



understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 July 2023

First Reading Is 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being

freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God,

Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Antonio Morena, Rosetta Carlino

ANNIVERSARIES

Maria Carni, Gus Vella

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Enquiry Period

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or do you know someone who is? The Enquiry Period continues. There will be a second **Enquiry Night** on **Tuesday 18th July**, followed by a third and final Enquiry Night on **Tuesday 25th July** in St Peter's Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. Please pass this on to those you think who might be interested. For further information, please contact Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103. Please remember our Enquirers and the RCIA Team in your prayers.

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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Sat 22 July St Mary Magdalene

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS - ANNUAL ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER

To be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday, 1st September at 7pm at Moonee Valley Racecourse. The Archbishop's Dinner is held each year to raise monies for the Priests Support and Education Fund. Tickets \$160.00pp. Guest Speaker: Very Rev. Dr Cameron Forbes. Enquiries: Nadia Bolzonello on 0407 055 237 or email: giveback@optusnet.com.au RSVP 18/8/23.

PARISH NEWS

FR SEBASTIAN

The Vicar General has requested Fr Sebastian attend a Congregational Meeting overseas so he will be away for the next 2 weekends. During Fr Sebastian's absence, we will have visiting Priests for our weekday and weekend Masses. There will be no change to Mass times.

CATHOLIC MISSION: PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL: *Hearts on Fire - Feet on the Move*

This weekend Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being. The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters' resources can only carry them so far. Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, placing your donation in the basket as it comes around; or going online at catholicmission.org.au/timor. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

INVITATION - ST JOHN BOSCO'S RELICS

All parishioners are invited to spend some time in personal prayer and a celebration of the Eucharist in honour of St John Bosco's relics at the Don Bosco Retreat Centre on Tuesday 18th July 2023. (465 Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield.) Personal prayer is welcome from 6pm and Mass will be celebrated at 7pm. The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, is touring Australia as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians in Australia.

HEART OF LIFE CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL FORMATION has several seminars and reflection days planned in the second half of the year. Please contact them direct if you are interested in attending. **Heart of Life Seminars – Semester 2. Please join us!** What better way to rejuvenate your spirituality, learn something new and meet a great bunch of people – join Heart of Life seminars in-person or online from the comfort of your own community on a Monday or Wednesday morning for the next two terms. From 17 July 2023 - 9 November 2023. Days and times vary according to the Seminars chosen. For descriptions of all of the Seminars go to: <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/seminars-and-reflection-events/seminars/>

Are You Retired or Seeking A Deeply Rewarding Ministry to Others? We invite you to join Heart of Life's **Taster Session 2 on Saturday 5 August 2023, 9.30-11am, via Zoom**, where we'll share with you information on our formation programs to become a spiritual director, pastoral supervisor, spiritual leader and contemplative listener to others. Our programs develop a compassionate, listening heart. The session will include a facilitated reflection session led by formation team members at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/event/s/taster-session/?> Or email info@heartoflife.melbourne for more details.

Retreat in Everyday Life – Moments of Grace – over five weeks, beginning Monday, 31 July and concluding 28 August (at Heart of Life, Malvern, or via Zoom) Flexible timing. The Retreat in Everyday Life involves a commitment to daily prayer and weekly spiritual accompaniment for an hour per week over five weeks with this year's theme 'Moments of Grace'. This is an ideal opportunity for a Parish or spiritual community to *retreat together, as well as for* individuals who would like to experience an opportunity to recognise God's presence in their everyday lives in a more intentional way. <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/retreat-in-everyday-life-moments-of-grace/> or info@heartoflife.melbourne and we will be in touch to have a conversation. Cost: Donation

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 4 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Saturday, 12th & Sunday, 13th August

Please keep these children in your prayers.

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.