

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

5th July 2026

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Volume 47, Number 23



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

5 July 2026

Reflection by Greg Sunter

When we hear the term, yoke, we tend to think about the yoke that is used to harness oxen together or the yoke that someone might carry on their shoulder to balance a heavy load. This yoke across the shoulder was adopted into tailoring and so the shoulder piece set into a shirt is also called a yoke. However, in the Jewish tradition there is a completely different meaning to the term. The yoke of a rabbi was his particular interpretation of Torah (the Law); his particular teaching. Disciples who followed a particular rabbi sought to take on his yoke; his particular interpretation. The yoke of any rabbi was best identified by asking him, 'Which is the greatest commandment?' A rabbi's answer to this question revealed his interpretation of Torah. When Jesus is asked that question, he answers, 'Love God and love your neighbour,' and goes on to say that all of the rest of the Law and the prophets flows on from these two commandments. This is the yoke – the interpretation of Torah – that Jesus taught.

In today's gospel, Jesus calls to him all those who labour and are overburdened. It is the Pharisaic interpretation of the Law that burdens these people. Trying to maintain the Law was burdensome and complicated for the everyday person. Jesus says, 'Shoulder my yoke and learn from me ... my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus was easy: Love God and love your neighbour. Compared to the 613 mitzvot (commands) set out in the Torah and strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to understand and adopt. So simple, in fact, that it required a child-like simplicity to accept this yoke.

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Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:25-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

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, 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.'

First Reading Zec 9:9-10

See how humbly your king comes to you!

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.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. (R.)

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

3. All your creatures shall thank you,
O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. (R.)

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:9.11-13

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

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.

IN YOUR PRAYERS



SICK

Richard Fernandez
RECENTLY DECEASED
 Charlie Moore, Rita Vicari
ANNIVERSARIES
 Dominic Hoang Vy, Maria Pham Hue, Anna Hoang Bich Hong, Anthony Doan Dao, Anthony Doan Trung, Nelson Fernando, Paul Sparks, Fr Andrew Doan Thanh Dien, Joseph Pham Van Khanh, Minnie George Joseph

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

19 July 2026 at 12noon

Adele Pekez

Levi Harris

Indi & Harper Lowertson

Please pray for these children and their families.

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you all for your continued support. For those who prefer to, online donations can be made as follows:-

Presbytery Collection – 1st Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Presbytery A/C BSB: 083 347 Account No. 665417521 Reference as your first initial then surname, or you may remain anonymous

Church Collection – 2nd Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Church Account BSB: 083 347 A/C No. 535304676. Reference as your first initial then surname and if known, your giving number e.g. ASmith T/G 500

SPECIAL MINISTERS' ROSTER – 1/7/26-

25/10/26 The new Roster was emailed 1st July. If not received, please check your spam email or contact the Parish Office. Special Ministers without email addresses can collect hard copies from the narthex. Some extra hard copies are available to take.

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER 'PETER'S PENCE'

Through your generous donations last weekend, we raised \$1,193.30. Thank you for supporting the Holy Father in his mission of service to the universal Church.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MASTER PLAN – AN INVITATION

Dear Parishioners,

As we look to the future of St Peter's Parish over the next 10–20 years, it is important that we prayerfully discern how best to support the mission of our parish for generations to come.

The Archdiocese requires each parish to prepare a Parish Master Plan before undertaking any significant building or development projects. This is an opportunity for us not simply to plan for our buildings, but to reflect on how our parish can continue to be a welcoming, vibrant and faith-filled community where people encounter Christ and grow together in faith.

I know our parish is blessed with many generous people who willingly share their time, talents and experience. I warmly invite anyone who feels called to assist with this important work to join the Parish Master Plan Working Committee.

If you are interested, please send your details to the Parish Office by **next weekend**.

Please keep this initiative in your prayers as, together, we seek God's guidance in shaping the future of our St Peter's Parish.

FUNERAL: FRIDAY 10TH JULY

There will be a funeral at St Peter's on Friday, 10th July at 10.00am, for the late Charles Moore. Parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass.



Reach out. Give life.

2026 CATHOLIC MISSION: PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2026

This annual appeal will be held at St Peter's next weekend 11/12 July. Envelopes will be available. Please support. This weekend, Province Director of Catholic Mission, Cruz Ignatius, will speak at some of our Masses.



SAINTS PETER & PAUL FEAST DAY

Thank you to all who joined in last weekend to celebrate our Parish Feast celebrations after Masses. A special thanks to those who brought along a plate of food to share and the wonderful volunteers who helped in any way.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND – 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED'
 We are in need of more volunteers to be trained as 'Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound', especially after the 8.30am and 10.30am Sunday Masses. Training will be provided. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested and would like to know more.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or do you know someone who is? Are you a person in search of the meaning of life? Are you a Christian wishing to find out more about the Catholic Church? Are you a Catholic looking for an adult appreciation of your faith? The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the normal process by which the Catholic Church welcomes new members, and we will walk with you on your journey of discovery. This journey of discovery begins with a time of discernment and **Enquiry**, continues through a period of **Catechumenate**, reaches its highpoint at the celebration of **Easter**, and concludes with a period of further deepening of and living the Christian faith. There will be a series of **Enquiry Nights** for those interested in learning more about becoming a Catholic. They will take place on **Tuesdays 14th, 21st & 28th July at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room**. For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST
 2a Parkside Avenue
 Keilor East Vic 3033

Parish Priest: Rev. Anil Mascarenhas

Parish Secretary: Helena Meredith

Phone: 03 9337 4141

Parish Office Hours: 8.30am-4.00pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Email: keiloreast@cam.org.au

Website:

<https://www.melb.catholic.org/keiloreast>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Acting Principal: Anne Tadinac

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email:

principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Siobhan Thompson

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm Sunday Masses

Weekday Mass Times

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday after 9.15am Mass (or upon request of Parish Priest)

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

Monday 13th July – Staff Education Day

TERM 3 2026

Commences Tuesday 14th July

2026 PARISH THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

We are grateful for the school families ongoing support of the Parish Thanksgiving Program (2026 family contribution), which continues to sustain the life and mission of our parish. May God bless your families with peace and joy.

The Parish of St Peter's, Keilor East and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community.