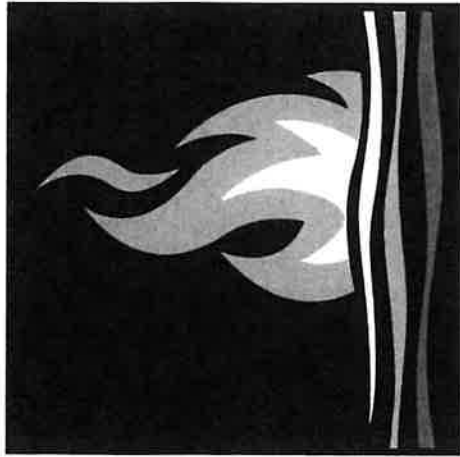




Reflection by Greg Sunter

Is it any wonder that there was a growing sense among the people that John might be the Christ? His teaching in the first part of this week's gospel might just as easily have come from the mouth of Jesus. It demonstrates for us just how much John was preparing the way for Jesus: even his teaching was in line with what Jesus would later say. In this instance, the people gathered around John (presumably having been baptised by him) are asking how they should live out their new-found conversion of heart. John's response to the three groups is about the need for generosity and justice. It is about not taking more than your share when someone else does not have sufficient. To the crowd of people, he instructs them to give away a second tunic to someone who doesn't have one at all and to share their food with those who are hungry. To the tax collectors, he cautioned them to collect no more than what they were supposed to. Tax collectors made their profit by overcharging taxpayers. Together with the fact that they worked for the Roman occupiers, this made tax collectors one of the most despised groups in society. John's caution to them is to be just in their dealings. He also cautions the soldiers against intimidation and extorting money from the people to supplement their pay. The themes of justice and hospitality that will echo throughout the gospel of Luke are clearly evident in this episode with John. When the people start to talk about him being the Christ, John is quick to point them to the one who is still to come; the one who will share with them more fully the love of God and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1961, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.



Gospel Lk 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1961, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.
© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

Third Sunday of Advent, Year C

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with a joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

*(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.*

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. *(R.)*

15 December 2024

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. *(R.)*
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. *(R.)*

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.
Alleluia!*

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick in our Parish Community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Tony Cuschieri, Daniel Brancatisano, Giuseppe Patane

ANNIVERSARIES

Bernardo Quattrucci, Maryanne & Charles Spiteri, Chris Portelli, Anthony & Mary Rose Cassar, Maria Grazia Ruberto, Don McConville

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday 15 December

Rio & Remy Risteviski

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Meets on Tuesday, 17th December in the Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.00pm. Enquiries: Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103.

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

2025 COLUMBAN CALENDAR

Available to purchase after Mass - \$10 each.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the current set of Thanksgiving Envelopes and in the narthex.

END OF SCHOOL YEAR MASS

Tuesday, 17th December at 9.15am.

NO 5PM MASS 22/12

A Reminder there will be no 5.00pm Mass on Sunday, 22nd December. All are welcome to attend the 10.30am Mass, followed by Christmas Carols and a barbecue.

PARISH NEWS

ADVENT REFLECTION, RECONCILIATION & HEALING MASS - SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

Begins at 9.15am with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Advent Reflection & Reconciliation. Followed by Healing Mass with Anointing of the Sick at 11.00am.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS: SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

Commences after the 10.30am Sunday Mass, from 11.30am. Please stay and join in singing Christmas Carols, followed by a BBQ. Please bring a bowl of salad/sweet to share if possible. No 5pm Mass on Sunday 22nd December.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

5 prizes to be won. Tickets \$3 each or 2 for \$5. Please add your name and contact number. Raffle will be drawn during the BBQ on Sunday **22nd December!**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 'GIVING TREE'

Thank you to all who purchased a gift for a child from tags left on the 'Giving Tree'. Please return all gifts by **5.00pm by Sunday 15th December**. The Society will be providing families visited during the year with something extra and ensure they have an opportunity to share in the joy of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY 2024

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Please fill in the clipboard in the narthex or email the Parish Office by **Tuesday 17th December**. We need Readers, Ext. Mins. of Communion, Mass Helpers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Musicians and Singers for all our Christmas Masses.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closing at 4.00pm on Friday 20th December and re-opening on Tuesday 21st January. The final Parish Bulletin for 2024 will be published next weekend, 21/22 Dec. The first Parish Bulletin for 2025 will be published on weekend 25/26 January.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Donations for the costs associated with flowers for our Altar at Christmas would be appreciated. We will have a special collection on weekend 21/22 December.



St Peter's Christmas Spiritual Celebrations 2024

Advent Reflection, Reconciliation & Healing Mass
Saturday, 21st December 9.15am-12noon

Christmas Carols & BBQ
Sunday, 22nd December
after the 10.30am Mass

Christmas Masses

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve
Christmas Vigil Mass at **6.00pm**
(Family Mass)

Carols from 5.30pm
Children are encouraged to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds

Christmas Vigil Mass at **9.00pm**
Carols from 8.30pm

Christmas Mass at Midnight at **12.00am**
Carols from 11.30pm

Wednesday 25th December -
The Nativity of the Lord
Christmas "Mass during the Day" at **8.30am**

Christmas "Mass during the Day" at **10.30am**

No 5.00pm Mass on Christmas Day

New Year's Eve

Tuesday 31st December 2024
Mass at **9.15am** followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

New Year's Day

Wednesday 1st January 2025
Mass at **9.15am** followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

6PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS – 24/12/24
Encouraging all children who attend the 6.00pm Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve to come dressed as Angels or Shepherds.

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.melbcatholic.org/keiloreast>

Facebook:

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

[Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277](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@speiloreast.catholic.edu.au

Administration: Stephanie Wood,
Christine Torrance

WORKING BEE 'THANK YOU'

Thanks to those who came to the Working Bee to prepare the Church for Christmas. It was most appreciated. May God bless you.

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.