



Quando Gesù chiese ai suoi discepoli: “La gente chi dice che sia il Figlio dell’uomo?”, le loro risposte rispecchiarono le diverse teorie e speculazioni riguardo Gesù diffuse nella loro cultura.

Se la stessa domanda fosse posta da Gesù oggi, le risposte sembrerebbero forse più colte, ma sarebbero molto simili. Invece di evocare Elia, Giovanni Battista o Geremia, si evocherebbero forse le speculazioni dell’ultimo convegno sulla cristologia, oppure ancora i risultati di un recente sondaggio. Possiamo immaginare che Gesù ascolterebbe gentilmente, forse sorridendo. Poi però giunge la vera e propria domanda: “Voi chi dite che io sia?”. Non possiamo più rifugiarci dietro ad opinioni di altri, siano essi teologi o conduttori di dibattiti televisivi. Gesù vuole la nostra risposta personale. Dobbiamo prendere posizione personalmente nei suoi confronti.

È quello che succede con l’atto di fede. Gesù lancia una sfida a ogni uomo e a ogni donna direttamente e personalmente: “Tu, chi dici che io sia?”.

La nostra risposta possa essere quella di Pietro: “Tu sei il Cristo, il figlio del Dio vivente”. La nostra risposta possa essere quella della Chiesa, che fu fondata da Cristo su Pietro come su una pietra, affinché il “credo” diventasse un “crediamo”: Crediamo in Dio, Padre onnipotente..., in un solo Signore Gesù Cristo, unigenito Figlio di Dio..., per opera dello Spirito Santo... incarnato nel seno della Vergine Maria.

(LaChiesa)

At this point in the gospel, Jesus and his chosen ones have travelled and lived together for some time. He invites them to explore what they understand of his identity. Even in his question, there is an explicit hint of his identity: ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ The people offer a variety of opinions: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. But it is Peter who adds to the title ‘Son of Man’ by recognising Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. This same Peter, whose faith faltered when he was buffeted by the wind and waves, has now shown that he is open to God and recognises Jesus for who he is. But this is not the end of Peter’s story. There are ups and downs in his response, as there are in our own. As long as we remain open to the gift of faith, we are offered forgiveness when we fail to treasure what God has given to us.

(The Summit)

St. Matthew's Parish will be holding a dinner to celebrate the feast of St. Matthew on Friday, 18th of September in the parish hall. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults / \$15.00 for children.
A raffle will also be held - tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 per book. The raffle will be drawn at the dinner.
Entry tickets and raffle tickets are available for purchase before and after weekend masses., or, from the Parish Office.
The raffle prize list will be available on the noticeboard in the church foyer.

On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (*Evangelii Gaudium*, §31). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (*Lumen Gentium*, §4). The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026.

Further information is available at : <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

Work on the removal of the existing split systems and the installation of the new systems will commence in the near future. S&J Mechanical Electrical P/L have been assigned the responsibility of the project. The systems are expected to be installed and running by the end of September. There should be minimal disruption to weekday or weekend mass services. Voluntary donations are welcome.

Recently deceased: Giuseppe Tomeo, Nazarena Caruana, Felice Nania, Giovanna Failla, Mario Cutajar, Kelly Theuma, Rose Anne Trani, Geoffrey Harris

Anniversaries: Pia Pelaccia, Salvatore Buccheri, Antonio Parasilite, William McAllister, George Abdallah, Prisla Doumit, Abdallah Family, Kfoury Family, Saad Family, Doumit Family, Michele Malarbi

Mass times Weekday: Tuesday-Friday: 9.30 am. Wednesday: Novena mass 6.00 pm. Weekend Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm Sunday 9.00 am ; Sunday 10.30 (Italian mass) Reconciliation: Saturday: 5.00 pm. Bookings are essential. Contact the Parish Office	Rosters for weekend masses (August 29/30) Lectors: Saturday: 5.30 pm. L. Psaila Sunday 9.00 am: F. Falvo 10.30 am: R. Odoardi Bus driver: J. Butera 
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Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a gift to the 2026 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated. If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese

Three of the clergy—a Lutheran, a Catholic, and an Episcopalian—ended up at the Pearly Gates one day. It was St. Peter's day off, so Jesus was administering the entrance exam. "*The question is simple,*" he said. "*Who do you say that I AM?*" The Lutheran stepped forward and began, "*The Bible says . . .*" but Jesus interrupted and said, "*I know what the Bible says; who do you say that I AM?*" The Lutheran said, "*I don't know,*" and fell through a trapdoor to that other place. The Catholic stepped forward and began, "*The Pope says . . .*" But Jesus interrupted him and said, "*I know what the Pope says; who do you say that I am?*" "*I'm not sure,*" said the Catholic, and promptly fell through the trapdoor to that other place. Jesus turned to the Episcopalian and asked, "*Who do you say that I AM?*" The Episcopalian replied, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God!*" Then, just as Jesus smiled and gestured for the Pearly Gates to be opened, the Episcopalian continued, "*but on the other hand...*"

(frtonyshomilies)

Per intercessione di San Matteo, benedici perche' diventiamo una famiglia piu' fedele ed amorosa e di cuore e mente unici. Amen

Bless us, through the intercession of St. Matthew, to grow stronger in faith and love, as a family of one heart and one mind. Amen

St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.