

## Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage flows on directly from last week's gospel and continues the teaching of Jesus about prayer. Whereas the preceding passage emphasised the need for persistence in prayer, this passage is about the way in which we come before God in prayer. It is the tax collector, whose simple prayer is 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner,' who goes home at rights with God. In this simple prayer, the tax collector recognises that he is not in right relationship with God and asks for God's mercy. This is a hallmark of the lowly and outcast in the gospel of Luke: they recognise their need and seek God's forgiveness and mercy. The model of faith that is depicted over and over again in this gospel is the one who recognises their need for God's loving mercy and asks for it. We are repeatedly reminded that God's mercy, forgiveness and abundant love are constantly out-flowing towards us and all we have to do is humbly desire and welcome them.

Humility is at the heart of this parable. The Pharisee is representative of those who are assured of their own righteousness but who rely on comparison with others to make themselves feel righteous and justified. The actions of this man were not limited to Pharisees alone, nor are they limited to a particular time and place. This man's attitude of asserting his own faithfulness and religious observance by comparison with others can be easily seen in the world today. All faiths seem to be afflicted with these characters who assure themselves of their own 'goodness' by railing against those who are different. But, as the parable assures us, it is the humble who are exalted by God.

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## Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;

and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel Lk 18:9-14

*The publican returned to his home justified: the pharisee did not.*

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C 26 October 2025

### First Reading Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

*The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.*

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted,

his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v.7**

*(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The just call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. (R.)

3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R.)

### Second Reading 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

*All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### SICK

Domenic Condello, Miriam Coco, Nadja Louis

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Josip Vlahsek

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Jacintha Menezes, Domenico Bruzzese, Anthony Doan, Lewis Bartolo, Vincenzo & Olimpia Gasbarro, Santo & Nunzia Bonnici

#### BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025

*Camilla Diaco*

*Phoebe Dimitrakakis*

*Jordan & Alix Nguyen*

Please pray for these children and their families.

#### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Our next meeting is this Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October in the Church narthex at 7.00pm. Any enquiries to Parish Office.

**PARISH SUPPORT** Thank you all for your continued support. For those who prefer to, online donations can be made as follows:-

#### Presbytery Collection – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

#### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 28 Oct Sts Simon & Jude  
Saturday 1 Nov All Saints

#### ARCHDIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for vacancies in the Archdiocese. Further details of positions can be found at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

### PARISH NEWS

#### ST PETER'S 2025 CHRISTMAS CAROLS – THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

#### Carols Meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> October

Our next Christmas Carols meeting will take place on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room. Entry via Parkside Avenue. **Volunteers are needed.** Please come along and help us plan for this exciting event.

#### ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS DAY MASSES

There will be Morning Mass at St Peter's at 9.00am for All Saints Day.

The normal weekend Mass timetable will apply for All Souls Day.

**ALL SOULS DAY MASS** will be held at Keilor Cemetery, Gallery of the Saints, Cemetery Road & Ely Court, Keilor East on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, commencing at 11.00am. Mass in English. **All welcome.**

#### NOVEMBER MASSES

Envelopes for November Masses are available in the narthex.

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Due to staff annual leave, the Parish Office will only be open on **Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October** and on **Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November** - 9.00am-3.00pm. Normal office hours resume 11<sup>th</sup> November. Please advise any Death Anniversaries by Tuesday.

#### CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – TUESDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

The Parish Office will be closed this day.

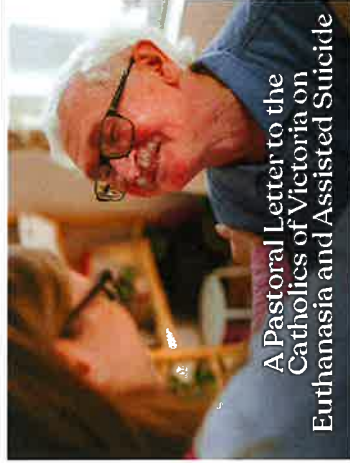
#### 2026 COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR SALE

Calendars are available for purchase after Mass - **\$10 each.** Please ask Adele, Helen or Cathy. Calendars are also available from the Parish Office, during business hours.

#### AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL (ACYF) – MELBOURNE 30 NOV-2 DEC

If there are any young people from Year 9 - 25 years of age and from St Peter's who would still like to attend the Youth Festival, please let us know by Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October and Register your details at: [acyf@cam.org.au](mailto:acyf@cam.org.au)

**Registrations close 30<sup>th</sup> October.**



### A Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Victoria on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

The State Government is seeking to amend Victoria's euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. If passed, the new laws would further weaken protections for vulnerable patients and reduce protections for nurses, doctors and other medical practitioners who conscientiously object. In response, the Bishops of Victoria have written a pastoral letter asking that we contact our local Members of Parliament and urge them to vote against these laws.

You can read the **letter online and find out more by scanning the QR code or** **visiting: [www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill](http://www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill)**



The Bishops of Victoria have issued an important Pastoral Letter about the proposed changes to the laws of Euthanasia in Victoria.

The Bishops state: As Catholics, we stand united in this conviction with many people of good will from other Christian communities and from other religions. Earlier this year, a group of religious leaders from Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh communities united in calling on the Victorian Government to abandon its proposed changes to VAD laws. As the leaders made clear, "we do not believe euthanasia or assisted suicide can ever be made safe – since they involve acts that are unsafe in their very essence." Instead of attempting to expand euthanasia and assisted suicide, we urge Members of Parliament to continue expanding access to good palliative care to all Victorians, particularly for those in the regions. Palliative care provides holistic care to people living with terminal illness or who are close to death. It maximises comfort and support, seeking to address psychological, social, emotional, cultural and spiritual needs as well as attending to distress and relieving pain.

There are copies of the Pastoral Letter available in the narthex to take home to read and also available on the Parish Website.

### ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

2a Parkside Avenue

Keilor East Vic 3033

Administrator: 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](mailto:keiloreast@cam.org.au)

Website:

<https://www.melbathcatholic.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](mailto:principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au)

Administration: Christine Torrance

#### 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

*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.*