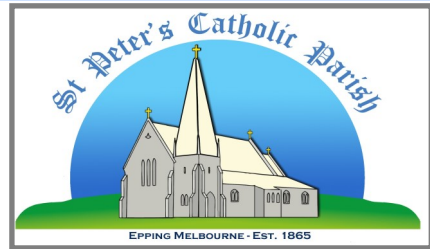


**23rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year A
6th Sept 2026**

The Parish of St. Peter's, Epping, Epping North and Wollert as a community of faith inspired by Love for God welcomes everyone who joins us as we worship together the same Lord in the same Tradition. Our vocation is to listen, share and live the Word of God actively.



Parish Priest: Fr Anh Nguyen
Assistant Priest Fr Isaac Zaki
Sacrament Co-Ordinator:
 Sr Huyen Nguyen LHC
Sick & Homebound Co-Ordinator:
 Sr Phuong Nguyen LHC
Parish Secretary: Michelle Hood
 (Mon- 9-3pm, Tue-Wed 9.30am-3.30pm)
Office Admin: Christine Paterson
 (Wed & Fri 10am-3pm)
Seminarian: Xavier Ryan

Parish Office and St Peter's Church:
 13 Davison St, Epping
 Ph: 9401 6300

Email: epping@cam.org.au
 Web: <https://www.melbocatholic.org/epping>
 Facebook: StPetersCatholicParishEpping
 ABN:- 70 309 275 608

WEEKEND MASSES

St Peter's Saturday 9.15am, 6.30pm,
 Sunday 9am & 10.30am

St Mary of the Cross: Saturday 5.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Peter's
 9.15am Tuesday - Friday
 (Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)
St Mary of the Cross
 12 noon on Fridays during school terms only

Baptism

Baptism is celebrated on the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month at 12pm. A Baptism preparation class for parents of the child to be baptised is required.

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45-10.30am following
 the 9.15am Mass

Marriage

By appointment and three month notice required. Please contact the parish office.

**Sacramental Programs for
non-parish school children**
 9401 6300

Parish Schools / College

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
 32 Wedge Street, Epping
 Principal: Angela Tonkin Ph: 9401 1157

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop
 47 Farmhouse Boulevard, Epping North
 Principal: Claire Pitcher Ph: 8432 4500

Mary Glowrey Catholic Primary School
 10 Baltrum Drive, Wollert
 Principal: Tim Kelly Ph: 8579 6505

Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School
 58 Jardin Road, Wollert West. 3750
 Principal: Damian Howard

St Monica's College
 400 Dalton Road, Epping
 Principal: Brian Hanley Ph: 9409 8800

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE
 Free Call 1800 305 330



HOMILY by Richard Leonard

We used to be taught that mortification and self-denial were good Christian virtues, and indeed they can be. When properly understood they are never opportunities for self-hatred. The sanest spiritual writers in our tradition saw these virtues as paths of closeness with God and service of our neighbour.

One such writer was St Ignatius of Loyola who in the Spiritual Exercises saw that it was precisely as sinners that God loves us. He saw that one of the greatest gifts the Lord can give us is when we see our sinfulness for what it is, but are not overwhelmed by it, and that we experience the power of God's love for us who calls us to walk as children of the light.

Jesus in today's Gospel attends to this destructive side of our human nature. Jesus teaches us that those who do not love their neighbour as they should are to be treated with dignity and respect and offered every opportunity to seek forgiveness until it is clear they can no longer be a part of the Christian family.

The challenge and hallmark of the Christian life is the way in which we live out God's love and forgiveness. And, although the Christian community should be the last group to exclude anyone, even we have to have our boundaries. Sometimes this involves holding others to account for what they say and do, especially if they claim to be a follower of Christ.

The love and forgiveness of God does not mean that 'anything goes'. It is a love that calls for constant conversion. We can witness to it only to the degree that we have experienced it, from God, from others, and in the way we love and forgive ourselves.

Pray for the Sick: Hirumali Dias, Marilyn Marquis

Offering Masses this week for:- Phila Extross, Reginald and Hazel Joseph, Edgar O'Brien, Elsie and Benjamin Tranquille.

CHILD SAFETY STATEMENT

St Peter's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Children are to be supervised by a parent / guardian at all times in the church and when leaving the church for any reason.



Rite of Welcome for Baptism

Haven Angelina Looram
 Ivy Mae Gambling
 Rosie Jayde Parnis
 Riley Charles Parnis



Our Parish recognises the Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Willum Clan as the traditional owners of this place.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

6th September 2026

Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading Ezekiel 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

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 Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Communion Antiphon

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.



Legion of Mary hosting Bible Study Online

The Mother of Divine Grace Praesidium invites you to join Bible Study sessions lead by resident seminarian Xavier Ryan.

Next three meeting dates at 8.30pm on Tuesdays, 8th September, 22nd September, 6th October

Zoom link: <https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/83929824448pwd=TCtkNUFFSS9SK3o4U3ExZEYxZmxsQT09>

Also accessible via QR code:



RCIA is now OCIA

“The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults” (RCIA) has recently had its title changed to “The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults” (OCIA)



If you would like to learn about the Catholic Faith through this program, and be Baptized into the faith, please contact the Parish Office on 9401-6300 and ask to speak to Sister Huyen or email epping@cam.org.au

Dates: Wednesday Evenings –7pm-8pm

Part 1: Sept 2nd –Dec 9th 2026

Part 2: Jan 27th –Mar 17th 2027

Why We Do The Things We Do Why do we have a Prayer of the Faithful?

In these prayers (also called the General Intercessions) the congregation intercedes for all humanity. We pray that the Church will be a life-giving sign of salvation to the world. We pray for Church leaders and public authorities, for those oppressed by various needs, and for all people.

In making these petitions we are conscious that the Church exists for others rather than simply for its own sake. United at the eucharistic table as the body of Christ, we are powerfully equipped to reach out as a loving and liberating force in the world.



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.

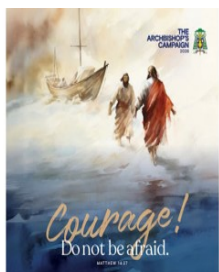
Online Diaconate information meeting

Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 – 20:00

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.



The Archbishop's Campaign

You are invited 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.

You will notice campaign materials including posters and envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are still available in the church if you have not yet had the opportunity to make a donation. Please return these envelopes today.



FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

From
'Vatican News'

This is one of the most ancient Marian feasts. It is thought that this feast originated in connection with the Feast of the dedication of a church dedicated to Mary, now the Church of St Ann, in Jerusalem in the 6th century. Tradition holds that this is where the house of Mary's parents, Joachim and Ann, stood and where she would have been born.

The Feast began to be celebrated in Rome in the 8th century with Pope Sergius I (8 September 701). It is the third such feast of a “nativity” on the Roman Calendar: the Nativity of Jesus, the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

History of Father's Day in Australia

Australia adopted Father's Day from the United States, where the tradition began in the early 20th century. The first known Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington, in **1910**, when Sonora Smart Dodd proposed a day to honor her father, a Civil War veteran and widower who raised six children alone.

Australia began celebrating Father's Day in **1936** but chose a different date, likely influenced by seasonal preferences and retail calendar opportunities. It provides a nice midpoint between Mother's Day in May and Christmas Day in December. The timing in **September** distinguishes it from the North American and European observances in June.

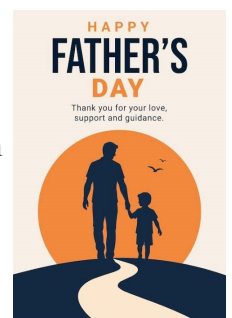
Fathers in Our Lives

We give our thanks, for the fathers in our lives.

We remember the sacrifices fathers make for their children and families

We remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent; grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches and the women of our families.

For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting.



Regular Events / Meetings in the Parish

Baptism Preparation-

Baptisms are on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish office and speak to Sister Huyen to arrange a Baptism

Catholic Women's League Next meeting 19th Oct @ 10am

Charismatic Prayer Group 6.45pm—9pm Fridays
6.45pm-7pm Rosary; 7pm –7.30pm Praise & Worship;
7.30pm-8.30pm **1st Friday of the Month –Mass**
2nd & 4th Fridays –Talks;
3rd Fridays—Adoration & Benediction;
8.30pm –9pm Fellowship & packing up.

Finance Committee - Next meeting - 13th Oct @ 7pm

Legion of Mary - 5.30pm Wednesdays

Liturgy Group - Next meeting 10th Sept @ 7pm

Parish Based Sacramental Programs:-

All Sacraments have now been completed for 2026

Reach Out - Communion to the Sick and Homebound – Parishioners finding it difficult to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the Parish Office and speak to Sr Phuong

OCIA - Wednesday Evenings 7pm –8pm

Pt 1: Sept 2nd –Dec 9th. 2026

Pt 2: Jan 27th –Mar 17th 2027

SMCM Catechism—4.15pm-5pm Saturdays @ SMCM

St Vincent de Paul

First Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the Parish House

Third Tuesday of the month at 6pm via Teams

Youth Group 2nd Friday of the month

Liturgy Readings of Next Week

7/9 Monday: Week 23 Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7,12; Lk 6:6-11;

8/9 Tuesday: **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Readings: Micah 5:1-4; Ps 12:6-7; Mt 1:1-16,18-23;

9/9 Wednesday: Week 23 Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 44:11-12,14-17;
Lk 6:20-26

10/9 Thursday: Week 23 Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Cor 8:1-7,11-13; Ps 138:1-3,13-14,23-24;
Lk 6:27-38

11/9 Friday: Week 23 Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-27; Ps 83:3-6,12;
Lk 6:39-42;

12/9 Saturday: Week 23 Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 115:12-13,17-18;
Lk 6:43-49;

13/9 Sunday : **24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Readings: Sirach 27:30-28:7; Ps 102:1-4,9-12;
Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

		LEADER	READER	Special Minister
5/9	5pm	Don Vandenberg	Grace O'Brien	Angela Vandenberg
	6.30pm	Joan Bahen	Bryan Johnston	Volunteer please
6/9	9am	Kay Whelan	Chris Paterson	Lesleigh Madden
	10.30am	Youth	Youth	Julie Cowell
12/9	5pm	Leenis Joshua	Volunteer please	Melinda Pereyra-Henriques
	6.30pm	Sheriz Moreno	Sherwin Moreno	Charlie Aganetti
13/9	9am	Cassandra Martin	Des Madden	Dinesh Dias
	10.30am	Candice Correya	Anne Toshack	Andrew Dipierdomenico
19/9	5pm	Volunteer please	Don Vandenberg	Volunteer please
	6.30pm	Sherwin Moreno	Sheriz Moreno	Joan Bahen
20/9	9am	Chris Paterson	Kay Whelan	David Howard
	10.30am	Julie Cowell	Lillian Abbew	Stella Galea
26/9	5pm	Don Vandenberg	Leeni Joshua	Angela Vandenberg
	6.30pm	Volunteer please	Joan Bahen	Volunteer please
27/9	9am	Des Madden	Lesleigh Madden	Bernie Dias
	10.30am	Anne Toshack	Julie Cowell	Cathy Gatt
3/10	5pm	Leeni Joshua	Grace O'Brien	Melinda Pereyra-Henriques
	6.30pm	Volunteer please	Tanya Johnston	Charlie Aganetti
4/10	9am	Lesleigh Madden	David Howard	Des Madden
	10.30am	Cassandra Martin	Cathy GAtt	Julie Cowell

TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO ST PETER'S PARISH

1st Collection / Presbytery

Supports our priests and the retired priests of the Archdiocese.

Presbytery Acc:- BSB 083 347 **Acc. No.** 65892 7670

Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

2nd Collection / Church Supports our Parish

Church Acc:- BSB 083 347 **Acc No.** 65880 7871

Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH

St Peter's Parish Donation QR Code

To make a payment, simply scan our QR code with your mobile phone and follow a few easy steps.

Thank you for your support of our Parish



SCHOOL FAMILIES Reminder of 2026 contribution of \$520 Thank-you to those who have paid this contribution.

CHURCH CLEANING

5/9 Volunteers please

12/9 Martin Family

19/9 Anjith Abraham, Binoey John

26/9 Thi Nguyen, Leeni Joshua & Family

3/10 Volunteers please

10/10 Elizabeth Rozario, Shenelle Toshack

