

**Gospel Mk 1:21-28**

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Discipleship requires a change in us. We want to change because in so many ways we are being strangled to death by demons. We are caught in dysfunction and sin; we live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure. We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape.

The demonic seduces us in more ways than we can count and we are often caught in its web before we recognise what has happened. There have always been many and varied voices that claim to have the remedy for our ills. Preachers and politicians have stirred up crowds and ignited their emotions. Promises have been made and predictions advanced, yet the conflict goes on, the demons continue to hold sway. The demon recognised the authority in the voice of Jesus. Do we recognise it?

When we are released by Jesus from the demons that possess us, we are freed from the stranglehold of evil and liberated to live far less encumbered and divided lives. No Earthly reality will possess us, neither relationships nor obligations nor even religious practices. Rather, we will be possessed by Christ who liberates us for the reign of God. Therefore, whether married or unmarried, whether in the midst of the community or at its margins, we will be able to heed the voice of God in our hearts and to recognise Jesus in our midst.

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 1965, 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 in Ordinary Time, Year B**28 January 2024****First Reading Dt 18:15-20**

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9**

**(R.) If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

3. O that today you would listen to his
voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw
my work.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 7:32-35

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:16**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**A people in darkness have seen a
great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost
in death.**

Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria Bellato, Veronica Micallef

ANNIVERSARIES

Silvana Pizzicara(1 month), Maria Rosa Schiavone, Mary Purcell

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) *Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or would you like to know more about the Catholic faith?* For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

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

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 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

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

Wednesday 31 Jan St John Bosco
Thursday 1 Feb St Brigid
Friday 2 Feb The Presentation of the Lord

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Do you need a helping hand? St Vincent de Paul Society volunteers are committed to providing people with access to the resources and support they need to overcome personal hardship. If you require assistance, please phone our Welfare Assistance Line on free call 1800 305 330 Monday to Friday (except for public holidays). This service is free and confidential.

ST MONICA'S, MOONEE PONDS: Charismatic Prayer Group Meeting

(Thursdays at 7.30pm in Symons Centre) extends a warm welcome to you to praise and worship God Our Father, through Jesus in the Holy Spirit. Your musical talents are especially welcome. Contact Gerald 93370475.

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES

Normal mass timetable. The 5.00pm Sunday Mass resumes Sunday, 11th February.

MASS – 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Mass will be celebrated at St Peter's next Friday, 2nd February at 7.00pm followed by Benediction for devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 8.30am-4.00pm. Call 9337 4141 or email: keiloreast@cam.org.au

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF & PARISH GROUP LEADERS' 'COMMISSIONING MASS' – 4/2/24 AT 10.30AM

On Sunday, 4th February at the 10.30am Mass, we will be joined by School Staff and Parish Group Leaders, for their commissioning for 2024, by Bishop Terry Curtin.

Following the conclusion of the Mass, there will be a free "sausage sizzle" near the gazebos. All invited to come along and stay for lunch, a cold drink or cuppa and friendly chat.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to catch up after the holidays and to meet some of the school staff. Please add your name and contact details to the clipboard in the narthex or contact the Parish Office if you are coming and can bring something to share e.g. a salad, savoury, or a dessert. Sausages and drinks supplied. If it's a hot day, please bring a hat.
ALL WELCOME

ORDER OF MALTA—LOURDES DAY MASS: Saturday 10th February 2024

For some years now, the Order of Malta has organised an annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm, particularly for those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes. The Mass will take place again on **Saturday, 10th February at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral**, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. For further information, please contact: Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.

NOTICES FOR PARISH BULLETIN

If you have a death anniversary you would like included in the Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office by Wednesday afternoon prior to the weekend you would like it published. Mass offering envelopes are available in the narthex.

PARISH GROUPS

Information on commencement dates in 2024 for Parish Groups will be advertised in next weekend's Bulletin. Group leaders should contact Helena at the Parish Office by 31st January.

NEW FAMILIES TO ST PETER'S

We welcome all new families into our Parish. If you wish to be enrolled onto our Census, please take a Census card from the narthex to fill in and return, or contact the Parish Office on 9337 4141 or email keiloreast@cam.org.au

PARISH THANKSGIVING PROGRAMME

We would be grateful if you would consider joining our Parish Thanksgiving Programme. Your pledge helps meet basic operating needs of the Parish – insurance, utility bills, wages, and supports programs of faith education, pastoral care and outreach. Pledge cards are available in the narthex. Payment options are: cash, direct debit, direct online transfer or credit card. Pledge cards can be filled in and returned to the Parish Office or placed in the basket during a collection.

MINISTERS' ROSTER – 1/3/24-30/6/24

Requesting all Parish volunteers who perform Special Ministry including Readers, Greeters, Ext. Ministers of Communion, Ext. Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Sacristans & Musicians, Altar Servers, to please update your availability to the Parish Office, for the period 1/3/24-30/6/24, no later than **Tuesday, 13th February**. This Roster includes Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday Masses on 30/31st March. *If you are not currently on the Roster but interested in volunteering as a Reader, Greeter or any of the above Ministries, please contact Helena at the Parish Office and fill in a Liturgical Ministers form, found in the narthex (salmon coloured sheet).*

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>

<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: Jemma McVeigh

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email: principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Stephanie Wood, Belinda McPherson

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

WELCOME BACK!

We welcome to the 2024 School Year all teachers, admin staff and students, especially our new Principal, Jemma McVeigh.

2024 SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT DATES

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.