



**Gospel Mk 1:29-39**

*He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.*

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.

Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

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**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**4 February 2024**

**First Reading Jb 7:1-4. 6-7**

*I am filled with sorrow all day long.*

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'how slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3**

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

or

**(R.) Alleluia!**

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. (R.)
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted,

he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. (R.)

3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23**

*Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel*

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 8:17**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering Alleluia!**

### IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### SICK

Eileen Britt

#### RECENTLY DECEASED'

Valentina Botter (in Italy), Fr Kevin Bates SM,  
Peter Werchon

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Gregory Terlato, George Kapsalis

**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.

**PARISH SUPPORT** Thank you all for your continued support. For those who prefer to, online donations can be made as follows:-

#### Presbytery Collection – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Monday 5 Feb	St Agatha
Tuesday 6 Feb	St Paul Miki & Companions
Saturday 10 Feb	St Scholastica

#### 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

The 5.00pm Sunday Mass resumes 11<sup>th</sup> February.

#### COMMISSIONING OF ST PETER'S SCHOOL STAFF, PARISH COMMITTEES AND GROUP LEADERS

At the 10.30am Sunday Mass this weekend, we will be joined by Bishop Terry Curtin, who will Commission School Staff, along with Parish Committees and Group Leaders. All welcome to stay for a free "sausage sizzle" after the Mass.

#### DATE FOR THE DIARY: ASH WEDNESDAY – 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY.

Mass times for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Calendar, will be published next week.

#### PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

If you have kept your palms from Palm Sunday last year, please bring them to the Church by next weekend. These palms will be burnt and the ashes used for our Ash Wednesday Masses.

#### ST PETER'S SOCIAL CLUB

Recommences on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February in the Parish Centre (entry via Bellarine Avenue) from 10.00am until approx. 1.30pm. New members are welcome. Come for a cuppa, a chat, play some Bingo and meet new friends. BYO lunch. New members are welcome. Contact the Parish Office if you have any questions.

#### ST PETER'S GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP

Recommences Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> February in the Parish Centre from 10.00am until 11.30am in the Parish Centre Meeting Room. New members are welcome. Please contact Margaret Walsh on 0401 399 577 for further details.

#### ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP

Recommences for 2024 on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am in the Church. For further information, please speak with Tina Scollo. Everyone welcome.

#### 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, 13<sup>th</sup> February. This Roster includes Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday Masses on 30/31<sup>st</sup> March.

Parishioners not currently on the Roster but interested in any of the above Ministries, please contact Helena at the Parish Office, who will explain the process.

#### 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.

#### 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](mailto: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.

#### 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](mailto:keiloreast@cam.org.au)

**Website:**

<http://pol.org.au/keiloreast/Home.aspx>

**Facebook:**

[https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277)

[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](mailto: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.

*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.*