

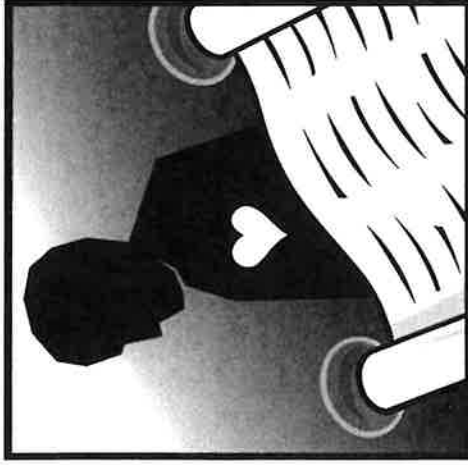


Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living. The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite.

Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment.

When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves.



sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 1 September 2024

Second Reading

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation Jas 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first

First Reading Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Frances Abela

ANNIVERSARIES

Giuseppina Usai(1 month), Caterina Medici(1 month), Bruno Chiera, Vincenzo Carbone, Salvatore Modica, Felicia & Michelangelo Sudano, Bernardo Quattrucci, Sante Quattrucci, Augusto Fiore, Antonio Di Stefano, Felicia Console, Serafina Ravida

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 15th September 2024

Olivia Ottelli

Benjamin & Matias Martinez
Vincent Tropea

Please pray for these children & their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

You can still join us in the Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.00pm on Tuesday to make an enquiry about RCIA. Please call Mrs Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103 for further information.

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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tue 3 Sep St Gregory the Great
Thu 5 Sep St Teresa of Calcutta
Fri 6 Sep EMBER DAY (Spring)

PARISH NEWS



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Wishing all fathers, grandfathers and special men in our lives a very 'Happy Father's Day'. May you all be richly blessed by the grace of God.

A Prayer for all

Fathers and Priests

God our father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation, may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers, who have supported and challenged us; may they continue to lead in strong and gentle ways.

We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering, may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

Most importantly, we pray for all our Priests, our spiritual fathers who guide, teach us and lead us to You and who feed and nourish us with Your Sacraments.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us

but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. **Amen**

MASS TIMES

Sunday 5.00pm Mass resumes Sunday, 8th September.

1st RECONCILIATION COMMITMENT MASSES – 31 AUGUST & 1 SEPTEMBER

This weekend at the 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass and 10.30am Sunday Mass, we welcome our Year 3 Primary School children who will make their 1st Reconciliation Commitment. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation in October.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2024

Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2024 Archbishop's campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are still available in the narthex. You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign n I encourage you to please give generously to the Campaign.

ST PETER'S PARISH 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED'

We need volunteers to serve as Readers, Greeters, Ext. Ministers of Communion, Ext. Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Mass Helpers & Altar Servers, and Greeters for our Weekend Rosters.

Please fill in a Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference Form, which can be found in the narthex, and email it to Helena at the Parish Office: keiloreast@cam.org.au or leave in the Sacristy. Training will be provided.

ARCHDIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for vacancies in the Archdiocese. Further details of positions can be found at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

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:

<https://www.melbournecatholic.org/keiloreast>

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

*No 5pm Sunday Mass from 11/8/24-1/9/24

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, Christine Torrance

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 3 STUDENTS' - 1st RECONCILIATION

COMMITMENT MASSES

Saturday, 31st August – 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 1st September - 10.30am Mass

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.