

Gospel Mt 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Gospel reads: '... not one [sparrow] falls to the ground without your Father knowing.'

But that is a bad translation. The Greek simply says 'not one [sparrow] will fall to the ground without your Father.' Full stop! Our Heavenly Father accompanies a dying sparrow as it dies! That is the measure of the Creator's love for all creatures. God wants to - does - enter into the moment of death, *our* moment of death.

Now, that *would* be consoling if I were facing what Jesus was foreseeing for his disciples in the first century.

One of the first Christian groups to hear this Gospel was that set around the Tigris River running through Baghdad in modern day Iraq. Now they face terrible persecution from fanatical Muslims. We can barely imagine hearing today's Gospel amongst the remnant, left in Baghdad today. How does 'Do not be afraid' really sound to them?

So, we could pause for a moment to pray for those for whom today's Gospel is a challenge beyond our imagining.

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PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

EAST KEILOR

21 June 2020

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Volume 41, Number 22



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

21 June 2020

First Reading Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace
will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe
with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you
will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17, 33-35. R. v.14

(R.) *Lord, in your great love,
answer me.*

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my
brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.

In your great love, answer me. O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)

3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive:
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants
in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth
give him praise.
the sea and all its living creatures. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:12-15

*A reading from the letter of St Paul
to the Romans*

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man,
and through sin death, and thus death
has spread through the whole human race
because everyone has sinned. Sin existed
in the world long before the Law was given.
There was no law and so no one could be
accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet
death reigned over all from Adam to Moses,
even though their sin, unlike that of Adam,
was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the
gift itself considerably outweighed the fall.
If it is certain that through one man's fall so
many died, it is even more certain that divine
grace, coming through the one man, Jesus
Christ, came to so many as an abundant free
gift.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of Truth will bear witness
to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!*

21 June 2020

Dear Parishioners,

We have received new Guidelines, approved by Most Rev Peter Comensoli, stating that numbers permitted to attend Places of Worship for Mass will increase to 50 from week commencing 22nd June. This is great news as it will give parishioners more opportunity to attend a Mass.

Mass Timetable for week commencing 22nd June

Saturday 20th June at 9.15am for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary - No bookings required.

Please Note: No Morning Mass Tuesday 23rd June due to Private Funeral

Wednesday 24th June – Friday 26th June Mass at 9.15am (no bookings required).

Saturday 27th June Mass at 6.00pm (bookings required)

Sunday 28th June at 8.30am and 10.30am (bookings required)

Bookings to attend a weekend Mass can be made as follows:-

Online Bookings: For parishioners with internet access

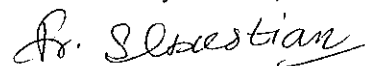
Mass attendance is via TryBooking.com. Go to 'Buy Tickets'(free), 'Search Events'(or 'Find Event') and type in **Mass St Peter's Church Keilor East** and find the correct date and Mass time you wish to attend. Add your details and confirm booking. If all 50 spots are filled, you will be prevented from booking in at that particular Mass time. Bookings for Masses at 6.00pm, 8.30am and 10.30am on the weekend of 27th/28th June, will open at 9am on Tuesday, 16th June and close at 5.00pm on Friday 19th June, unless filled earlier.

Phone Bookings: For parishioners **unable to book online**

Please call the Parish Office to register your name on 9337 4141 from Tuesday 23rd June. We will let you know if there is availability for the weekend Mass you wish to attend, and book you in if requested.

Now that restrictions are easing, I look forward to welcoming back more parishioners to our wonderful Church. Remember though, you are not obliged to attend during this time and if you feel unwell, please stay home. As always, the health and wellbeing of our parishioners and our community remain our number one priority.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Arockia M. Sebastian
Parish Administrator

Parish Administrator: Rev Arockia Manoharan Sebastian mssf

Parish Secretary: Mrs Helena Meredith

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<http://pol.org.au/keiloreast/Home.aspx> • **Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277)

[Keilor-East-248965765799277](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277) **YouTube:** St Peter's Church Keilor East – **Youtube.com**

St Peter's Parish Primary School - Phone: 03 9337 4111 **Email:** principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Theresa Zarb, Caterina Larobina, Davorka Stevanja

RECENTLY DECEASED

Francesca Giardina

ANNIVERSARIES

Elisabetta Sgro, Francesco Cuppari, Giovanni & Giuseppina Caserta, Charles & Tessie Mizzi, Vincenzo Pierorazio

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS EASED

From 22nd June restrictions on gatherings at places of worship will be further eased. Space density requirements remain – one person per four square metres & physical distancing of 1.5 metres.

- Up to 50 people allowed at a Mass as well as the minimum number of people required for the service.
- There have been no changes to numbers for Weddings and Baptisms (20).
- There have been no changes to Funerals (50) in addition to the Priest and funeral staff.

CATHOLIC MISSION – #We Are Still Here

With the COVID-19 pandemic headlining the news each day, and as we see Australia start to ease restrictions, it can be easy to forget that there are many countries around the world where the full extent of the impact has not yet been discovered. Priests, sisters and missionaries around the world are doing all that they can to ensure that those in need are given the best practical and pastoral support, however these Church-run programs often rely on generous donations from people like you. Will you join with us today to be there for those in need during this crisis? For more information and to give generously to support vital mission programs through COVID-19, please go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/ourwork/prop20-covid-19-appeal>

FEAST DAYS NEXT WEEK

Mon 22nd June Sts John Fisher & Thomas More
Wed 24th June The Nativity of St John the Baptist

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

Prayer in This Time of Crisis

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race,
healer of all our wounds, in whom
there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our
leaders;

watch over all medical people as they
tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all
isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be
open.

By the power of your love destroy the
virus of fear, that hope may never die,
and the light of Easter, the triumph of
life, may shine upon us and the whole
world.

Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen
from the dead, who lives and reigns for
ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for
us. St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray
for us.

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane