



sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living. The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite.

Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment.

When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves.

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

EAST KEILOR

29th August 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Volume 42, Number 31



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

29 August 2021

First Reading Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) *The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation Jas 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first

'CONGRATULATIONS'
Bishop Terry Curtin
On his Golden Jubilee
50 Years Ordained a Priest
28.08.1971-28.08.2021

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Davorka Stevanja, Lina Bartnik

RECENTLY DECEASED

Jean Carolyn Sumner, Wieslawa Martin,
Joseph Tayeh

ANNIVERSARIES

Antonio Di Stefano, Felice Consolo

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S PARISH

Please pray for the families waiting to have their children baptised in our Church.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Classes will commence once we can reopen. For enquiries, please contact Teresa Paradowski 9337 3103.

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

HOME GROTTOS

The Media Department of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne is doing a story on Home Grottos and would love to receive photos. If you or someone you know has a home grotto, please send details and photos to Melissa.parkinson@cam.org.au

PARISH REMEMBRANCE BOOK

The Parish Remembrance Book will be updated and reprinted soon. Please contact the Parish Office with the name, day, month & year of death, of loved ones you wish to be added, by 14th September.

PARISH NEWS

This weekend, for parishioners with internet access, the Mass for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time will be available online via our Parish Website, Facebook or You Tube from approximately 5pm on Saturday, 28th August. For parishioners without internet access, please watch TV Channel 31 (44 on digital tv) at 11am on Sunday 29th August, for the St Patrick's Cathedral Mass.

ST PETER'S 'COMMUNITY AT HOME TIME' We have commenced a new way to build a community online via weekly Zoom meetings. This is a friendly, relaxed way to get together during this time of lockdown. Our next Zoom 'get together' will be **Wednesday 1st September from 8-9pm.**

Everyone is welcome. The link to attend is: Topic: St Peter's Community at Home Time: This is a recurring meeting each week between 8-9pm. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6279668391?pwd=TTJlVY1R0dThxaHM5WEQzQ3FjeXlzZz09> Meeting ID: 627 966 8391 Passcode: 7774040

BISHOPS OF VICTORIA EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH AFGHAN COMMUNITY

The Catholic Bishops of Victoria have expressed their solidarity and support for the local Afghan community and their families back home in a joint statement released this week. Victoria is home to the largest number of Afghan-born people in Australia, and the bishops affirmed that 'Afghans hold an important place in the hearts of Victorians, especially at this difficult time'.

'Our country's involvement in the conflict should urge a just and compassionate response to the current situation now, and our policies should be person-focused, and adapt to the fundamentally changed situation.

We hold the people of Afghanistan in our prayers, and express a commitment to compassionate outreach for them throughout the world and here in Victoria. Please go to www.melbournecatholic.org for full statement.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 2021

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29th of August. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

PRAYER: CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the bush grown more silent,
the birdsong less vibrant,
the stream's sluggish ripple.

Have mercy and open our ears.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the soil depleted,
the sky smudged,

the oceans rubbished and the great currents slowed.

Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see:
the workers who struggle to get by, the women subjected to violence,
the people who are excluded.

Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear:

the sound of hungry children,
the distress of the mentally ill,
the silent pain of homeless women and men.

Have mercy and open our ears.

Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew our sight,
to restore our hearing, and to reclaim your reign of justice for all people and peace for creation.

Amen.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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<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

SCHOOL NEWS

We continue to pray for the teachers, students and their families during these difficult times.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Friday 3 September St Gregory the Great

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.