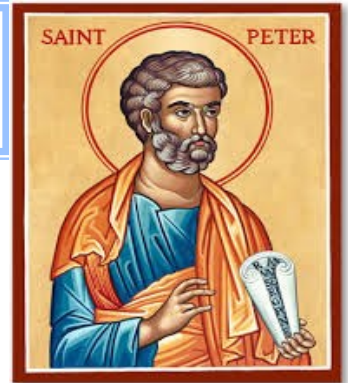


St. Peter's Catholic Parish

13 Davisson Street, Epping VIC 3076



Parish Priest: Fr Anh Nguyen
Assistant Priest: Fr Joel Peart

Northern Hospital Chaplaincy:
Fr. Fayez Assaf
Rosemary Bolzan

Baptism Coordinator: Christine Hall
9401 6311

Parish Business Manager/Accountant:
Gil Bell
[Tues, Wed, Thurs 9-4pm]

Parish Secretary: Michelle Hood
[Mon-Tue 9-3pm, Wed & Fri 9-1pm]

Parish Office and St Peter's church:
13 Davisson St, Epping
Ph: 9401 6300

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop
Cnr Redding Rise and Farmhouse Blvd
Epping North

WEEKWEND MASSES

St Peter's

Saturday 6.30pm,
Sunday 9am & 10.30am

St Mary of the Cross:

Saturday 5.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Peter's

9.15am Tuesday - Friday
(Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

St Mary of the Cross

12 noon on Fridays during school terms only

Baptism

Baptism is celebrated on the Second and fourth Sunday of each month at 12pm. A Baptism preparation class for parents of the child to be baptised is required.

Reconciliation

Saturday 10.30 am - 11 am

Marriage

By appointment and three month notice required. Please contact the parish office.

Sacramental Programs for non-parish school children

9401 6300

Children's Liturgy of the Word

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop 5.00pm
St Peter's 10.30am

Parish Schools/College

St Peter's, Epping
Principal: Kerry Miller
Ph: 9401 1157

Saint Mary of the Cross, Epping North
Principal: Geraldine Dalton
Ph: 8432 4500

Glowrey Parish Primary, Wollert
Principal: Tim Kelly
Ph: 8432 4500

St Monica's Epping
Principal: Brian Hanley
Ph: 9409 8800

The Parish of St. Peter's, Epping, Epping North, as a community of faith inspired by Love for God welcomes everyone who joins us as we worship together the same Lord in the same Tradition. Our vocation is to listen, share and live the Word of God actively.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Sunday, 3 February 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It has been a little over a year now since Fr. Joel and I came to this parish of St. Peter's Epping. I remember how welcoming you were the very first day I moved to the suburb. I am writing to say thank you to each of you. This is a wonderful parish and it has been a real blessing for me to be part of your journey. I do hope that we continue to inspire each other and help make this parish even greater.

To help do this, I am asking that we all keep contact with others in the community to strengthen our relationships. Something that I think will help us reach this goal is this new format of the weekly bulletin. That we might participate more fully in the mass, the new bulletin will contain the entrance and communion antiphons, the words of the Gospel and other liturgical texts as required. Reports on the introduction and progress of parish ministries and other relevant news will also be included. I'd like you to think of the parish bulletin as something of a family letter, a souvenir to visitors, a calling card or an invitation to neighbours.

There will also be a faith reflection on the front page each week. You are encouraged to contribute to this by writing something of your own, or forwarding on an interesting or helpful article you've come across. Simply email the parish office by the Wednesday prior to the weekend. These reflection should be no more than 400 words and are subject to approval of course. We don't need reports on the Collingwood Football Club or the latest Marvel movie!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Anh

Presentation of the Lord

Yesterday the Liturgy celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The readings presented the Holy Family as a devout Jewish family, knowledgeable of the Law and faithful to it.

We are told that one specific purpose of their trip was to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle doves or two pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. But that is not what Leviticus prescribed for the people at large: they were to offer a lamb. Only if the poor could not afford it, could they substitute for the lamb a pair of turtle doves or two pigeons. Yes, Jesus was in a position to resonate with people's material struggles and the poor recognized that he was on their side.

Jesus' experience challenges us to be focused on what we are, not on what we have or can afford. A challenge to recognize and to own our uniqueness before the God who gives us life, without letting what is peripheral derail our attention to what is central. What we are is far more important than anything we may have.

We are also told that The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him, not fully understanding what was unfold. But as we hear, Mary kept pondering these things in her heart ...all the way to Calvary. We need to pray for this gift of pondering in our hearts, so we can be led from not understanding -and there will be such moments- to not needing to understand and simply placing our trust in God.

Luis Rodriguez, S.J

Please pray for our sick: Nicholas Ludersamy, Palmera Tanse, Cheryl D'sa, Mark Paul Flavrier, Rita Carusi, Dominic Prattico, Janey Hoorigan, Jay Larkas, Jennifer Harbour, Shanon Farugia, Sabrina Jansz, Carmel McKenzie, Faten Elmenawi, Michael & Roni Donovan, Carmen Caruana, Rosa Maria Santos, Mario Paola, Laura Patullo, Patsy Heffernan, Dean Scerri, James Sheppard, Madison Parker, Mary Attard, Danny Callaghan, Bernadette Arathoon, Judeland Anthony and Justin Bordon.

Anniversary: Philomena Pakianathar,
Annie Devasagayam, Vincent Emmanuel



We are committed to a safe and nurturing culture for all children in our Church

Rite of Welcome for Baptism

Mason Gaff
Hannah Kreso
Kacika Shandan
Alessia Caccetta



4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon

*Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.*

First reading

Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19

'I have appointed you prophet to the nations'

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying:

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.

'So now brace yourself for action.
Stand up and tell them
all I command you.
Do not be dismayed at their presence,
or in their presence I will make you dismayed.

'I, for my part, today will make you
into a fortified city,
a pillar of iron,
and a wall of bronze
to confront all this land:
the kings of Judah, its princes,
its priests and the country people.
They will fight against you
but shall not overcome you,
for I am with you to deliver you –
it is the Lord who speaks.'

Responsorial Psalm

I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me.

I will sing of your salvation.

Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked.

I will sing of your salvation.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

I will sing of your salvation.

My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.

O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

The supremacy of charity

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 4:21-30

No prophet is ever accepted in his own country

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?'

But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."'

And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.'

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

Communion Antiphon

*Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.*

Liturgy of the next Week

4 Monday: Ordinary Time 4

Readings: Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

5 Tuesday: St Agatha, virgin, martyr

Readings: Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

6 Wednesday: St. Paul Miki and companions martyrs

Reading: Heb 12:4-7; Mk 6:1-6

7 Thursday: Ordinary Time 4 - 1st Thursday of the month

Readings: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

8 Friday: Ordinary Time 4

Readings: Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

9 Saturday: Ordinary Time 4

Readings: Heb 13:15-17; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 6:1-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.
Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognize Jesus, our companion on the road.
Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.
Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.
Amen.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

The RCIA program will continue here at St Peter's on Tuesday, February 12 at 7pm in the parish house. We have three participants who are looking to be received into the church at Easter in April this year. Fr Joel is taking them through the 12 week program of Catechesis, with the support of members of our church to guide them in their journey. Please keep these Catechumens and Candidates in your prayers.



Thursday Holy Hour

The Thursday Holy Hour which was introduced last year in the parish will continue in 2019 as of the **7th of February**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will **begin at 7pm** and the hour will conclude with Solemn Benediction. Come for the whole hour or pop in briefly to say a prayer before Our Lord. The sacrament of confession will also be available.

"The Church and the world have a great need of worship of the Holy Eucharist. Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease" - St John Paul II

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord -2nd February

A few days after his birth in accordance with Jewish law, Jesus is brought to the Temple for His circumcision and presentation. In this His whole life is offered to God by Mary and Joseph. It is a feast that emphasizes church, liturgy, and ritual. The first reading speaks of sacrifice in the Temple—a ritual act by which God and humanity are linked. The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews talks about Jesus as a priest. A priest is someone who performs a ritual sacrifice. So Jesus in his own person links together divinity and humanity; He is in His own being and person, a priest. Then we hear our beautiful gospel taken from that familiar passage of St. Luke describing Joseph and Mary bringing Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem so that He might be consecrated to the Lord. This Temple is for the people Israel the most sacred of places and they engage in this ancient ritual act circumcision, purification, and presentation. Luke makes mention of the prophetess, Anna and Simeon the prophet—two people who spent almost their whole day in the Temple; they loved the Temple, its practices, customs, and rituals.

The liturgy and ritual are expressions of love—our love for God. The liturgy is an act by which we thank and praise God and thereby render to God what is due to Him. When we are just with regard to God; when we have presented ourselves properly in praise and thanks then we become just on the inside. Our lives become properly ordered and are made right. At the Temple, Jesus was offered back to the Father by Joseph and Mary. At the Mass, the priest offers Jesus back to the Father at the consecration on behalf of us all. There is no greater act of thanks and praise from God's people than the Mass with its prayers and rituals.

(This article is adapted from an article from Catholic Scripture Study International)

COMMUNITY NEWS

SPONSOR OR DONATION TO SACRED CHURCH ITEMS

Thank you very much to all the parishioners that have given generously towards the new sacred Church items. Bless you all.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

CHRISTMAS MASSES ~ THANK YOU!

St Vincent de Paul Epping Conference members acknowledge and thank parishioners for their generous donations at all Masses on the weekend prior to Christmas. Together with some extraordinarily generous larger donations, \$2830 will now be used wisely, especially in these next weeks when the demands for school uniforms, stationery and books is quite high.

Thank you for the thoughtful gifts which were placed in our baskets at Masses each weekend all chosen with thoughtfulness and given with love. Well over 100 hampers and gifts were again distributed to families in need across our Parish. Your contributions enabled us to ensure that all requests for a Christmas hamper were met. We also gratefully acknowledge the beautiful hampers which were prepared by staff, students and parents from both of our Parish Schools and St Monica's College ... the garage was full to overflowing in the week before Christmas.

There is always great joy in giving, when it comes from the heart. As the hampers are left with families we see the smiles on the faces of children and the light of thanks in the eyes of their parents, it reminds us that the spirit of St Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic Ozanam is with us on our journey with those in need of care and understanding.

May 2019 be as kind to you and your family as you are to our families in need. May God bless you.

St Peter's Charismatic Prayer Group

- 1/ Mass, 1st Friday of every month with Youth Band 7.30-9pm
- 2/ 2nd & 4 Friday Rosary, Praise, Worship and talk 7.15-9pm
- 3/ 3rd Saturday Retreat and Mass with Chorus 1.30-4pm

APPLICATIONS FOR THE PARISH BASED SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2019

Applications are being accepted for preparation of children attending local state schools in the Parish communities of St Peter's, St Mary of the Cross Mackillop and Glowrey Parish Primary. If you would like to register your child for preparation for the Sacraments of First Eucharist, Confirmation or First Reconciliation.

Please contact the Parish Office on **9401 6300**

Applications close 15 February 2019



Church cleaning Saturday 9 February Volunteer

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE – FULL CREAM LONG LIFE MILK

It's very heartening that we help in a small way in the recovery of the Twins & other sick children at Children First Foundation by providing the above Milk.

Many thanks for past help, we hope to have your continuing generosity in the New Year.

Happy Christmas & Many Blessings to All.

WHERE DOES YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS GO?

- 1st collection is to take care of: altar breads and wine, candles, oils, gas, electricity, administration, insurance, maintenance...
438 contributors, average is \$8.40 per week.
- 2nd collection is to look after priests actively ministering in the parish, and sick and elderly priests in the Archdiocese. Average is \$1.45 per church goer.

Note: If you have not yet commenced contributing please fill the "green form" found at the end of the Church and send it to the parish office or priest after Mass

If you would like an item/anniversary included in the weekly Newsheet it is important that you have it to the Parish Office by Wednesday morning
Contact 9401 6300 or email epping@cam.org.au