



the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already

– when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not. Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

12 March 2023

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith

and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42, 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel shorter form

Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again:

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick and housebound in our Parish community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Alois Jagsch (in Austria), Rita Winter, Teresa O'Driscoll (in Ireland)

ANNIVERSARIES

Michele Augustino (1 month), Matthew Sesto, Joseph Grbac, Vincenzo Scolla, John Debono

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 19th March 2023

Chelsea Cassidy

Oliver Cassidy

Please pray for these children and their family.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

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

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, play Bingo. *All welcome!*

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Friday, 17 March St Patrick

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thank you to all who took home their new set of Thanksgiving envelopes last weekend. If you were away, please take a moment to collect your envelopes or letter which also continues a letter and receipt. *If your envelopes or receipts are not found, please contact the Parish Office.*

PARISH NEWS



SPECIAL PARISH LENTEN EVENTS

OUR LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO TA' PINU MARIAN SHRINE, BACCHUS MARSH – Saturday 18th March 2023

As part of our Lenten journey, we will have a Pilgrimage to Our Lady Ta' Pinu Marian Shrine, 15 Flanagans Drive, Merrimu on Saturday, 18th March 2023. All invited to attend.

- 9.00am Depart St Peter's
- 10.00am Stations of the Cross
- 11.00am Holy Mass
- 12noon Lunch (BYO)
Tea/coffee provided.
- 1.00pm Visiting Shrine area
- 2.30pm Return to St Peter's

We are hiring a bus for the day - \$20pp which you can pay prior to, or on the day. Please see sign-up sheet in the narthex and include your contact number, or email the Parish Office. **RSVP Thursday, March 16th.** *We need to know final numbers for the bus hire.* You may leave your own car in the Church car park for the day and the gates will be locked before we depart for the Shrine.

ST PETER'S PARISH LENTEN HEALING RETREAT – Saturday 25th March 2023 with special Guest Speaker: Fr. Rojan George VC

Program

- 9.30am Registration & Morning Tea
- 10.00am Praise and Worship
- 10.30am Talk by Fr. Rojan George, VC
- 12.00noon Adoration & Confessions
- 12.30pm Light lunch (in the narthex)
- 1.00pm Healing Mass
- 2.30pm Conclusion

Please RSVP your attendance by 21st March to the Parish Office on 9337 4141, keiloreast@cam.org.au or add your name on the clipboard in the narthex.

FRIDAYS DURING LENT

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

8.00pm-9.00pm - Adoration

Friday 31st March

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass

8.30pm-11.30pm – Healing Eucharistic Adoration

PALMS

If anyone has Palms for Palm Sunday (2nd April), please bring them to the Church by Friday morning, 31st March, or contact the Parish Office if they need to be collected.

MASS OF THE HOLY OILS – CHRISM MASS

Saturday 1st April commencing 10.00am at St Patrick's Cathedral. All parishioners are invited to attend. Please contact the Parish Office or speak with Fr Sebastian.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA: PROJECT COMPASSION 2023 "For All Future Generations".

3rd Sunday of Lent Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis. 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 or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

'CATHOLICISM' VIDEO SERIES AND DISCUSSION St Mary's Parish, Ascot Vale, is hosting a free program by Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. Tuesdays weekly from 7th March 7-9pm School Hall, St Mary's Primary School, Cnr Roseberry St & Ferguson St, Ascot Vale *Registration with the parish office essential.* P: 9370 6688 E: ascotvale@cam.org.au

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

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

Monday 13th March

Labour Day Public Holiday – School Closed

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.