



Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not worth much more than they are?

Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing?

Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that

not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these.

Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field

which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow,

will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith?

So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?"

It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things.

Your heavenly Father knows you need them all.

Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice,

and all these other things will be given you as well.

So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Reflection by Nick Brodie

God's saving justice

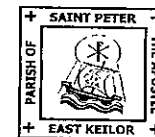
The Gospel reading for today is, at first glance, an odd choice to pair with the feast of St Mary of the Cross. Mary MacKillop faced more than a few financial challenges, after all, especially in her youth. The burden of supporting her poor family fell to Mary in her teenage years, and surely no one held it against her for worrying about money, food, or clothing.

But the pairing of saint and gospel makes sense in the context of Mary's vocation. Rather than worrying about herself, she cared for others. In this, Mary MacKillop lived the gospel very effectively. First caring for her immediate family, then for wider relations, soon enough Mary was focused on meeting the many needs of the communities in which she and her fellow Sisters of St Joseph lived. Through aid, education, and example Mary offered her contemporaries and us an example of faith through works.

From quietly and unobtrusively teaching in a stable in 1866, to founding a religious order that spread throughout and beyond a continent, Mary's spiritual journey was truly focused on "God's saving justice". Tending to Australia's Aboriginal peoples, prisoners facing execution, children requiring education, the homeless, the orphaned, the sick, indeed anybody she saw in need, Mary shows us how God seeks to answer the day's troubles: through us.

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Saint Mary of the Cross, Virgin

8 August 2021

First Reading 1 Kgs 17:7-16

The jar of meal shall not be spent according to the word of the Lord spoken through Elias.

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:1-8

(R.) My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

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. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:12-17

Bear with one another, forgive each other.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 27:55

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Many women were there by the cross,
watching from a distance,
the same women who had followed Jesus and
looked after him.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 6:25-34

Do not worry about your life.

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat,
nor about your body and what you are to wear.
Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

RECENTLY DECEASED

Joseph and Christopher Irudayaraj, Patricia Parker, John Ven Le, Giuseppe Parisi

ANNIVERSARIES

Kevin Dragwidge(40 days), Michael Dragwidge, Sebastiano Pitruzzello, Caterina & Domenico Riga, Nancy Palumbo, Joseph Basco

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S PARISH

15th August 2021 – 12 Noon

*Sabrina, Shannon & Savanna De Jong
Alexander Savino
Levi & Charlotte Byrne*

Please pray for these children and their families.

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you all for your continued 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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 10th Aug St Lawrence
Wednesday 11th Aug St Clare
Saturday 14th Aug St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

CATHOLIC MISSION – PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2021

Thank you so much for your generous support of Church-run mission programs like the Mother and Babies home in Thailand through last week's Catholic Mission Appeal. We raised \$ 1140.15

PARISH NEWS

ST MARY OF THE CROSS - MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY – 8 AUGUST
Friend and Education for the Poor



God of all people,
we thank you for Mary MacKillop
who like your Son Jesus,
reached out to the poor, the isolated,
the rejected and all in need
with a compassionate and loving heart.

As we walk in her footsteps,
may we see with her eyes,
listen with her ears and
love with her heart.

May we respond in practical ways
wherever we see need.

We ask this in Jesus' name,
the One who shows us the way of
compassion and love. Amen.

Sr. Annie Bond rsj.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) - ENQUIRY PERIOD

There will be a final Enquiry Night on Tuesday 10th August at St Peter's Parish Centre at 7.00pm. All attendees must use the QR code to check in so please bring your phone. Please also remember to bring your mask. Everyone is welcome. For enquiries, please contact Teresa Paradowski 9337 3103.

CATHOLIC CARE – ANNUAL CHURCH APPEAL – 14/15 AUGUST

Next weekend we will have the Catholic Care Sunday Appeal. Donations will help care for the most vulnerable families in our community. Please support.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 1-8 AUGUST

Today is the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, our first Australian saint. Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. 'Come & See!' An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on 14 August, Saturday 10.00am-11.45am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For more information take a brochure from the narthex. Please contact the Office of the Permanent Diaconate on 9412 3357 or email: diaconate@cam.org.au

COVID MARSHALS STILL REQUIRED

We are still in need of volunteers who can come 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass to ensure everyone entering the narthex has scanned the QR Code or assist them with this if necessary. If you are available to help, please contact the Parish Office on 9337 4141 or email keiloreast@cam.org.au. Marshals for the 10.30am Mass Sunday are especially needed. A Working with Children Check is required prior to commencing to volunteer.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Series of short sessions: online via Zoom.

Engaging Your Faith

Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$20 per session, running 21st Aug to 16th Sept. Booking, payment & more information:

www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/

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Facebook:

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

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass
6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass
8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm Sunday Masses

Weekday Mass Times:

9.15am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction)
7.00pm Wednesday (followed by Benediction & Devotion to two hearts)

RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday; 5.30pm Saturday

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

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