

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

30th August 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
Volume 47, Number 31



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom. The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.



Gospel Mt 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

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Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 30 August 2026

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger,

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great
is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

WEDDING AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

on Saturday 29th August 2026

CONGRATULATIONS

MR & MRS SAID

We pray for Carmen & Kristen as they begin their married life together

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Rosemarie Cini

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr. Joseph Attard

ANNIVERSARIES

Maria Lamanna, Vincenzo Carbone, Martin & Sandra Valastro, Santo & Angela Sciacchitano, John & Danny Galea, Nancy Valastro, Vincenzo Carbone, Giuseppe & Gesualda Terlato, Antonio & Francesca Pisano, Martin & Sandra Valastro John & Maria Terlato, Giovanni Pisano, Gnetana Pisano, Gregorio Terlato, Andrea & Veronica Falla, Antonio Di Stefano, Felicia Consolo, Victoria Portelli

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 25th August.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

20th September 2026 at 12noon

Audrey Josephine Hearnden

Rafael Nicholas Sampieri

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
NFC Tags can be found on pens if you would like to give electronically.

PARISH NEWS

ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER – PARISH TABLE

The Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria are organising this year's Archbishop's Dinner, supporting the Priests' Support and Education Fund.

A young couple from our parish has already expressed interest in joining a Parish table. **If anyone else would like to join and help us form a table from our Parish, please contact the Parish Office by Sunday, 6 September 2026.**

Date: Friday, 16 October 2026
Venue: Grand Star Reception & Convention Centre, Altona North
Time: 7.00pm – 11.00pm

For information about the cost, program and booking details, please see the flyer in the narthex.

We hope to bring together a table from our parish for this special evening of fellowship and support for our priests and seminarians.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the Year 6 children of our Parish Primary School as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation by our Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region, Fr Luciano

Toldo at our 6pm Vigil Masses on Saturdays 29th August and 5th September. Please continue to keep these children, their families and teachers in your prayers.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate. Online Diaconate information meeting Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 – 20:00 Location: via ZOOM Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.



Tickets now on sale for our Father's Day raffle. Drawn on Father's Day, 6th September after the 5.00pm Mass. Tickets: \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5. Great Prizes to be won! Many thanks to all who donated prizes for the hampers.



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 – SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA – AUGUST 3-8

An invitation to our young people!

World Youth Day 2027 will bring young Catholics from around the world together in Seoul, South Korea, to celebrate our faith and encounter Jesus Christ.

Open to young people aged 16–35, this could be a wonderful opportunity for our parish young people to come together, make new friendships, and begin thinking and praying about travelling together as a parish group.

If you are interested, please add your name to the sheet in the narthex or email the Parish Office. This is simply an opportunity to express your interest and begin the conversation.

Let us take this opportunity to build a vibrant young faith community in our parish and journey together towards WYD 2027!

ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2026

Thank you to everyone who has so generously made a pledge or gift to the 2026 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! This campaign took the place of several collections that were taken separately in previous years. Please return any donation envelopes this weekend.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE: POSITIONS VACANT

Current vacant roles can be found on the Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese website: melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies

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.melbatholic.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 who are supporting 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.