

PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

KEILOR EAST

6th April 2025

5th Sunday of Lent – Year C

Volume 46, Number 11



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

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Gospel Jn 8:1-11

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

First Reading Is 43:16-21

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done
before.

See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see
it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

*(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What
marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears

will sing when they reap. (R.)

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back,
full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 3:8-14

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation JI 2:12-13

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

*With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.*

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

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Miriam Coco

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the souls of all the recently deceased

ANNIVERSARIES

Isaac Rodrigues, Harold Cardoza, Olga Tanfara, Giuseppe Forte, Ivan Mance, Antonia Attard, Michele, Silvia & Cladio Scrofani

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 6th April 2025

Oliver Fullwood

Jude Russell

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Next meeting Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Centre meeting room.

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 – to
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 5th Sunday of Lent – 5/6 April

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes or envelopes, online at caritas.org.au/project-compassion Or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

PARISH NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays During Lent from 7.00pm, followed by Mass and Benediction. *No 9.15am Mass Fridays.* All welcome.

WORKING BEE – SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 10.00AM-12NOON

We will have a Working Bee on **Saturday, 12th April** after the 9.15am Morning Mass, for a general clean up and to prepare the Church for our Easter Services. Please volunteer some time between **10.00am-12noon.** Thank You.

PALMS

If anyone has Palms (long and short) for Palm Sunday – next weekend, please bring them to the Church on Friday, 11th April, or contact the Parish Office by Wednesday, if they need to be collected.

ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHOIR FOR CONFIRMATION

We are inviting all competent singers to join the St Peter's Community choir for the Confirmation Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday, May 30th at 6.00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together to be part of this special occasion. Rehearsals will be on Tuesday, May 20th, and Tuesday, May 27th, at 5.00pm in the Church. We will also practice at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 25th May. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact Seona Martin at smartin@spkeilorcast.catholic.edu.au. We look forward to your involvement in making this event memorable!

LENTEN REFLECTION at St Martin de Porres Church, 158 Military Road, Avondale Heights Thursday 10th April at 7.00pm. Facilitator: Fr Chris Monaghan, Passionist Fathers. All welcome. See flyers in narthex.

PARISH OFFERTORY PROGRAM

Thank you to all who completed and returned Pledge Cards. If you haven't returned your card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you all.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER TIMETABLE 2025

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – 12/13 APRIL

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass; Sunday at 8.30am & 10.30am
(No 5.00pm Mass on Palm Sunday)

HOLY WEEK

Monday 14th April and Wednesday 16th April – Morning Mass at 9.15am

Tuesday 15th April – Chrism Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral at 10.00am (All welcome to attend)

HOLY THURSDAY – 17th April

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm.
Altar of Repose & Eucharistic Adoration until midnight

GOOD FRIDAY – 18th April

Way of the Cross at 10.30am
Divine Mercy Novena at 11.30am
Solemn celebration of The Lord's Passion at 3.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY – 19th April

Divine Mercy Novena at 5.30pm
The Easter Vigil Mass at 7.00pm
(Blessing of Fire, Paschal Candle & Baptismal Water)

EASTER SUNDAY – 20th April
Masses at 8.30am and 10.30am
Divine Mercy Novena at 10.00am, followed by Mass at 10.30am

(No 5.00pm Mass on Easter Sunday)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EASTER TRIDUUM ROSTERS

Holy Thursday 17th April at 7.00pm
Good Friday 18th April at 3.00pm
Holy Saturday 19th April at 7.00pm
"Volunteers Needed" Please see sign-up sheets on clipboards in the narthex or contact the Parish Office.

This includes **Altar Servers** for Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday Masses. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWERS

Donations towards our Easter Altar flowers are always appreciated.

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.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

Administration: Christine Torrance

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am & 10.30am Mass

*5.00pm Mass

***No 5.00pm Mass on Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday.**

Weekday Mass Times:

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Fridays during Lent at 7.00pm - Stations of the Cross followed by Mass and Benediction

RECONCILIATION 9.45am Saturday after

9.15am Mass (or upon request of Parish Priest)

END OF SCHOOL TERM 1 – 4/4/25

Wishing all St Peter's Primary school staff, students and their families, a safe and relaxing School Holidays.

A sincere thank you to the school staff for their hard work throughout Term 1, especially helping the children in preparation for the Sacraments and through faith related activities.

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.