



He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us; helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

23 July 2023

First Reading Wis 12:13.16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

- O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
- All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)
- But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:26-27

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:24-43

(or shorter form Mt 13:24-30)

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Mate Liovic

ANNIVERSARIES

Joseph Micallef, Philip Muscat, Leo Alvares

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 third **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

Tue 25 July	St James
Wed 26 July	Sts Joachim & Anne
Sat 29 July	Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus

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

Thank you for your kind donations to last weekend's Special Collection. \$1,696.30 has been received so far. *Please return any envelopes by next weekend and ensure you indicate if you need a receipt.*

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME FR RAJ

We welcome Fr Raj, who will celebrate our Masses for us this weekend. Please make him feel welcome and assist where you can.

FEAST OF SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE 'GRANDPARENTS MASS'

On Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th July at 9.15am the school will join us for their 'Grandparents Mass' (half of school each day). All welcome to attend.

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS - ANNUAL ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER

To be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday, 1st September from 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. Compere Mr Bryan Martin OAM. Enquiries: Nadia Bolzonello on 0407 055 237 or email: giveback@optusnet.com.au RSVP 18/8/23.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR VISIT TO ST PETER'S - 29/30 JULY

The Little Sisters of the Poor are an International congregation of Roman Catholic women religious founded in 1839 by Saint Jeanne Jugan. Together with a diverse network of collaborators, they serve the elderly poor in over 30 countries around the world. Their MISSION is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

At the St. Joseph's Home in Northcote, they have embarked on a 'Raise the Roof' Fundraising Appeal to replace their leaking roof. *Next weekend at all Masses, there will be a guest speaker and a special 'Leaving' Collection will take place. Please come prepared for this collection.*

WORLD YOUTH DAY: LISBON, PORTUGAL 2-6 AUGUST 2023

Almost 600 pilgrims will join more than a million young people from around the world for World Youth Day from 2 to 6 August to share their faith in Jesus Christ through prayer and celebration. Melbourne pilgrims will represent some 134 parishes, schools and movements from across the Archdiocese, including almost 100 students and 60 teachers from 57 Catholic secondary schools at this World Youth Day gathering. Please keep the pilgrims in your prayers, especially over the next few weeks.

Pilgrim Prayer

Our Lady of the Visitation, you who left in haste towards the mountain to meet Elizabeth, lead us also to meet all those who await us

to deliver them the living Gospel:

Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord!
We will go in a hurry, with no distraction or delay, but with readiness and joy.

We will go peacefully, because those who take Christ take peace,
and wellbeing is the best wellbeing.

Our Lady of the Visitation, with your inspiration, this World Youth Day will be the mutual celebration of the Christ we take, as You once did.

Make it a time of testimony and sharing, fraternization, and giving thanks, each of us looking for the others who always wait.

With you, we will continue on this path of gathering, so that our world will gather as well, in fraternity, justice and peace.

Help us,

Our Lady of the Visitation, to bring Christ to everyone, obeying the Father in the love of the Spirit!

Amen.

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.