



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

In many ways the Exodus story of the bread from heaven is very similar to last Sunday's accounts. However, the focus today is not divine prodigality shown through the overabundance of food, but total dependence on God. The bread comes from heaven, not merely because the food seems to come down from the sky, but because it comes from God. The restriction about collecting it was meant to emphasise this point. Our survival is in God's hands, not ours.

Jesus insists that he is the true bread from heaven; he is the real basis of our survival. The people followed him because they saw him as a source of bread; they did not realise that he is really the source of life. If we fill ourselves with all that the world provides as nourishment we will still hunger. Only faith in Jesus can satisfy our deepest hungers, and we will not be able to survive apart from him.

Acceptance of Jesus as the source of our life and the very nourishment of our spirits effects a total transformation in us. We will no longer be content to live with full bellies but empty minds. We will put aside our old selves steeped in ignorance and self-interest and put on a new self, created in his image. Having fed on the bread from heaven, we will be mysteriously transformed into it. The spirit of our minds will be renewed by his teaching. As a result, we will be able to launch out into a way of living that witnesses to our new understanding, our new life.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass, published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1983 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1969 and 1971 by the publishers. All other material is the property of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.



'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,

it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,

the true bread;

for the bread of God

is that which comes down from heaven

and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.

He who comes to me will never be hungry;

he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 4 August 2024

First Reading Ex 16:2-4, 12-15

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God."' And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:3-4, 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood,

the things our fathers have told us,

we will tell to the next generation:

the glories of the Lord and his might. (R.)

2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. (R.)

3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 4:17, 20-24

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 6:24-35

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry: whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Edwin Cutayar, Alexander, Felipe, Anne

RECENTLY DECEASED

Giuseppina Usai

ANNIVERSARIES

Sebastiano Piruzzello, Lily & Tarcis Mizzi,
Michele & Claudio Scrofani, Francesca Bonfa

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 4th August 2024

Christian Laguda

Bobby Hughes

Please pray for these children & their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

It is not too late to join us in the Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.30pm next 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 6 August The Transfiguration of the Lord

Thu 8 August St Mary of the Cross

Sat 10 August St Lawrence

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – Good Works

Do you need a helping hand? St Vincent de Paul Society volunteers are committed to providing people with access to the resources and support they need to overcome personal hardship. If you require assistance, please phone their Welfare Assistance Line on free call 1800 305 330 Monday to Friday (except for public holidays). This service is free and confidential.

PARISH NEWS

FR ANIL - AUGUST

Fr Anil has needed to go to India to visit his family. In his absence, there will be visiting Priests celebrating our Masses for the next few weeks. Please assist where you can.

MASS TIMES – 5PM SUNDAY

There will be **no** Sunday 5pm Mass from **Sunday 11th August**, until **Sunday 1st September**. The 5pm Sunday Mass will resume on Sunday 8th September. Please pass this on to anyone you know who isn't here this weekend.

SOLEMNITY OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS

Mary MacKillop Feast Day - 8 August

On Thursday 8th August at 9.15am, Mass on the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross will be celebrated with the school community present. All welcome.

Prayer

God of all people,
We thank you for Mary MacKillop who like your Son Jesus, reached out to the poor, the isolated, the rejected and all in need with a compassionate and loving heart.

As we walk in her footsteps, may we see with her eyes, listen with her ears and love with her heart.

May we respond in practical ways wherever we see need.

We ask this in Jesus' name, the One who shows us the way of compassion and love.

Amen.

Sr. Annie Bond rsj.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE FOR ST PETER'S

We now have a new Parish Website. For all the latest news, please go to:
<https://www.melb.catholic.org/keiloreast>

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN – 17TH. 18TH AUGUST - One major collection for the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

On the weekend of 17 & 18 August, the first Archbishop's Campaign will be held in all parishes in Melbourne. Rather than separate appeals, this one campaign will fund many of the Archdiocesan ministries including Corpus Christi College Building Fund, John Pierce Centre (Deaf Appeal), Priests Retirement Foundation, Melbourne Overseas Mission and University of Divinity Building Fund. More details to come next weekend.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK – 4-11 AUGUST

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY - INVITATION

Young men interested in a vocation to the priesthood or would like to hear more about a vocation, are invited to join Archbishop Peter Comensoli at a Seminary Enquiry Day at Corpus Christi College, 180 Drummond Street, Carlton on Saturday, 10th August from 10.45am-3.30pm. Lunch provided. RSVP by 2/8/24 at vocations@cam.org.au

PALMS AUSTRALIA - Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Have you been considering whether an overseas professional placement with Palms is for you? Wanting to share your skills with communities in the Pacific, Asia or Africa to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty? Meet Carolyn, currently in Timor Leste, and former Palms participants to find out more about Assignments Abroad. Venue: Online via Zoom – register at palms.org.au/event/discovery-online/
Date: 15/8/24 from 7.30pm-8.30pm.
Contact: 02 8560 5333 palms@palms.org.au

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

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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

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MCKILLOP

FEAST DAY - Thursday 8th August

Whole School Mass 9:15am. All Welcome.

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.