



Gospel Mt 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth
of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent act as a kind of overture to the entire season. They enable us to engage in a double confession: a confession of sin and the repentance which follows; and a confession of praise for the mercy of God which is shown us in spite of our sin.

The very first reading reminds us of our fragility. We are made of the dust of the ground, the very stuff that represents death and decay. We were reminded of this when ashes were used to sign us on Ash Wednesday. At the beginning of Lent we are invited to acknowledge honestly and realistically our fundamental human weakness.

Despite our weaknesses, the situation within which we find ourselves is not hopeless. Somewhere deep within ourselves we know that we are not helpless prisoners of our limitations. God has not deserted us to our guilt. The form that God's compassion takes is outlined in the reading from Romans. It is in the death and resurrection of Jesus that we see the extent of this divine compassion. Its scope is first measured by the yardstick of human sinfulness, and then it outstrips those dimensions. God's gracious gift far exceeds the effects of human transgression.

The gospel reading moves us from both the anthropological and the theological considerations to the crowning Christological reflections. As we look to Jesus, we see humanity at its best, tempted but not overcome. There will certainly always be human limitations, human weaknesses that will open the door to temptation. But Jesus shows us that we are not thereby doomed. Jesus is a model for our own journey to new life.

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First Sunday of Lent, Year A

26 February 2023

First Reading Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

**Second Reading Rom 5:12-19
(or Shorter form Rom 5:12, 17-19)**

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!*

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Dina Di Gregorio.

RECENTLY DECEASED

ANNIVERSARIES

Maria Certo, John Chalabi

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 5th March 2023

Alexander De Salvo

James O'Neil

Mitchell Grant

Archer Teal

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

Friday 3rd March Ember Day

BIBLE DIARIES FOR SALE

For sale in the narthex - \$15 each.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

If you would like to join our Stewardship Program (Parish Thanksgiving), Pledge cards are available in the narthex. Please contact the Parish Office if you require further information.

MINISTERS' ROSTER – MARCH-JUNE 2023

Will be emailed next week. Hard copies will be available for volunteers without email.

PARISH NEWS



LENT 2023

Friday 3rd March

7.00pm - Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass.

8.30pm–11.30pm - Healing Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 10th March

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass.

Friday 17th March

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass

8.30pm–11.30pm – Healing Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 24th March

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass

Saturday 25th March – 1 DAY LENTEN HEALING RETREAT - Details to Come!

Friday 31st March

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass

8.30pm-11.30pm – Healing Eucharistic Adoration

CARITAS AUSTRALIA: PROJECT COMPASSION 2023 "For All Future Generations" Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes.

1st Sunday of Lent

After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

ST PETER'S SOCIAL CLUB

Meets Wednesdays from 10.00am-1.30pm (approx.) in the Parish Centre (entry via Bellarine Avenue). Enjoy a cuppa; make new friends. BYO lunch, Bingo. **New members are very welcome. Please come along!**

Volunteers to form a new Committee are required. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

ST PETER'S PARISH 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED' We need more volunteers to serve as Readers, Greeters, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Mass Helpers & Altar Servers, for our Weekend Rosters. Please fill in a Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference Form, located on display stands in the narthex, and email it to 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.

CRC NORTH KEILOR YEAR 7 2025 INFORMATION EVENING AND ENROLMENT CRC North Keilor are hosting a Year 7 2025 Information Evening on Thursday 16 March at 7 pm. Register your attendance online via the College website www.crcnk.com.au Families are invited to attend a tour of the College. Please visit the website for available dates and online booking. An application for enrolment for Year 7 2025 is to be completed online. For enrolment queries please contact the Enrolment Registrar at enrol@crcnk.vic.edu.au or call on 9361 5904.

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@spkceiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Stephanie Wood, Belinda McPherson, Carmel Perry

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

2024 PREP ENROLMENT – OPEN DAYS

Wednesday 8th March and Thursday 9th March. Please contact the school on 9337 4111 for further information.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING AGM

Thursday 9th March @ 7pm

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.