.30am	Anne Toshack	Oswald Correya	Stella Galea
24/10	5pm	Leeni Joshua	Grace O'Brien	Melinda Pereyra-Henriques
	6.30pm	Sherwin Moreno	Sheriz Moreno	Volunteer
25/10	9am	Chris Paterson	Des Madden	David Howard
	10.30am	Cassie Martin	Jennifer Martin	Cathy Gatt

TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO ST PETER'S PARISH

1st Collection / Presbytery

Supports our priests and the retired priests of the Archdiocese.

Presbytery Acc:- BSB 083 347 Acc. No. 65892 7670

Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

2nd Collection / Church Supports our Parish

Church Acc:- BSB 083 347 Acc No. 65880 7871

Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH

St Peter's Parish Donation QR Code

To make a payment, simply scan our QR code with your mobile phone and follow a few easy steps.

Thank you for your support of our Parish



SCHOOL FAMILIES Reminder of 2026 contribution of \$520 Thank-you to those who have paid this contribution.

CHURCH CLEANING

26/9 Thi Nguyen

3/10 Volunteers please

10/10 Elizabeth Rozario, Shenelle Toshack

17/10 Russel Sequeria, Merli Inovejas

24/10 Raju Sankaranarayan, Deepak Bura

31/10 Dinesh Dias Family



Regular Events / Meetings in the Parish

Baptism Preparation-

Baptisms are on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish office and speak to Sister Huyen to arrange a Baptism

Catholic Women's League Next meeting 19th Oct @ 10am

Charismatic Prayer Group 6.45pm—9pm Fridays
6.45pm-7pm Rosary; 7pm—7.30pm Praise & Worship;
7.30pm-8.30pm **1st Friday of the Month—Mass**
2nd & 4th Fridays—Talks;
3rd Fridays—Adoration & Benediction;
8.30pm—9pm Fellowship & packing up.

Finance Committee - Next meeting -13th Oct @ 7pm

Legion of Mary - 5.30pm Wednesdays

Liturgy Group - Next meeting 27th Oct @ 7pm

Parish Based Sacramental Programs:-

All Sacraments have now been completed for 2026

Reach Out - Communion to the Sick and Homebound – Parishioners finding it difficult to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the Parish Office and speak to Sr Phuong

OCIA - 2026 –2027

Wednesday Evenings 7pm—8pm

Pt 1: Sept 2nd—Dec 9th. 2026

Pt 2: Jan 27th—Mar 17th 2027

SMCM Catechism—4.15pm-5pm Saturdays @ SMCM

St Vincent de Paul

First Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the Parish House

Third Tuesday of the month at 6pm via Teams

Youth Group 2nd Friday of the month

Liturgy Readings of Next Week

28/9 Monday: 26th Week of Ordinary Time
Readings: Job 1:6-22; Lk 9:46-50

29/9 Tuesday: **Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael,** archangels
Readings: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51;

30/9 Wednesday: **St Jerome**, priest, doctor
Readings: Job 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62;

1/10 Thursday: **St Therese of the Child Jesus**, virgin, doctor
Readings: Job 19:21-27; Lk 10:1-12;

2/10 Friday: **The Holy Guardian Angels**
Readings: Ex 23:20-23; Mt 18:1-5, 10;

3/10 Saturday: 26th Week of Ordinary Time
Readings: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10:17-24;

4/10 Sunday : 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43;