



Gospel Lk 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

St Luke's account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: 'There was darkness over the deep and God's Spirit hovered over the water. God said: "Let there be light", and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary's womb.

A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God's Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether now is the time for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'

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Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B

20 December 2020

First Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
or him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.*

Alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick in our Parish community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Tran Thi Tam

ANNIVERSARIES

Joseph Rajakariar, John Luca, Francesco & Colomba Maurici, Joseph Maurice, Antonio Maurice, Nardina Guera, Angela & Giuseppe Sidari

BAPTISM AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Saturday, 19th December 2020

Grace Ruggieri

We welcome this child into our Parish Community. Please pray for her and her family.

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 for \$10, please speak with Adrian.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the current set of Thanksgiving Envelopes and in the narthex.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation will be held Tuesday, 22nd December at 7.00pm and 4 priests will be available to take Confessions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We can now welcome up to 200 people inside our Church and narthex, with physical distancing of 2 metres. Please sanitise your hands before entering the narthex, Prior bookings are essential. On arrival to the narthex, please give your name so you can be marked off the list, before entering the church.

Face coverings/masks are no longer mandatory but must be carried if the 1.5m social distancing cannot be maintained. Do not come to Mass if you are feeling unwell.

The Link for bookings on 26/27 December:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BNSFN>

WEEKEND STREAMED MASS

This is the last week that the Weekend Mass will be streamed online. Special thanks to Kaz, Teresa & Marianna Paradowski, Adrian Commaeur, Anthony and Joseph Doan and all who have assisted over the past 7 months and given their time and talent.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSIONS ANNUAL APPEAL – THANK YOU

Many thanks for your kind donations - \$898.60 was raised last weekend.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 'GIVING TREE'

Please return your gifts by Tuesday, 22nd December. They will be distributed by Vinnies to those less fortunate than ourselves before Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS

If you can volunteer, please contact the Parish Office no later than 12noon on Tuesday 22nd December. We will need Altar Servers, Greeters/Door Attendees, Ushers, Cleaners and Readers for all our Christmas Masses.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Donations for the purchase of flowers for our Altar at Christmas would be appreciated.



CHRISTMAS AT ST PETER'S 2020 The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 22nd December at 7.00pm
(No need to pre-register but you will be required to leave your contact details)

Confessions by appointment at other times.

Christmas Masses

Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil Family Mass at 5.00pm
with Carols from 4.30pm

Christmas Vigil Family Mass at 7.00pm
with Carols from 6.30pm

*Encouraging all children to come dressed as Angels
or Shepherds*

Christmas Vigil Mass at 9.00pm with Carols
from 8.30pm

Christmas Mass at Midnight at 12.00am
with Carols from 11.30pm

Friday 25th December The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Mass during the Day at 8.30am
Christmas Mass during the Day at 10.30am

Saturday 26th/Sunday 27th December
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Normal Weekend Timetable

New Year's Day – Friday 1st January
2021 - Morning Mass at 9.15am

CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKINGS

A booking is required for each person attending a Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day Mass to ensure seating availability, and if required, details to assist with contact tracing. Bookings close **Wednesday 23rd December at 5pm** or when capacity is reached.
<https://www.trybooking.com/BNOYS>

If you don't have computer access, please call the Parish Office on Tuesday or Wednesday morning to register for a Mass.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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Keilor East Vic 3033

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Sebastian msfs

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Email: keilorcast@cam.org.au

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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

ST PETER'S COMMUNITY VIRTUAL ART SHOW 2020

The Art Show is now available to view on the school website. Click on the Home page and press enter to view the Show. Please be patient as it takes a little while to download and is well worth viewing:

<http://www.spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.a/>

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Wishing all students, teachers and families a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year. May God Bless You All.

SCHOOL RESUMES FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY 2021

Years 1 – 6 Return

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.