



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future'. This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.

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Gospel Mt 13:44-52

(or shorter form Mt 13:44-46)

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storehouse things both new and old.'

First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

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!*

IN YOUR PRAYERS



SICK

Rosemarie Cini

RECENTLY DECEASED

Ellen Burnside, Marie Jonas, Rita & Michael De Brincat

ANNIVERSARIES

Elizabeth Ngai Thi Bui, John Minh Ven Le, Andrew Minh Quang Le, Anthony Doan Dao, Anna Hoang Bich Hong, Joseph Pham Van Khanh, Anthony Doan Trung, Leo Alvares, Nina Cutayar, Valerie Butcher, Pietro Santopoli

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? Our **Final Enquiry Night** for those interested in learning more about becoming a Catholic will take place on **Tuesday 28th July at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room**. For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

16 August 2026 at 12noon

Giuseppe De Fazio
Hazel Kalabrezos

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 Please also see information re *Tap to Give* in this Bulletin.

PARISH NEWS

FUNERAL: TUESDAY 28 JULY

There will be a funeral at St Peter's on Tuesday, 28th July at 10.00am, for the late Ellen Burnside. Parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass.

PARISH MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION – THANK YOU & FINAL INVITATION

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Parish Master Plan Consultation on Friday. Your presence, thoughtful sharing, and prayerful participation have made a wonderful beginning to this important journey for our parish.

If you were unable to attend, there is one more opportunity to come together as a parish community to listen, reflect, and discern the future of St Peter's. We warmly invite you to join us on: **Sunday, 26 July, at 11:45 am in the Parish Centre**.

Your ideas, hopes, and dreams for our parish are important, and every voice is valued. Together, let us shape a welcoming, vibrant, and faith-filled future for St Peter's. Everyone is most welcome.

ARCHDIOCESE INITIATIVE: TAP TO GIVE
This weekend we launch our new digital giving tags, small wooden NFC tags placed on every pew. Just tap your phone to be taken directly to our parish giving page, where you can set up a regular gift or make a one-off donation. As with all offertory giving, contributions go directly to the church account as normal. NFC tags don't store any data themselves; they only take you to our secure giving page on our website. Our team is happy to help if you have any questions, and cash and envelope giving remain available at every Mass.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS

The World Day for Grandparents is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Pope Leo has chosen "I will never forget you," as the theme this year. We keep all our grandparents and elderly people in prayers.



FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES

On Saturdays 25th July & 1st August at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass and Sundays 26th July & 2nd August at the 10.30am Mass, the Year 4 children will make their 1st Holy Communion. Congratulations to these children. Please keep them, their teachers and families in your prayers.

NEW FAMILIES TO ST PETER'S

We welcome all new families into our Parish. If you wish to be enrolled onto our Census, please take a Parish Census Card from the narthex, to fill in and return.

VOCATIONS EXPO WITH ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI

Date: Saturday 1 August 9am–1pm Venue: Greg Craven Centre Level 7, St Teresa of Kolkata Building Australian Catholic University 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy.

The Melbourne Vocations Office and ACU Campus Ministry are hosting a Vocations Expo on Saturday 1 August 2026. We are honoured to welcome Archbishop Peter Comensoli as our keynote speaker, alongside speakers representing Catholic Religious Orders, the Diocesan Priesthood, and married life. The event is open to all ages; however, attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The event is free to attend, but registrations are required. Book trybooking.com or see flyers in the narthex.

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026

Why the Church is embracing synodality now. The call to synodality is a response to the signs of the times. In a fragmented world, God calls the Church to witness communion, dialogue, and hope. You can learn more and read the newly released theme papers here: <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

2a Parkside Avenue

Keilor East Vic 3033

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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.melbocatholic.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

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.