



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The response of today's psalm is an excellent summary of the theme that runs throughout today's readings: *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs*. The compassion of God is foremost in these readings – recognising need within the people and responding with an overflowing abundance. In the gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers.

As it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. He knows that as it is now evening they probably won't be allowed to enter any of the local villages and, even if they were, they probably didn't have money with which to buy food. So it is compassionate care that moves Jesus to act. Remember, he had tried to get away from the crowds to spend some private time mourning the death of John the Baptist. He was entitled to be frustrated and angry with them for intruding on his grief. Instead, when they tracked him down, he went ashore and healed them and taught them. When it came to the evening he went one step further in his compassion and made sure that all were fed.

At the time of writing, the gospel writer knew that his audience would be familiar with the Eucharistic meal. The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he took the bread and fish, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper.



large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

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First Reading Is 55:1-3

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have
good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting
covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

*(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.*

1. 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.)
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:35. 37-39

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.
Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

*No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 14:13-21

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a

IN YOUR PRAYERS



SICK

Rosemarie Cini

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the souls of all the Recently Deceased

ANNIVERSARIES

Giuseppina Usai, Maria Ninh Thi Dao, Andrew Gorecki, Emanuel Said

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? You can still join us in the Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 4th August, to make an enquiry about RCIA. 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.

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.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION – THANK YOU

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

We have now begun the process of collating the responses received. Before we take the next steps, we will communicate with you once the feedback has been carefully reviewed and the themes gathered. Your contributions will help guide our ongoing reflection and planning as we look towards the future of our Parish.

Thank you again for your time, generosity, and commitment to this important process.

HOW YOUR GIVING SUPPORTS OUR

PARISH Thank you to everyone who has already tried our new digital giving option with the NFC tags over the past week. The response has been wonderful and your generosity is so much appreciated! Your offertory contributions go directly towards the life of our parish, supporting everything from the upkeep of our church to the pastoral care of our community. NFC tags don't store any data themselves; they only take you to our secure giving page on our website. The wooden tags remain on the pews, and QR codes are also available in the foyer. If you haven't yet tried it and would like some help, please don't hesitate to speak with a member of our parish team.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE: NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK – 2 AUGUST Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.



FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES

This weekend at the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass and 10.30am Sunday Mass, Year 4 children will make their 1st Holy Communion. Congratulations to these children. Please keep them, their teachers and families in your prayers.

SHAPE THE FUTURE: BE COUNTED AS CATHOLIC THIS CENSUS

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.

ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2026

The Archbishop's Campaign will commence next weekend. We invite you to reflect on what a vibrant faith community means for you and your family, and to consider making a personal, recurring monthly gift in support of the vital ministries that serve our Archdiocese. From next week, you will notice campaign materials throughout the parish, including posters, envelopes with tear-off pledge cards, a banner on our website, and content across our social media channels. Further information will be shared in the coming weeks; in the meantime, I encourage you to begin prayerfully discerning your support.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST
2a Parkside Avenue
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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

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.