

**Gospel Lk 2:41-52**

His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The optional readings for the feast of the Holy Family provide us an opportunity to reflect on 'family values' in a slightly different way. Here the pivotal theme is the union that we enjoy with God, a union of love that makes us children of God, members of the family of God. All other families find meaning and inspiration in this fundamental gathering. The stories of Hannah, Elkanah, and Samuel as well as Mary, Joseph and Jesus are examples of how the plan of God unfolds within the everyday occurrences of family life.

It is out of love that we are called to be children of God. As children of God, we are also joined to God's own Son, who has commanded us to love one another as God has loved all. If we are faithful to that commandment, Christ remains in us. We are bound to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The human family plays a significant role in the fashioning of the broader family of God. The larger family that God initiates is specified in unique historical families, as strange and as complex as those family relationships may be, with their joys and sorrows, their barrenness and their fruitfulness. There is no way of separating this human family and the broader people of God. The plan of God does not unfold in a vacuum, but in the everyday family situations that include separation and misunderstanding as well as joy and celebration.

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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C**26 December 2021****First Reading 1 Sm 1:20-22. 24-28**

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10**

(R.) How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

1. How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God. (R.)

2. They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength. (R.)

3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
gave ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet
been revealed,
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our
own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son
Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Clara Inserra & Dina Di Benedetto.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Dominico Dang San

ANNIVERSARIES

John Chalabi, Zora Ivkovic, Pero Ivkovic, Peter Tran Van Hanh, Theresa Tran Thi Vinh, Anthony Doan Dao, Anna Hoang Bich Hong, Francesco Favata, Vincenzo Rocca, Rosina Meraviglia, Francesco Rocca, Iolanda Rocca, Italo Inserra, Giovanni Luca, Souls of the Maurici family, Giuseppe & Angela Sidari, Nardina Guerra, Angela & Luigi Sudano, Giuseppe & Francesca Bonfa, Pasquale Pugliese, Bernardo Quattrucci, Concetta & Sante Quattrucci and family, Giancarlo Quattrucci, Antonietta & Augusto Fiore & family, Gaetano Fiore, Sam Ratnatunga, Antonio Bonadio, Raffaele & Nicoletta Bonadio, Pasqualina & Francesco Mercuri, Vincenzo D'Agostino

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 2022 '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.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Thank you to all who donated towards our Christmas Altar Flowers.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES

Many thanks to all the volunteers who delivered our Parish Christmas Cards to the many letter boxes in East Keilor.

Seasons Greetings



We wish all our parishioners and visitors to St Peter's a Happy and Holy Christmas

May the year ahead be full of faith, love, peace, joy and good health

May God bless you all

Fr Arockia Sebastian & Helena

CHRISTMAS 'THANK YOU'

Our parish is built on, and is sustained by, many thousands of hours of volunteered time. Volunteers are the lifeblood of parish life and we are more than grateful for the contribution of all our generous and committed volunteers. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers at St Peter's Parish.

On a personal note, I am very grateful to all parishioners who remembered me at Christmas and who sent greeting cards or gifts. A big thanks to each and every one of you. I will keep you all in my prayers.

Fr Arockia Sebastian

ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:

www.melbournecatholic.org

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be open on 29/12-30/12 and 4/1/22-6/1/22. Parish Office will be closed from 7/1/22 until 28/1/22. This is the last Parish Bulletin for 2021. Next Bulletin will be printed on 30/1/22. Emails and phone messages will be checked regularly during this period for urgent matters.

MASS TIMETABLE

Tuesday 28th December – Thursday 30th December

Morning Mass at 9.15am

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

The Baptism of the Lord 8/9 January
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 15/16

January and 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 22/23 January

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am Masses

No Sunday 5.00pm Mass in January

Tuesday to Saturday Morning Mass continues throughout January at 9.15am

COVID 19 REGULATIONS UPDATE 23/12/21

- Masks must once again be worn in all indoor settings. Masks are now mandatory at Mass for all people aged 8 and over.
- 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Many thanks again to all who purchased a gift from the 'Giving Tree'. They have been given out to those who need it most and are very much appreciated. Cash donations for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal also welcomed. Please place in the St Vincent de Paul box at the back of the Church (to left of St Mary MacKillop picture). Thank you for your generosity.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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Sebastian msfs

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

x

Facebook:

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MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am & 10.30am Sunday Masses

Weekday Mass Times:

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday & Friday (followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction)

RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday; 5.30pm Saturday

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email:

principal@spkcioreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Ms Belinda McPherson & Mrs Sherrill Johnson

SCHOOL NEWS

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.