



Gospel Mt 3:1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

When John the Baptist performed baptism it was for the forgiveness of sin. The baptism he gave was a mark of the desire to enter into a new life of right action. It was not a baptism of initiation into community that is the case today. John had two key words that he is recorded as preaching: repent and prepare. His call for repentance was a call to turn away from sin; a call to have a change of heart; a call to turn one's life around and make a fresh start. His call for preparation is in the long line of prophets that includes the great prophet Isaiah from whom we take today's first reading. All of the prophets urged the people towards hope in the future. Isaiah and others spoke specifically of a person - a Messiah - who would bring that hope to reality. But the tradition demanded a readiness for the Messiah and that was the call to preparation that John the Baptist echoed at the beginning of the public life of Jesus.

John's taunting of the Pharisees and Sadducees is an indication of this need for preparation and readiness. He accuses them of being too confident of their own rightness. He demands proof from them of their honest repentance: 'but if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit'. Rather, he suspects that they think that salvation is assured for them by virtue of being a Jew; a son of Abraham. He warns them that an axe hangs poised to cut down any part of the Jewish tradition that is failing to produce good fruit. This is a theme that is picked up later by Jesus himself; you can't be complacent about your own position, you have to welcome the new truth revealed by Jesus and give yourself wholeheartedly to God.

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PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

4 December 2022

2nd Sunday of Advent - Year A

Volume 43, Number 45



Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

4 December 2022

First Reading Is 11:1-10

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.
The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair
the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm,
on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.
That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

*(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.*

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

- In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
- May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Prepare the way of the Lord, make
straight his paths:*

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Brian Couacaud

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria Profeta

ANNIVERSARIES

Joseph Pham Van Khanh, Giuseppina Castelluccio, John Galea, Carmen & Joe Galea, Angela & Santo Sciacchitano, Santina Valastro, Vincenzo & Olimpia Gasbarro, Robert Ridler, Audrey Del Mundo

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon - Sunday 4th December 2022

Sophia Riquelme

Caleb Brancatisano

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or would you like to know more about the Catholic faith?

For further information, 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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 7 Dec St Ambrose

Thursday 8 Dec The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS FOR SALE

Available for purchase before Mass - \$10 each.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

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

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Donations for the costs associated with flowers for our Altar at Christmas would be appreciated.

PARISH NEWS

ST PETER'S PARISH & SCHOOL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2022 THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER - 4.15PM - 9.00PM

Please join us on Thursday, 8th December. Schedule of events:-

- 4.15pm Gates Open
- 4.30pm Food stalls start
- 5.30pm Christmas Carols performed by St Peter's School Children & Choir (no food for sale during that time)
- 6.30pm Food stalls continue
- 7.30pm Children's Disco

Please bring your families and friends to the Carols Night and a rug to sit on during the children's performances. There will be some chairs available for the elderly.

There will be some fabulous food for sale:- **BBQ** with sausages and hamburgers, **Vietnamese** and **Indian** Food Stalls as well as **Drinks**.

We'll have **Fairy Floss** and **Snow Cones** for sale.

The **Raffle Prizes** will be drawn between children's performances.

There will be a **Silent Auction**.

A **Disco** for the children starts around 7.30pm in the tennis courts area.

There will be a yummy **Cake Stall**.

Gold Coin donation on entrance to the campus - with great door prizes to be won!

Parking: Please be respectful of neighbours when parking in the streets surrounding the Parish.

RAFFLE BOOKS

All tickets and money must be returned by **Wednesday, 7th December** to the Parish Office.

CAKE STALL

It would be appreciated if parishioners can make cakes or goodies to sell at our stall. If you can bake something, please bring by **11.00am on 8th December** to the Parish Office or Church. It would be appreciated if you could include the ingredients used in making the cake on a paper or sticker (see in narthex).



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT ST PETER'S 2022

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday, 20th December at 7.00pm

Fr Sebastian will be available for Confession on appointment at other times.

Christmas Masses

Saturday 24th December

Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil Mass at 6.00pm (Family Mass)
Carols from 5.30pm

Children are encouraged to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds

Christmas Vigil Mass at 9.00pm

Carols from 8.30pm

Christmas Mass at Midnight at 12.00am.

Carols from 11.30pm

Sunday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord

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

Christmas Mass during the Day at 10.30am

Friday 30th December

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9.15am Morning Mass

Saturday 31 December

New Year's Eve - Morning Mass at 9.15am

6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 1st January 2023

New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary, the

Holy Mother of God

8.30am & 10.30am Masses

6PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS - 24/12/22

Encouraging all children who attend the 6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds.

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY Please fill in the clipboard in the narthex or email the Parish Office by **Friday, 16/12** if you can volunteer. We need Readers, Ext. Mins. of Communion, Mass Helpers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Musicians and Singers for all our Christmas Masses.

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

Parish Office Hours: 8.30am-4.00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

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

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

RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday; 5.30pm Saturday

(Please let the Priest know you would like to make your Confession)

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Ms Linda Tarraran

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email: principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Belinda McPherson, Carmel Perry, Sherrill Johnson

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER

Year 6MG Class Mass at 6pm Vigil Mass

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.