

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Breaking Open the Word

## THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

As with last Sunday's Gospel, we find ourselves again on the Temple Mount—the sacred place where the Torah was taught and people were encouraged to live its demands and invitations. As Matthew's Gospel approaches its concluding chapters, however, the Temple also becomes the arena for another trial, continuing from last Sunday. Jesus' religious opponents set theological traps, seeking to expose him as an imposter and false teacher. This time the question concerns the greatest of the 613 commandments discerned in the Torah. It is a formidable test. Throughout his Gospel, Matthew presents Jesus to a Jewish community of followers living decades after the Galilean ministry of Jesus. The teaching Matthew records in the mid-80s CE reaches back to the original teaching of Jesus in the 30s.

Both then and now, Jesus draws upon the Torah to identify the two commandments that stand at the heart of faithful living. The first comes from Deuteronomy: to love God with one's whole being—heart, soul and mind. This command was so central to Jewish faith that it was symbolically carried on the body, clothing and doorposts of the home, and recited frequently each day in prayer. From this all-encompassing love of God flows the second commandment: to love one's neighbour as oneself. The two cannot be separated. Love of God finds its expression in how we love and treat others.

These commandments remain at the heart of our Christian heritage. They continue to shape our relationship with God and with one another, calling us beyond religious observance alone into a life grounded in love.

Fr Michael Trainor

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

## FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans."

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. R.

# THE SAVING WORD

25 OCTOBER 2026



## SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ The word of the Lord.



## ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

*Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries*

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3023  
Parish Priest: Fr. Felimon Libot, CMF  
Asst. Priests: Fr. John Pham, CMF; Fr. Luis F. Rey, CMF  
Parish Secretary - Rosemarie Mendoza  
Bookkeeper - Rosa Milian  
Tel: 93633132 Email : deerpark@cam.org.au  
Website: www.cam.org.au/deerpark  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm



## ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Master is here and wants to see you" John 11:28

### Adorers are needed for these hours:

**Sunday:** 1pm; 2pm

**Monday:** 2am; 11am; 1pm, 5pm

**Tuesday:** 10am

**Wednesday:** 2pm

**Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823**

### Ave Maria. Come and Join. Culmination of the Month of the Holy Rosary

Saturday, 31 October 2026.

**11:00 AM** - Holy Rosary (Marian garden)

**12:00 PM** - Mass with Coronation of

Our Lady and floral offering.

Fellowship and light refreshments to

follow at the foyer after the mass.

Please bring a plate to share.

### THIS WEEK: 25 October 2026 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time- A

|                                                 | 7:00pm                                      | 7:00am                           | 8:30am                                          | 10:00am                                       | 12:00pm                                             | 6:00pm                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Commentator<br>1st Reader<br>2nd Reader         | Alister R<br>Aaron A<br>Antonietta C        | Richelle C<br>James J<br>Susan C | Hilda D S<br>Mario N<br>Wynna D                 | Eva O<br>Marilou S J<br>Theresa Tan           | Gloria T<br>Toniette S<br>Mel O                     | Frances R<br>Arabella J<br>Samantha D G |
| Extraordinary<br>Ministers of<br>Holy Communion | Ernesto Co<br>Della J<br>Joan S<br>George E | Stefan S<br>Kurt C               | Ronald D<br>Roland D<br>Rukmal M<br>Ferdinand T | Rosa M<br>Gilbert M<br>Roger S J<br>Cathryn D | Oliver T<br>Maria Sulfaro<br>Emman C<br>Candida D S | Teo C<br>Ric M<br>Diana T<br>Perly C    |
| Altar Servers                                   | George E                                    | Tony Cilia                       | Adrian D A                                      | Henry, Oliver<br>Fawaz                        | Raphael P Rey S<br>Arielle Mary Ann                 | Jherzielle                              |
| Choirs                                          | Light of Jesus<br>(LOJ)                     | AHFI                             | Greg Gustilo<br>and friends                     | CFCA                                          | Exxemoz                                             | MWF with LIHM<br>Sisters                |

### NEXT WEEK: 1 November 2026 - Solemnity, All Saints- A

|                                                 | 7:00pm                                              | 7:00am                           | 8:30am                                   | 10:00am                                  | 12:00pm                                            | 6:00pm                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Commentator<br>1st Reader<br>2nd Reader         | Gloria T<br>Oliver T<br>Della J                     | James J<br>Aaron A<br>Richelle C | Dulce T<br>Kathleen T<br>Divina N        | Julie Ann M<br>Shiela D<br>Maria Mizzi   | Diana T<br>Tami M<br>Vernon A                      | Annika D<br>Danica L<br>Frances R         |
| Extraordinary<br>Ministers of<br>Holy Communion | George E<br>Ernesto Co<br>Antonietta C<br>Alister R | Stefan S<br>Kurt C               | Loirenz N<br>Ferdinand T<br>Marcelline A | Nonie G<br>Joe M<br>Lidia L<br>Froilan M | Emman C<br>Kirk D G R<br>Patrick B<br>Jacqueline R | Joe C<br>Kirk D G R<br>Michael D<br>Ric M |
| Altar Servers                                   | George E                                            | Tony Cilia                       | Adrian D A                               | Henry, Oliver<br>Fawaz                   | Raphael P Rey S<br>Arielle Mary Ann                | Jherzielle                                |
| Choirs                                          | Paraclete<br>Choir                                  | SPC Frst<br>Sunday Choir         | Mt Horeb                                 | Emmaus                                   | CFCA                                               | Samoan DVM                                |

**Book for the Holy souls.** You are warmly invited to write the names of your dearly departed loved ones in the **Book of the Holy Souls**. We remember in our prayers and ask the Lord to grant them eternal rest and everlasting peace.

**November Masses** . Mass for the holy Souls will be offered in the entire month of November. Envelopes are available in the foyer of the church.

**Solemnity, All Saint's.**  
Sunday, 1 November

**All Saint's Family Festival.** Sunday, 1 November, 11am-1pm, Karmel Hall. Children are invited to join and dress up as Saint (Angels also welcome). Please check flyer in the foyer of the church.  
**Contact: Sr Lawrence LIHM 0405190286**

**Come and Join. SPC Bible Study**  
SPC Evangelisation Team would like to invite you to an online Bible study. Every Wednesday, 7:30pm  
Contact Hilda 0450 006 316

**Sacrament sessions.** Information night In Term 1 next year. Date and time to be announced.

**Next Week: 1 November 2026**  
**Solemnity, All Saints - A**

## A VOCATION VIEW

We must stop just putting Band-Aids on the wounds of society.  
We must tell the world that we are God's people. God loves us and we were created to serve God, and others in God.