



unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.'

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

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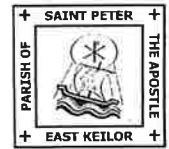
PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

17 March 2024

5th Sunday of Lent – Year B

Volume 45, Number 8



Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

17 March 2024

First Reading Jer 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on my, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 12:20-33

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly,

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Emeritus Archbishop Francis Carroll (Canberra & Goulburn), Mary Carmen Bartolo

ANNIVERSARIES

Fanny D'Souza (1 month), Luigi Rizzo (1 month), Giuseppe D'Agostino (1 year), Carmine Di Lisio, Joe Acquaro, John, Joe & Carmen Galea, Santo & Angela Sciacchitano, Eileen & Michael Tomlin, Sandra Valastro, Michael Deren, Mary & Ricky Schmols, Rita Rajakariar, John Debono

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 17th March 2024

Duke Lumsden

Alyssa Diaco

Charlie McGeown & Chelsea McGeown

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) 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

CARITAS AUSTRALIA: PROJECT COMPASSION 2024 "For all Future Generations"

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

PARISH NEWS

CHRISM MASS (Mass of the Oils) Wednesday 20th March at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral. **No morning mass on 20/3 as Fr Anil attends this Mass.** All welcome.

MERCY MELBOURNE: Tuesday, 19th March from 6.00pm-9.00pm

Mercy Melbourne is an initiative that invites parishes to open their doors in welcome for a special evening of prayer and Confessions. Please join us at St Peter's from **6.00pm**:-

- Exposition of the blessed Sacrament
- Reflection on God's Mercy and Graces through the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Sacrament of Confession
- **7.30pm**: Holy Mass of the Solemnity of St Joseph and Consecration to St Joseph

INVITATION TO ATTEND THE 25TH MELBOURNE PASSION PLAY – 24TH MARCH Invitation to attend a **free** performance of the Annual Passion Play event on **Palm Sunday 24th March at 1.30pm**. Performed at the Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe with Free entry. Duration: approx. 2 hours. We will have a **Free bus, departing St Peter's at 11.45am**.

If you are interested in coming along, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or contact the Parish Office **by 19th March**. **Please note:** Due to Fr Anil's attendance at the Passion Play, there will **not be a 5.00pm Mass on Palm Sunday**.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LENTEN REFLECTION 7.00pm Friday, 22 March.

PALMS are needed for Palm Sunday (next weekend). Please bring them to the Church on Friday morning, 22nd March (by 10.00am), or contact the Parish Office if collection needed.

EASTER TRIDUUM ROSTERS – Holy Thursday - 28th March, Good Friday - 29th March & Holy Saturday - 30th March **"Volunteers Needed"** Please see sign-up sheets on clipboards in the narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR EASTER FLOWERS We will have a Special Collection at Masses next weekend to assist in covering the cost of the Easter floral arrangements for the Church and Altar of Repose.

WORKING BEE – SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 10.00AM-12NOON We will have a Working Bee on **Saturday, 23rd March** after the 9.15am Morning Mass for a general clean up and to prepare the Church for our Easter Services. Please volunteer some time from **10.00am-12noon**. Thank You.

2024 LENTEN CALENDAR

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – 23/24 March

Normal weekend timetable except
no 5.00pm Mass on Palm Sunday
Blessing of the Palms, Procession & Mass

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – 25th March
9.15am - Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week – 26th March
9.15am - Mass.

Wednesday of Holy Week – 27th March
9.15am Morning Mass

HOLY THURSDAY – 28th March
7.00pm – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

8.30pm – Altar of Repose & Eucharistic Adoration until midnight

GOOD FRIDAY – 29th March
10.30 am - Way of the Cross
11.30am – Rosary & Divine Mercy Novena
3.00pm - Solemn celebration of The Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY – 30th March
5.30pm – Rosary & Divine Mercy Novena
7.00pm - The Easter Vigil Mass – Blessing of Fire, Paschal Candle & Baptismal Water followed by solemn Mass of Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY – 31st March
8.30am Mass
10.00am Rosary & Divine Mercy Novena
10.30am Mass
No 5.00pm Mass on Easter Sunday

ROSARY & DIVINE MERCY NOVENA Continues Monday, 1st April to Friday 5th April at 7.00pm, followed by Mass (**No 9.15am Morning Mass**). Saturday 6th April at 5.30pm – Rosary & Divine Mercy Novena, *followed by* 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass. Sunday 7th April – Divine Mercy Celebration (full details to come)

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

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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

2025 PREP ENROLMENTS

Enrolment Applications for 2025 close on:

Tuesday, 26th March at 9.00am

Please contact the school on 9337 4111 for any enquiries.

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Thursday 28th March at 12noon

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.