

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE
KEILOR EAST

20th September 2026
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
Volume 47, Number 34



Reflection by Greg Sunter

On a first reading of this gospel story, the reader is probably struck by the unfairness of the situation. The landowner has employed day labourers at different times throughout the day to work in his vineyard. However, come the end of the day, the landowner pays all the day labourers the same amount. Not surprisingly, the labourers employed at daybreak to work the whole day are upset that those who have only worked the last hour of the day are paid the same amount. The landowner reminds them that he is paying them what they agreed at the start of the day, and yet the reader is left uncomfortable about the whole arrangement.

Of course, this is the purpose of Jesus' story! The key to the story is in the introduction. Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a formulaic statement, 'The kingdom is like ...' and this one is no different. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom, or reign, of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged. The landowner's final comment in the parable, 'the last will be first, and the first, last', is a perfect example of the challenging nature of Jesus' kingdom parables. In the kingdom, those who hold themselves to be first in this world will be brought down, and those who are treated as least in this world will be exalted.



men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more; but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.

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Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

20 September 2026

First Reading Is 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Second Reading Phil 1:20-24, 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me
something more; but then again, if living in
this body means doing work which is having
good results – I do not know what I should
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want
to be gone and be with Christ, which would
be very much the better, but for me to stay
alive in this body is a more urgent need for
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom
of heaven is like a landowner going out at
daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard.
He made an agreement with the workers
for one denarius a day, and sent them to
his vineyard. Going out at about the third
hour he saw others standing idle in the
market place and said to them, "You go
to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went
out and did the same. Then at about the
eleventh hour he went out and found more

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Rosemarie Cini

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for all the Recently Deceased

ANNIVERSARIES

Valerian Pinto, Lola Attard, Josip Vlahek

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA)

Next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 22nd September.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

20th September 2026 at 12noon

Rafael Nicholas Sampieri

Kaitōa Ruberto

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.

ORDERS FOR ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS

Break Open the Word

Contains readings and psalms for each Sunday. Suitable for Parish Groups, Readers of God's Word etc.

Daily Mass Book

This Mass book contains all the texts for Sunday and weekday mass and begins in Advent 2026.

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like us to order a copy of either publication for you, by 6th October - \$33.00 each.

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU

Thank You to our visiting Priests, for celebrating our weekday and weekend Masses while Fr Anil is on leave.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed Friday, 25th September due to Grand Final Public Holiday. Please advise any Death Anniversaries, for next weekend, to the Parish Office by Tuesday, 22nd September.

MINISTERS' ROSTER – 31/10/26-28/2/27

The next Ministers' Roster will be prepared soon. Please contact the Parish Office with your 'away' dates from 1/11/26-28/2/27, by **Tuesday, 29th September**. Volunteers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses will be advertised for in early December.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND "VOLUNTEERS NEEDED"

We are in need of more volunteers to take Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound in Kellor East. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



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Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings & classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account. With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone. Scan the QR code to visit our website or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information.



SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY: 20

SEPTEMBER 2026 This Sunday, we give thanks for the thousands of staff and volunteers across Catholic social services who accompany people experiencing poverty, disadvantage and marginalisation throughout Victoria. As we celebrate Social Services Sunday, we recognise the need for encounter. Passion for connection and meeting others creates the kinship that is imperative in times of hardship and for building strong communities. Through these encounters, we recognise the dignity of every person and stand alongside those who may otherwise go unheard. Catholic social services put this call into practice every day through accompaniment, advocacy, and practical support. This Social Services Sunday, we are invited not only to give thanks for this work, but to consider our own contribution: Who is experiencing hardship around us? Who is already walking beside them? How might we strengthen and support that work?

INVITATION: VICTORIA POLICE-MOONEE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD

POLICING FORUM Date: Wednesday 7th October **Time:** 6.00pm-8.00pm **Location:** Moonee Valley City Council, 9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds. Local services and community members are invited to talk with police about what issues are important in our community. The forum will explore topics including: • Current crime trends & crime prevention • Young people • Family violence • Road policing • Drugs and drug related crime. The Neighbourhood Policing Forum will be run by a Victoria Police panel. Questions will be taken from the audience throughout the event. Registration is a must at: **MOONEEPONDS-UNION**

OIC@police.vic.gov.au or scan the QR code. Please see flyers in the narthex.

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 (followed by Benediction)

RECONCILIATION

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

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – 21/9/26-2/10/26

Wishing all students and school staff a happy, restful and safe school holiday break.

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.