**Gospel Mk 7:31-37**

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1983 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministries Resources Pt. Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your licensing agreement.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension to being open to the word of God, because we are opened to hear something from the future. The prophets always speak about this future in the present tense. They see it happening already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your God!' and the world is transformed. Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news always opens us to future possibilities, to personal and communal transformation, to a new creation. With the word of God, the future invades our present.

Although the eschatological future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way. Although the eschatological future is already present, we have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past, we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**5 September 2021****First Reading Is 35:4-7**

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1**

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

or:

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the
blind,
who raises up those who are
bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)

3. The Lord upholds the widow and
orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 2:1-5

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom*

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Davorka Stevanja, Lina Bartnik

RECENTLY DECEASED

Vincenzo Carbone, Brian Chiera, Fr Devasia Ayilukunnel, Fr Paul Purcell, Jean Carolyn Sumner

ANNIVERSARIES

Tony Zarb, Vincent Zarb, Tony Sapiano, George Zarb, John Sapiano, Salvatore Parnis, Giuseppe De Vito

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

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.

CATHOLIC MISSION thank you for your support of this year's Appeal for the Propagation of the Faith enables Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses to offer Good News to their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of **\$1,450.15**, which was raised by **St Peter's** community for Catholic Mission. Through your contribution, mothers and babies in Thailand can be confident that they have a safe place to live as they rebuild their future.

PARISH NEWS

ONLINE MASS

The news from the Government this week was not good, but we continue to pray that we can reopen as soon as it is safe to do so. This weekend, for parishioners with internet access, the Mass for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time will be available online via our Parish Website, Facebook or You Tube from approximately 5pm on Saturday, 4th September. For parishioners without internet access, please watch TV Channel 31 (44 on digital tv) at 11am on Sunday 5th September, for the St Patrick's Cathedral Mass.

ST PETER'S 'COMMUNITY AT HOME TIME' We will continue our 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 8th 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=TTJlVlY1R0dThxaHM5WEQzQ3FjeXlZzZz09> Meeting ID: 627 966 8391 Passcode: 7774040

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL- COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK PRIESTS 'Caring for those who cared' – 5 September

The Priests Retirement Foundation runs the Father's day appeal annually on the first Sunday of September, Father's Day. The donations received go towards the cost of supporting our retired priests, by providing suitable accommodation, medical assistance and a comfortable standard of living for them. An envelope for this appeal can be found in your yearly set of Thanksgiving Envelopes and these can be returned once we reopen or, if no cash inside, can be sent direct to the PRF. Donations can also be made through the Priests Retirement Foundation website via debit, credit card or Paypal and receipts will be issued. The site is www.cam.org.au/foundation.



Happy Father's Day!

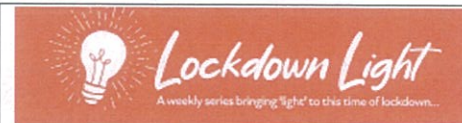


Wishing all fathers, grandfathers and special men in our lives a very 'Happy Father's Day'. May you all be richly blessed by the grace of God.

Prayer for Fathers

Lord, Heavenly Father,
you entrusted your Son Jesus,
the child of Mary,
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers
as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to you for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender.
Amen.

'THANK YOU' to all the volunteers who delivered last weekend's letter from Fr Sebastian to parishioner's letterboxes. Much appreciated.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Lockdown Light—a weekly series
A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown

...
Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations at www.bit.ly/LockdownLight

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

2a Parkside Avenue

Keilor East Vic 3033

Parish Priest: Rev. Arockia Manoharan
Sebastian msfs

Parish Secretary: Helena Meredith

Phone: 03 9337 4141

Email: keiloreast@cam.org.au

Website:

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

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277)

[Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277](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

Wednesday 8 Sep The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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.