



to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?' For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowds to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. The Pilate spoke again, 'But in that case,' he said to them 'what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' 'Why?' Pilate asked them 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, 'Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.' Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah'. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In this final Lenten Sunday, we see that we have been saved through the kenotic (partial renunciation of divine nature) humility of Jesus, not through military power. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted criminal, and there endured the sense of abandonment. However, this saviour was later lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives.

Jesus became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. He was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. The passion recounts the extent to which he willingly offered himself. We have a saviour who first offered himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with him is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair seems to hold sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for us.

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Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year B 24 March 2024

Gospel Jn 12:12-16

A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel!

And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as is written: 'Fear not, daughter Zion;

behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!

His disciples did not understand this at first;

but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him.

First Reading Is 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.

So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech.

Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance,

neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me,

my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v.2

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. (R.)
3. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

Second Reading Phil 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave,

and became as men are, and being as all men are,

he was humbler yet, even to accepting death,

death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name

which is above all other names so that all beings

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus

and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel shorter form Mk 15:1-39

First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and the scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate questioned him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he answered. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again, 'Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!' But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Angela Mania

ANNIVERSARIES

Anna Tsonidis, Maria Assunta Muscat, Lucia Di Lisio, Angelo Michael Di Lisio, Tony, Vince & Pina Staropoli

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"

PALM SUNDAY

As Project Compassion 2024 comes to an end, we want to thank you for your incredibly generous support throughout Lent.

This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

There is still time to donate! Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**

Please start to return your boxes and envelopes, from Holy Thursday. A basket will be on the Altar to place them in.

PALMS Thank you to all who donated palms for our Palm Sunday masses this weekend.

PARISH NEWS

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR EASTER FLOWERS

This weekend, we will have a Special Collection, *after Communion*, to assist in covering the cost of the Easter floral arrangements for the Church and Altar of Repose.

EASTER TRIDUUM – ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE

Altar Servers volunteering for Easter Triduum Masses are requested to attend at the following times for a short practice:

6.15pm on Holy Thursday

2.30pm on Good Friday

11.00am on Holy Saturday

GOOD FRIDAY – HOLY PLACES

COLLECTION The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land, providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. The collection is also used to maintain churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Your generosity is appreciated.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF MERCY

Starting on Good Friday, 29th March, to Saturday, 6th April. Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena. Please see times under 'Holy Week'.

Divine Mercy Feast Celebration – Sunday 7th April at 1.30pm. Adoration, Confessions, Rosary, Litany & Divine Mercy Chaplet. 3.00pm – Holy Mass *followed by* blessing of the Divine Mercy Image. All welcome. **No 5pm Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday.**

PARISH OFFICE closes Wednesday, 27th March and reopens on Tuesday, 2nd April. Any Death Anniversaries for next weekend's Bulletin need to be advised no later than 12noon on Wednesday.

EASTER 2024

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

EASTER TRIDUUM ROSTERS: More Volunteers Needed

Holy Thursday - 28th March, Good Friday - 29th March & Holy Saturday - 30th March
Please see sign-up sheets on clipboards 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

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: 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.