

**Reflection** by Dianne Bergant CSA

The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church).

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given.

in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

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The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

21 May 2023

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3, 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

- All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. *(R.)*
- God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. *(R.)*
- God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. *(R.)*

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Marie Stanley (Fr Denis Stanley's mum),
Emilio Trovato

ANNIVERSARIES

Natalio Baera Sr, Nuna Cutayar, Michael Mojzes, Guiliano Frank, Habib & Souhaila Kizana

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday 21st May 2023

*Chloe Cu
Summer Cu*

Please pray for these children and their family.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

RCIA classes will recommence in July and these dates will be published in coming weeks. In the meantime, please call the Parish Office or Mrs Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103 for further information.

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 you may 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

CARITAS – PROJECT COMPASSION

Receipts, for those who requested them, will be available soon.

MONTH OF MAY – MONTH OF ROSARY

Month Dedicated to Blessed Virgin Mary
Rosary continues to be recited from Tuesday-Saturday morning from 9.05am, throughout the month of May.

PARISH NEWS

PRAYER ON THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Lord Jesus,
you became man
and came to live among us.

For love of us,
you suffered and died for us.

Because you are God, you conquered
death and rose on the third day.

Today you return to your Father and
our Father,
But you promised to remain with us till
the end of time,
And to send us the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS FEAST DAY – Wednesday 24th May

All welcome to join us in honouring our Patron Saint – Mary, Help of Christians, on Wednesday at 9.15am. The whole school will join us. *A reminder the front gates to drive cars in to the Church grounds will not be open until 9.00am.*

CHILD SAFETY – WEEKDAY MORNING MASS

For those who did not see this notice on Parish Bulletins earlier this year, please note that the front entry gate for parishioners cars to drive in for Morning Mass (weekdays only), is not opened until **9.00am**. This is for the safety of children who arrive to school late and are still walking through the yard after school classes commence. If you arrive earlier than 9.00am, you will need to use street parking or park at the Overland Reserve car park and enter at the pedestrian gate.

Please remember to keep to the 10kph speed limit inside the church grounds *for the safety of all* and obey the 40kph speed limit in the vicinity of the School and Church.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Continues this weekend. Collectors at weekend masses are asked to compile the figures and complete the clipboard.

'THANK YOU' - OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION & MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

Thank you to all who took part and helped at last Saturday evening's Procession. It was a wonderful occasion.

Thanks also to all who attended last Friday evening's 'Mother's Day' Dinner. A special thanks to all the volunteers who did so much to make the night very special for everyone.

LITURGICAL GUIDELINES: MASKS & SANITISERS

Celebrants and Eucharistic Ministers are no longer required to wear masks to distribute Holy Communion. However, face coverings should be worn when visiting vulnerable or immunocompromised parishioners, or members of the community. Sanitising of hands is also not a requirement but is strongly encouraged.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS' ROSTER

The next Ministers' Roster will be prepared soon. Please email or call the Parish Office with any 'away' dates between July-October 2023, by Tuesday, 6th June.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Parishioners who are themselves sick or housebound or know someone who is and would like Holy Communion brought to them at their home in East Keilor, are encouraged to leave their details with the Parish Office. A visit by one of our Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, can be arranged for after the 10.30am Mass on Sundays.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS' WEEK – 15-21 MAY

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering.

At St Peter's Parish, we are truly blessed and give thanks to God for the wonderful volunteers we have here. We thank each and every one of you for all you do, no matter what it is. Every bit counts! Of course, we would welcome more volunteers to join us. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office.

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: Stephanie Wood, Belinda McPherson, Carmel Perry

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

23rd May – Report Writing Day – Pupil Free Day

24th May - Our Lady Help of Christians – Whole School Mass at 9.15am. All welcome to attend

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.