



Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:39-45

Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

There is always excitement at this time of the year. It is as if everything is filled with promise. Animositities are set aside; estrangement dissolves into reconciliation; the whole world seems gentler; and we are filled with the spirit of generosity. In the days just before Christmas, the possibility of newness is almost palpable. The spirit of the season has caught hold of us even before the actual day has arrived. Today we stand on the threshold of fulfilment. The future that God has prepared for us is open before us, even though we have not yet stepped out into it.

The incarnation takes place in human history, thus affirming the fundamental goodness of human life and concerns, and sanctifying them even further. The child comes from simple people, from a place that is relatively insignificant, thus underscoring God's preference for what is ordinary. The body that was offered for our salvation, the body that consecrated us through having been offered up, was the body that grew in the womb of Mary. The extraordinary salvific deed of God was accomplished through his coming into the world as one of us. The obedience that Christ played out through his body fulfilled for us the promises made by God.

We stand on the threshold of fulfilment, the fulfilment of an event that has already taken place. We ritually reenact it so that we never take it for granted, so that we never forget that it is in and through human history that the marvellous deeds of God are accomplished.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C

19 December 2021

First Reading Mi 5:1-4

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon
them

till the time when she who is to give birth
gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will
come back
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he
will extend his power
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

*(R.) Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall
be saved.*

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)

3. May your hand be on the man you have
chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon
your name. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

I am coming to do your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or
sacrifices for sin;
then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of
the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey
your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Ivan Mance

RECENTLY DECEASED

Josip Grbac

ANNIVERSARIES

Alberto Bordignon, Adrian D'Souza, Joseph Rajakariar, Bernardo Quattrucci, Chris Portelli, Tony Refalo, Anthony Cassar, Peter Tran Van Hanh, Theresa Tran Thi Vinh

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday 19th December 2021

Alexander Savino

Harry Bryant

Nicholas Chomkowicz

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Please call Mrs Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103 for further information

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

2022 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Available for purchase - \$9 each. Please ask a COVID Check In Marshal and they will assist you or call the Parish Office.

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

BIBLE DIARIES FOR SALE

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.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

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

PARISH NEWS

PARISH RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation will be held Tuesday, 21st December at 7.00pm and 4 priests will be available to take Confessions.

VICTORIA'S COVID 19 RULES UPDATE

Following the announcement by the Victorian Minister for Health (15 December), there will not be any vaccination requirements nor any requirement for organisers to check vaccination status at Places of Worship for Weddings, Funerals and general Worship.

- The Christmas Mass timetable has been updated. You may now attend any Mass, whether vaccinated or not.
- The 12noon Mass on Sunday 26th December has been cancelled, as will all Saturday Vigil 5.00pm Masses from 1st January. Anyone may attend the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass.
- Please continue to Check In using the QR Code; sanitise your hands; try to keep a physical distance of at least 1.5metres.
- Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting test verification (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.
- Masks are no longer compulsory but it is recommended you do wear one.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENE

Sincere thanks and congratulations to Ken Remedios, Joe Abela, Lou Cassar and Cedric Meneze for all their hard work in putting together our Christmas Nativity scene this year. The countless hours they spent decorating the Church in preparation for Christmas is very much appreciated.

WORKING BEE THANKS Thanking all who came and helped at the Working Bee Saturday.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 'GIVING TREE'

Thank you for all who purchased a gift for a child from the 'Giving Tree'. Cash donations also gratefully accepted and may be left in the St Vincent de Paul box at the back of the Church (to left of St Mary MacKillop picture).

CHRISTMAS AT ST PETER'S 2021

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 21st December at 7.00pm

At other times by appointment.

Christmas Masses

Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil Mass at 5.00pm

with Carols from 4.30pm

Encouraging all children to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds

Christmas Vigil 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

Saturday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Mass during the Day at 8.30am
(English & Italian)

Christmas Mass during the Day at 10.30am
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday 26th December

at 8.30am & 10.30am

New Year's Eve – Friday 31st December

6.30pm Adoration followed by Mass at 7.00pm

New Year's Day – Saturday 1st January 2022 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy

Mother of God - Morning Mass at 9.15am

The Epiphany of the Lord – 1/2 January

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am Masses

No 5.00pm Mass in January

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

We still need more volunteers for Christmas Masses, especially the 9pm and 12 Midnight Masses. Please contact the Parish Office no later than **Tuesday, 21st December**. We need Musicians, Singers, Altar Servers, Readers, Special Ministers of Communion, ushers, COVID Check in Marshals. Thanks to those who have already offered to volunteer.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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Keilor East Vic 3033

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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-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

MASS TIMES

PLEASE REFER TO THE MASS
TIMETABLE UNDER 'PARISH NEWS'
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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

Wishing all students, teachers, admin and support staff and their families a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

May God Bless You All.

TERM 1 2022 commences Tuesday, 1st February.

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.