



Gospel Mt 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus wanted him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dread-ful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get *behind* me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, *follow* me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.

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PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

EAST KEILOR

30 August 2020

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Volume 41, Number 32



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

30 August 2020

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in
my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

*(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ**

**enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great
is the hope**

to which we are called.

Alleluia!

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CONGRATULATIONS FR SEBASTIAN

On Wednesday, 19th August 2020, Fr Arockia Manoharan Sebastian officially became an Australian Citizen via an online Citizenship Ceremony. Congratulations and Best Wishes from your St Peter's Parish family. We look forward to celebrating, when we can.

Aussie Aussie Aussie, Oi Oi Oi

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Bernadette Camilleri

RECENTLY DECEASED

Pierina Marini, Saveria Colosimo

ANNIVERSARIES

Michael Chircop, Vincenzo D'Agostino, Peter Commadeur, Mladen Glavina, Antonio Distefano, Felice Consulo

PARISH SUPPORT

We are most grateful for your contributions during this challenging time. Thank you all for your support. Online donations can be made as follows:-

Presbytery Collection – 1st Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Presbytery A/C
BSB: 083 347 Account No. 66541 7521
Reference as your first initial then surname, or remain anonymous

Church Collection – 2nd Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Church Account
BSB: 083 347 A/C No. 53530 4676
Reference as your first initial then surname and if known, your giving number e.g. ASmith T/G 500

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday 3 Sep St Gregory the Great
Friday 4 Sep Ember Day

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 August. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *'To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today.'* The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at <http://bit.ly/SocialJustice2020>.

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS – TIME OUT FOR A SUFFERING WORLD

On the eve of Spring, an invitation from the churches of Victoria to be a light in the darkness.

Monday 31 August 2020 7.00pm

As the last light of the last of winter fades, stand in your front garden and spend some time in silence, perhaps light a candle, to remember all those who have lost their lives to the Coronavirus or to violence. Then, as the first night of spring begins, look to the future with prayer and hope. Let us move from the cold and the dark into warmth and light together.

PARISH REMEMBRANCE BOOK

The Parish Remembrance Book will soon be updated. If you would like to add the name of a departed loved one, please email or telephone the Parish Office. Details required for inclusion in the book are: full name, month, date and year of death. Thank you.

SPRING EMBER DAY – FRIDAY 4

SEPTEMBER Special day of prayer for the needs of all people, especially for the productivity of the earth and for human labour, and to give God public thanks.



Prayer for Mental Health

Jesus, you invite us all into the fullness of life.

May we support one another to flourish

in body, mind and spirit.

Strengthen our commitment to ensure

that nobody falls through gaps in our systems of care.

People called you mad.

Help us to recognise you in those who suffer mental ill-health today.

Show us how to eliminate stigmatisation of mental ill-health from our parishes, schools, communities and organisations.

You drew near to those who were suffering in body or mind.

May we too feel your nearness when we struggle with mental health challenges.

May we be one as members of Your Body.

You invite us to share in your ministry

of love and true compassion.

May we be empowered by your Spirit to reach out to all people in need.

May we build communities of welcome and inclusion.

Amen

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

Phone: 03 9337 4111

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Administration: Ms Belinda McPherson & Mrs Sherrill Johnson

The Parish of St Peter's, Keilor East and the Diocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community.

All staff and volunteers in our parish must have a current Working with Children Check.

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE, ESSENDON

Applications for Year 7 in 2022 will close Friday 9th October 2020. Our next Virtual Tour will be held on Wednesday 2nd September. Book your place at columba.vic.edu.au

AVE MARIA COLLEGE YEAR 7 – 2022

Applications for Year 7 in 2022 close Friday 9th October 2020. Contact the Registrar on 9331 9308 or via email at registrar@avemaria.vic.edu.au