



### Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses'. Moses was revered in Jewish history not only as the one who led the people out of Egypt, but even more importantly as the one who received the Ten Commandments from God. The first five books of the Bible, known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law, were accredited to Moses for a very long time. So Moses was seen as the one who received the Commandments from God and who also wrote down the Law of the people, the Torah. He was the Law-Giver for the Jewish people. When the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as the new Moses it emphasises the way in which Jesus sought to bring the Law of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a new understanding and appreciation of both the Law and God. Jesus introduced a new way of perceiving God; as a God of compassion and mercy, rather than the jealous, vengeful God that is often expressed in the Old Testament.

The Sermon on the Mount that begins with the Beatitudes comes out of this historical context. Jesus is trying to present a new interpretation of the right way to be in relationship with God; one that is not dominated by rules and regulations. The text is so familiar to us today that it is almost bland. However, at the time it must have been incredibly confronting. The attitudes and states of being that Jesus blesses were not the characteristics that were valued in the society of his time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning were not considered strong, desirable qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of how to be in right relationship with God and others was confronting the standards and expectations of the time.

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### Gospel Mt 5:1-12

*Happy are the poor in spirit.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

### First Reading Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

*In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.*

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands.

Seek integrity,

seek humility:

you may perhaps find shelter

on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave

a humble and lowly people,

and those who are left in Israel will seek

refuge in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,

will tell no lies;

and the perjured tongue will no longer

be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest

with no one to disturb them.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3**

**(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

or

**(R.) Alleluia!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

### Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

*God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.*

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:12

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Rejoice and be glad;**

**Your reward will be great in heaven.**

**Alleluia!**

## IN YOUR PRAYERS

### SICK

Miriam Coco, Bernadette Camilleri, Kulandhai Therese (Fr Sebastian's mum)

### RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the souls of all the Recently Deceased

### ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Purcell, Gregorio Terlato, Giuseppe & Gesualda Terlato, Antonino & Francesca Pisano, John & Maria Terlato, Giovanni Pisano, Gaetana Pisano, Michele, Silvia & Claudio Scrofani, Andrea & Veronica Failla, Giovanni Costa, Nicola Venuta, Michelangela Pungitore, Antonio Bruno, Charlie Muscat

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Resumes Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 at 7pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

### BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

*Xavier Cullen*

*Milla & Charlie Kidd*

*Madison Lauder*

Please pray for these children and their families.

### 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. 665417521 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. 535304676. Reference as your first initial then surname and if known, your giving number e.g. ASmith T/G 500

### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 2 Feb The Presentation of the Lord  
Thursday 5 Feb St Agatha  
Friday 6 Feb St Paul Miki & Companions

## PARISH NEWS

### MASS TIMES

Normal weekday and weekend Mass times. Please note that the 5.00pm Sunday Mass resumes 8<sup>th</sup> February.

### PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 8.30am-4.00pm.

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

At the 10.30am Sunday Mass this weekend, we will be joined by Bishop Rene Ramirez, who will Commission School Staff, along with Parish Committees, Group Leaders and volunteers. All welcome to stay for Parish BBQ and fellowship, after the Mass.

### DATE FOR THE DIARY: ASH WEDNESDAY – 18<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 next weekend. These palms will be burnt and the ashes used for our Ash Wednesday Masses.

### 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 Parish Census Card from the narthex, to fill in and return.

### LOURDES MASS

You are invited to attend the annual Lourdes Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 14 February at 10.30am. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Comensoli. This is a special occasion to pray for our sick, infirm and elderly and those who care for them. Everybody attending will receive a gift pack containing water from the grotto at Lourdes, rosary beads and prayer resources. For more information, please contact Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288

## PARISH GROUPS

### ST PETER'S GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP

Recommences Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 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.

### ST PETER'S SOCIAL CLUB

Recommences on Wednesday, 4<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.

### ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP

Recommences for on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am in the Church. For further information, please speak with Tina Scollo after the 8.30am Sunday Mass. All welcome.

### MINISTERS' ROSTER – 1/3/26-30/6/26

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 and Altar Servers, to please update your availability to the Parish Office, for the period 1/3/26-30/6/26, no later than **Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February**. This Roster includes Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday Masses on 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> April. Easter Triduum Masses will be advertised separately.

If you are interested in joining our Parish Ministry, please fill in a salmon-coloured **Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference Form**, which can be found in the narthex and return to the Parish Office.

## ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

2a Parkside Avenue

Keilor East Vic 3033

Administrator: Rev. Anil Mascarenhas

Parish Secretary: Helena Meredith

Phone: 03 9337 1414

Parish Office Hours: 8.30am-4.00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Email: [keiloreast@cam.org.au](mailto:keiloreast@cam.org.au)

Website:

<https://www.melb.catholic.org/keiloreast>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Acting Principal: Anne Tadinac

Phone: 03 9337 4111

Email: [principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au)

Administration: Stephanie Wood

### MASS TIMES

### Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am, 10.30am & \*5.00pm Sunday Masses

5.00pm Sunday Mass resumes 8<sup>th</sup> February

### Weekday Mass Times

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

### RECONCILIATION

9.45am Saturday after 9.15am Mass (or upon request of Parish Priest)

## ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

### WELCOME BACK!

We warmly welcome all teachers, administrative staff, and students to the 2026 school year.

May the Lord guide your steps, bless your efforts, and walk with you every day.

*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.*