



Gospel Lk 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed. What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it.

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 1956, 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 Advent, Year B

24 December 2023

First Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
or him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.*

Alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. see v.2

*(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness
of the Lord.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Tom & Bernadette Quinlan

**ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR
55TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

MAY GOD BLESS YOU BOTH

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Joseph Kreidl

ANNIVERSARIES

Antonio Bonadio, Raffaele Bonadio, Francesco Mercuri, Pasqualina Mercuri, Nicoletta Bonadio, Bernardo Quattrucci, Sante Quattrucci, Giancarlo Quattrucci, Fiore Augusto, Fiore Gaetano, Sam Ranatunga, Valerian Pinto

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

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

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Thank you to those who donated towards the cost of flowers for our Altar at Christmas.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the current set of Thanksgiving Envelopes and in the narthex.

WORKING BEE 'THANK YOU'

Thank you very much to the volunteers who came and helped at the Working Bee on Saturday morning to prepare the Church for Christmas. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

PARISH NEWS



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Wishing all our parishioners and visitors of St Peter's Parish, Keilor East a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2024

With a grateful heart
Fr Anil Mascarenhas & staff

THANK YOU

As the end of the year draws to a close, I would like to thank all the volunteers of the Parish who contribute their time and talent in so many ways. To Laurie, Ken, Joe, Cedric & Lou for their regular maintenance work, to Helena & Adele for their Parish administration work, Rose & Bernadette for counting, Quang & Oanh for their Flower Ministry, our Sacristans Teresa & Cathey and all who help them, our regular musicians, singers and audio-visual operators, our altar servers, all involved in Ministry of the Parish, the Parish Finance Committee & Pastoral Council and all our parish family members. We thank you sincerely for your support. Blessings & Merry Christmas to you all.

NEW SCHOOL PRINCIPAL FOR ST PETER'S

We are pleased to announce that Jemma McVeigh has been appointed the new Principal of St Peter's Primary School. With much joy we welcome Jemma to the Parish of St Peter the Apostle and pray that her ministry in our school be filled with many blessings.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office has closed and re-opens on Tuesday 16th January. This is the final Parish Bulletin for 2023. The first Bulletin for 2024 will be published on weekend 27/28 January.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE

Last chance to buy your tickets for the raffle. \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5. Please add your name and contact number. **The raffle will be drawn after the 10.30am Mass on Christmas Day. Good Luck!**

WELCOME

Welcome to any visitors that are with us this Christmas. Your presence is a great sign to us of the movement of the Holy Spirit in our Church and our parish community. Please know that you are always welcome at St Peter's, and your presence is valued

NEW PARISHIONERS

To be registered on our Parish Census, new parishioners to St Peter's are requested to fill in a Census Card, available in the narthex. After filling in, please leave in the collection basket.

St Peter's Christmas Masses

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve

Christmas Vigil Mass at **6.00pm**
(Family Mass)

Carols from 5.30pm

Children are encouraged to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds

Christmas Vigil Mass at **9.00pm**
Carols from 8.30pm

Christmas Mass at Midnight at **12.00am**
Carols from 11.30pm

**Monday 25th December -
The Nativity of the Lord**

Christmas "Mass during the Day" at
8.30am

Christmas "Mass during the Day" at
10.30am

New Year's Eve

Sunday 31st December 2023
11.00pm Exposition of the blessed sacrament, Benediction
Mass at Midnight at **12.00am**

New Year's Day

Monday, 1st January 2024
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass at 9.15am

Thereafter Normal Weekday and Weekend Mass Timetable **except No 5.00pm Sunday Mass during January**

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

2a Parkside Avenue

Keilor East Vic 3033

Administrator: Rev. Anil Mascarenhas

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

Wishing all students, teachers, admin and support staff and their families a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year. May God bless you all.

2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Wednesday 31st January 2024 Years 1-6 commence 8.40am-3.15pm

Thursday 1st February 2024 Prep students commence 8.40am-1.00pm

The Parish of St Peter's, Keilor East and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community.