



Gospel Mt 5:38-48

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

At times it seems we have rewritten the 'Golden Rule' to say: Do unto others before they can do unto you! In saying this we are not encouraging each other to do good, but to be defensive. Jesus tells us to go the extra mile, turn the other cheek, outdo ourselves in generosity and rise above the fray. He is not suggesting that we allow ourselves to be abused, but that we not perpetuate the antagonism out of which the mistreatment arose. He is not advocating passivity, but he is saying that we should not retaliate. Jesus is describing what we today would call active non-resistance, the attitude taught by Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

We are familiar with the answer to the question: Who is my neighbour? We usually interpret it to mean those we do not particularly like. It is important to love them, to be kind to them, to help them when they are in need. But these are not the people whom Jesus is talking about in today's reading. He tells us that the neighbours whom we are to love are those people who do not like us. We are to love those who deliberately exclude us from their social circles, who talk about us behind our backs. We are to love those who make us feel that we are not good enough for them, those who resent us for our accomplishments. We are to love those who exploit us or do us harm. This is indeed a radical teaching.

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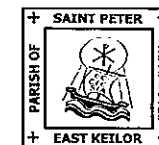
PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

19 February 2023

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Volume 44, Number 4



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

19 February 2023

First Reading Lv 19:1-2, 17-18

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and
compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.*

Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Dina Di Gregorio.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Eliza Pinto, Vitina Musarra

ANNIVERSARIES

Patricia Morena(1 month), Francesco Schipano, John Chalabi, Sebastiana Giardino, Nunzia Bonnici

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 19th February 2023

Audrey Tropea

Please pray for this child and her family.

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 22 Feb Ash Wednesday
Thursday 23 Feb St Polycarp

BIBLE DIARIES FOR SALE

For sale in the narthex - \$15 each.

CATHOLIC CARE: PASTORAL CARE APPEAL 2023 Thank you! Last weekend, we conducted the annual Pastoral Care Appeal in our Parish which raised \$1,355.90. The presence of Catholic chaplains is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. Thank you to those who have supported this Appeal.

PARISH NEWS

LENT 2023

Lent begins on Wednesday 22nd February, Ash Wednesday. Day of Fast and Abstinence.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Mass times for Ash Wednesday – 22nd February

8.00am Mass
9.15am Mass (with whole School)
7.00pm Mass

- Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.
- Ash Wednesday is a day of special prayer and penance. Mass is an excellent way to begin Lent.
- We can reach out to the needy through charitable activities during Lent in special ways such as Project Compassion.

Obligations:

- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence.
- Fasting – means being moderate in what we eat and applies to those over 18 and not yet 60.
- The sick and those with special dietary needs are not obligated.

See full list of obligations on the noticeboard & glass in the narthex. Extra copies available to take home.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS

Each Friday during Lent from 7.00pm followed by Mass.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2023

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and *For All Future Generations*. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*.

ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP

Recommences for 2023 on Monday, 20th February at 10.00am with Holy Mass. Everyone welcome.

GRADE 6 STUDENTS' CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASSES are being held this weekend at our 6pm Saturday Vigil and 10.30am Sunday Masses. Please pray for these children as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation on 28th April.

COMMISSIONING MASS & 'SAUSAGE SIZZLE' 'THANK YOU'

Many thanks to all who attended last Sunday's Commissioning Mass, along with School Staff, Parish Committee members & Group Leaders. A special 'Thank You' to all the volunteers who prepared the BBQ, those who brought along some food to share & all who helped in any way. Your generous efforts were very much appreciated.

ST PETER'S PARISH 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED' We need volunteers to serve as Readers, Greeters, Ministers of Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Mass Helpers & Altar Servers, for our Weekend Rosters. Please fill in a Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference Form, which can be found on the display stands in the narthex, and email it to Helena at the Parish Office: keiloreast@cam.org.au or drop it into the Parish Office. Training will be provided.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA – TURKEY & SYRIA 'EARTHQUAKE APPEAL' Give now to help families impacted by the devastating earthquake. If you would like to make a donation, please call Caritas Australia on 1800 024 413 or email <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/middle-east-crisis-appeal-turkey-syria>

BISHOP ROBERT RABBAT'S 'SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL' The Melkite Catholic Eparchy have asked the Archdiocese of Melbourne to share their banking details for those who would like to donate: MCF DGR Account. Ref: Syrian Appeal BSB: 062784 A/C: 100011493. Contact: mcf@melkite.org.au or call (02) 9750 5514. See posters in narthex.

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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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: Stephanie Wood, Belinda McPherson, Carmel Perry

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS
YEAR 6 SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – COMMITMENT MASSES
Saturday 18th February at 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 19th February at 10.30am 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.