

**Gospel Jn 9:1-41**

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms: A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd  
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A****19 March 2023****First Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13**

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

**Responsorial Psalm****Ps 22 R. v.1**

*(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your  
staff;  
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
In the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
My cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall  
follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. (R.)

**Second Reading Eph 5:8-14**

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.

**Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12**

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

### IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### SICK

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

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria Poropat

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Peter Colosimo, Rita Rajakariar

#### BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Monday, 20 March St Joseph

Saturday, 25 March The Annunciation of the Lord

#### THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

There are still some envelope boxes and letters with receipts to be collected. Please take the time to collect yours.

**EASTER TRIDUUM – Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday – Volunteers Needed** Please see volunteer sheets in the narthex.

### PARISH NEWS

#### FIAT – A WEEKEND OF PRAYER

**Friday 24 March – Sunday 26 March 2023**  
Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has invited the Archdiocese of Melbourne to unite for a weekend of prayer from Friday 24 March to Sunday 26 March 2023. Parishes, communities and movements will be hosting hours of prayer across the Archdiocese, meditating on Mary's fiat, her total 'yes'. We will have an hour of prayer next Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March from 8.00-9.00pm. All welcome.

**ST PETER'S PARISH LENTEN HEALING RETREAT – NEXT Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 provided  
**1.00pm** Healing Mass  
**2.30pm** Conclusion

Please RSVP your attendance by **21<sup>st</sup> March** to the Parish Office on 9337 4141, [keiloreast@cam.org.au](mailto:keiloreast@cam.org.au) or add your name on the clipboard in the narthex by Tuesday.

#### FRIDAYS DURING LENT

##### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

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

**8.00pm-9.00pm** – Fiat Adoration & Prayer

##### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> April), please bring them to the Church by Friday morning, 31<sup>st</sup> March, or contact the Parish Office if they need to be collected.

**MASS OF THE HOLY OILS – CHRISM MASS** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April commencing 10.00am at St Patrick's Cathedral. All parishioners are invited. Please contact the Parish Office or speak with Fr Sebastian if you would like to attend.

### 2023 LENTEN CALENDAR

#### PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – 2<sup>ND</sup> April

Normal weekend timetable (Blessing of the Palms, Procession & Mass)

#### HOLY WEEK

##### Monday of Holy Week – 3<sup>rd</sup> April

9.15am - Mass

##### Tuesday of Holy Week – 4<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am - Mass.

##### Wednesday of Holy Week – 5<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Morning Mass

7.00pm – Lenten Penance with Eucharistic Adoration – no Mass (*Priests will be available for individual Confessions*)

##### HOLY THURSDAY – 6<sup>th</sup> April

7.00pm – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

8.30pm – Altar of Repose & Eucharistic Adoration until midnight

##### GOOD FRIDAY – 7<sup>th</sup> April

10.30 am - Way of the Cross

3.00pm - Solemn celebration of The Lord's Passion

##### HOLY SATURDAY – 8<sup>th</sup> April

7.00pm The Easter Vigil Mass – Blessing of Fire, Paschal Candle & Baptismal Water followed by solemn Mass of Easter.

##### EASTER SUNDAY – 9<sup>th</sup> April

8.30am Mass (English/Italian)

10.30am Mass (English)

*No 5.00pm Mass on Easter Sunday*

*however there will be 7.00pm Divine Mercy Novena followed by Mass on Easter Sunday*

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA: PROJECT COMPASSION 2023 "For All Future Generations" 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke. Please donate to Project Compassion through donation boxes/envelopes or by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion),

### 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](mailto:keiloreast@cam.org.au)

**Website:**

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

**Facebook:**

[https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277)

[Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277](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](mailto:principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au)

**Administration:** Stephanie Wood, Belinda McPherson, Carmel Perry

#### ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

##### MONDAY 3 APRIL

2024 Prep Enrolments due by 4.00pm

*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.*