



SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST, 2026 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A

Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 16:21-27)

Most of us know leaders who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding and opposition.

The first part of today's Gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the "keys" of the kingdom or empire of the heavens, refusing to accept that Jesus' mission will involve suffering, even death. The reader is confronted in this story with the expansive rock face at Caesarea Philippi and invited to consider the friable character of the seemingly indestructible rock. Even rocks can be reduced to sand or gravel and a humbler mode of being.

For all its seriousness, there is something quite comical about this Gospel story. Peter actually reprimands Jesus. Jesus then sets him straight in no uncertain terms. The "rock" becomes the leader of the opposition, a serious obstacle to God's purposes, a stumbling block. He is ordered back to the place where disciples properly belong, namely "behind" Jesus, "following" him.

Matthew provides a striking contrast in this section of the Gospel between Peter who "rebukes" Jesus and Justina, the Canaanite woman, who respectfully and persistently implores Jesus to see from a new perspective. Peter receives a decisive rebuttal, while the woman's plea is heard and she is praised for her great faith.

Peter's impetuous outburst provides the trigger for Jesus to invite his disciples to think about what they really want. Jesus is the teacher and the disciples are the students who have accepted the invitation to follow him. That means living out in their lives the pattern of his life. If they want to be his followers, then they have to embrace the pain involved in his relentless program of teaching and of healing the sick and brokenhearted.

They will also share the "glory". If they choose to put their own interests first, then they will surely lose themselves. It is ultimately a question of choosing life. Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed.

He is not very different from the rest of us. We too need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life. This week we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Creation. Our church, along with other churches, celebrates September 1 to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as a Season of Creation. At a time when life on our planet is seriously endangered, we might attend more closely to the urgent Gospel challenge of living in ways that help to sustain the life of the Earth community. We bring into our celebration those affected by the climate crisis as we pray for the insight to live in right relationship with all that is.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Salvador Chamul, John Styzinski, Kevin Dooley and Rosa Rossi** who died recently and for **Maria Do Thi Thoan** whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in peace.



SYNODALITY AND TRUST

Trust grows when people know their voices matter. Synodality helps rebuild trust within the Church and between the Church and society.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

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.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

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: Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Ephesians 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!

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven, (All bow)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Communion Antiphon: Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER SERVICE of LAMENT

**15 September 2026 St Patrick's Cathedral
Grounds, East Melbourne; 4.00pm**

Invitation from Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows invites us to stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross. There we see a mother who remains close to her Son in His suffering, steadfast in faith and open to the hope that God alone can bring. In Mary, the Church learns not to turn away from suffering, but to remain present with compassion, humility and prayer. In 2026, on this memorial we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual Service of Lament for survivors of abuse.

I invite you, your parish leaders, and representatives of your parish community to join me **on Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 4.00pm in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral as we come before the Lord in prayer and lament.**

This Service is an occasion to humbly stand alongside those who have suffered abuse, and all who continue to carry its lasting effects. It is for us, as the Body of Christ, to acknowledge and lament sincerely and with humility the failures that have caused such profound harm, and to place before the Lord our prayer for healing, justice and the ongoing conversion of His Church. Survivors and their loved ones remain at the heart of this gathering.

Through the proclamation of God's Word, silence, music and symbolic ritual, we will commend to the Lord all who have been harmed by abuse, asking that His healing mercy bring light where there has been darkness, hope where there has been despair, and renewed trust where trust has been broken.

In the days leading to the Service, I invite our Parish communities to unite in prayer across the Archdiocese. I encourage you to share this invitation with your community so that those who wish to participate, either in person or online, may do so. I ask each Parish to nominate a few representatives to attend on behalf of the parish community.

The Service will also be livestreamed, enabling many others to join us in prayer from across the Archdiocese.

**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 7:00pm – 8:00pm

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.

SEASON OF CREATION ONLINE GATHERING

Thursday 3 September 2026, 10.00am –

Friday 4 September 2026, 4.30pm

Two day online gathering with keynote presentations on day one and workshops exploring current environmental challenges on day two.

For more information email:

catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
INFORMATION NIGHT**

Monday 14 September 2026

7.00pm – 8.00pm

Research Information Night: What is Research? Catholic Theological College invites you to an online discussion on discovering ways in which research can affect, impact on and engagement in the mission of the church.

Registration is essential. 03 9412 3309

Email: registrar@ctc.edu.au

FEAST DAYS DURING THE WEEK

Thursday 3 September, St. Gregory the Great, Pope

Saturday 5 September, St. Teresa of Calcutta

MANNIX LIBRARY 2026 BOOK SALE

at 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne.

It is a great opportunity to scoop up a range of books on theology, history, philosophy and religion at a good price. Opening hours for Mannix Library are 9-5pm Monday to Friday.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

PHONE: 0401 158 113;

(03) 9314 7710

EMAIL: yarraville@cam.org.au

ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbrcatholic.org/yarraville

SAFEGUARDING: Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

For email copy of Bulletin



Click QR Code

SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNITY FAIR

**Annunciation, Corpus Christi
& St. Augustine's
(Three Schools, One Community)
Saturday 14th November 2026,
10am to 4pm**

There will be rides,
entertainment, Stalls,
yummy food, Face Painting

Location: Corpus Christi School,
380 Geelong Road
Kingsville 3012

Mary MacKillop Spirituality

**Centre, St. Joseph's by the Sea,
at 16 Esplanade Williamstown**

Upcoming events include ongoing
spiritual programs, monthly
twilight sessions, and multi-day
directed retreats running through
to late 2026.

For more information,
please call (03)9397 6012 or email
admin.sjbts@sosjspirit.org.au

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to parishioners at
Annunciation, Corpus Christi and St.
Augustine's for your regular
donation of food items placed in the
churches each week.

In addition to **non-perishable food**,
(cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee,
milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked
beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned
fruit, rice, jam, biscuits), items such
as **shampoo, soap, deodorant,**
washing powder/liquid, toothpaste
and brushes are also needed and
appreciated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians
who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge
the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of
reconciliation.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

29th & 30th August 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Kath Baker

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Sam Polzella

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Cass Pelino

AJ Pelino

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Mary Vella

9.30am..... Mary Joseph

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Joe Fusca

COUNTING: Les Vella

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

5th & 6th September 2026

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm John Ryan

9.30am Tere Tutai

Sam Polzella

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Natasha Fernandes

Imelda Gibson

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am..... Pina Guzzardi

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Mary Huynh

COUNTING: Val Taylor

**SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL
VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn,
we hold the care, safety and well-
being of children and all vulnerable
people as a central and fundamental
responsibility of our communities.
The Parish Statement of
Commitment and Reporting Process
are on display at the entrance of all
the Churches and all Diocesan
Policies are available on the website
or at the parish office.
[www.cam.org.au/Professional-
Standards/Statements](http://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements)

**THERE WILL BE
NO WEEKDAY MASSES**

(MON TO SAT)

DURING

SEPTEMBER

at

St. Augustine's,

Corpus Christi

or

Annunciation

WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am

St Augustine's....9.30 am

Corpus Christi..11.00 am

St Augustine's..11.30 am

(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm