

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the past. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit.

From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new future for humanity.

That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with water in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

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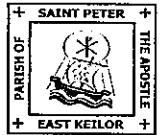
PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

EAST KEILOR

6 December 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent – Year B

Volume 41, Number 46



Second Sunday of Advent, Year B

6 December 2020

First Reading Is 40:1-5. 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her

that her time of service is ended,

that her sin is atoned for,

that she has received from the hand of the Lord

double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness

a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God

across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,

every mountain and hill be laid low,

let every cliff become a plain,

and the ridges a valley;

then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it;

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain,

joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice,

joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear,

say to the towns of Judah,

'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power,

his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him,

his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,

gathering lambs in his arms,

holding them against his breast

and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has

to say,

a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our

land. (R.)

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;

justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from

heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper

and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him

and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Pt 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Bishop Peter Elliott

RECENTLY DECEASED

Sam Abela(in Malta), Tran Thi Tam, Daniel Parnis

ANNIVERSARIES

BAPTISM AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Saturday, 5th December 2020

10.45am *Luca Hrestak*

11.45am *Michael Legudi*
Daniel Legudi

We welcome these children into our Parish Community. Please pray for them and their families.

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you all for your support. For those who prefer to, 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

BIBLE DIARIES 2021 'JOY OF THE GOSPEL'

Reflections on the Daily Gospel, easy to read layout, full texts of lectionary readings for all days, daily saints, prayers for various occasions. For sale in the narthex - \$15 each.

NEW BOOK BY ADRIAN COMMADEUR

Adrian has a new book out "Faith for Today – Catholic Faith for a New Generation". We congratulate Adrian on his wonderful achievement. If you wish to purchase a copy(\$10 each), please speak with Adrian.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 7 Dec St Ambrose

Tuesday 8 Dec The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

PARISH NEWS

We have capacity for 110 people to attend our Church services, including in the narthex, due physical distancing requirements. All pews have been marked – please only sit where there is a cross and not add extra people to the pew (unless you are caring for someone or have young children). Masks must be worn once you enter the narthex, unless a lawful exception applies. You may remove your mask when receiving Holy Communion.

Prior Bookings to attend a Mass are essential for weekend Masses only, either through Try Booking or by contacting the Parish Office by phone or email by 4.30pm on Friday. When you arrive at the Church, please have your name marked off the attendance sheet and sanitise your hands. Please be patient as you enter, because we cannot have a build-up of people in the narthex. If anyone hasn't pre-registered their name, the process takes longer as we need the name and contact number of everyone entering the Church. If we reach capacity and you haven't pre-registered, admittance may not be possible. Streaming of our weekend Mass will continue until Christmas.

Mass Hymn Books cannot be used, unless you have your own.

If you take a Parish Bulletin to read, please don't leave it in a pew or return it to the table – take it home with you or put in a bin.

Unless remaining in the narthex to meet with Fr Sebastian, or staying to clean, after the Mass has ended, you are asked to leave through the Exit door only and avoid social gatherings outside the Church.

We need volunteers to help with cleaning the pews after each Mass. Thank you to all who stay to do this.

Due to increasing Mass sizes and COVID-19 obligations, we are also seeking some volunteers to help with welcoming/registering and ushering before Masses. Please call Helena at the office on Tuesday if you can assist.

The Christmas Mass Timetable will be available next weekend.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS

ANNUAL APPEAL – 12/13 DECEMBER 2020

Please come prepared next weekend for this Appeal.

CONGRATULATIONS GREG BENNET

Bishop-elect Greg Bennet will be ordained Tenth Bishop of Sale on Tuesday, 8th December 2020 at 11am at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale. Please keep him in your prayers and may God continually bless him and his ministry in the days and years ahead.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE: *Is your Working with Children Check up to Date?*

As we return fully to Masses and our parish life slowly turns to a new 'Covid Normal' it is a timely reminder that ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST HOLD A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK. There are no exceptions and we are required by law to enforce this requirement. Please update your WWCC to include St Peter's as a location where you volunteer, or apply for a new WWCC

at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> Teachers with VIT registration must also add St Peter's as their voluntary location and provide a copy of their current VIT Registration to the Parish Office.

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.

2021 COLUMBAN CALENDAR

The 2021 Columban Art Calendar available for purchase - \$10 each.

FACE MASKS

\$5 available for purchase at all Masses.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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Sebastian msfs

Parish Secretary: Helena Meredith

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<http://pol.org.au/keiloreast/Home.asp>

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Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email:

principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Ms Belinda McPherson & Mrs Sherrill Johnson

CONFIRMATION AT ST PETER'S

Next Friday, 11th December and Monday, 14th December, Candidates from St Peter's Parish Primary School will be confirmed by Bishop Terry Curtin. We congratulate and pray for all Candidates, together with their sponsors, teachers and families.