



Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

25 May 2025

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Just like last week's gospel, this passage also comes from the Last Supper discourse in the Gospel of John. Again, although its original context was pre-crucifixion, the language works in the post-resurrection Easter season as we anticipate the celebration of the Ascension next week. This double purpose language is, of course, no accident. The gospel was written 60 or more years after the death and resurrection of Jesus and so the writer was consciously conveying the double meaning of 'going away': Jesus going to his death; and Jesus going back to the Father. But Jesus also promises his return in this speech. Continuing the double meaning, the gospel writer knew that Jesus had come good on his promise to return after his death and so conveys to the gospel audience, and to us, a sense of confidence and hope that the second promised return will also be fulfilled at the right time.

In the meantime, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit to the disciples and to the world. The Holy Spirit is to be the Advocate (the Paraclete) of the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit performs a dual purpose: firstly, to carry on the teaching; and secondly, to continue to remind the believers of all that Jesus said and did. The action of the Holy Spirit continues in the world today – inspiring and teaching those who are open to hearing and keeping alive the memory of Jesus, his teaching and his compassion. We talk about being full of school spirit and team spirit but these feelings of loyalty and commitment are only a distant echo of what it is to be filled with the Holy Spirit.



Gospel Jn 14:23-29

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you;

but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace. I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father,

for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass, published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, © 1983. 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, by permission of the publishers. The text of the Gospel is from the New Revised Standard Version, published by the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd. All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 21:10-14, 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Miriam Coco, Nadja Louis
RECENTLY DECEASED

ANNIVERSARIES

Michael Chircop, Natalio Baera St, Roberto Cope Villanueva, Margherita Giaquinta, Pasquale Giaquinta, Dominic Giampino, Joe Ruggieri, Michael Burke, Maria Giuliano

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 1st June 2025

Iylah Conidi

Emilia Feleppa

Shenya Amarasekara

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 – 1st 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 – 2nd 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

PROJECT COMPASSION - RECEIPTS

Receipts, for those who requested them, will be available in early June.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 26 May St Philip Neri
Saturday 31 May The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Concludes this weekend. Collectors at weekend masses are asked to compile the figures and complete the clipboard.

MONTH OF MAY – MONTH OF ROSARY

Month Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary During the month of May, we recite the Rosary on weekdays and Saturday mornings from 8.50am (before the 9.15am Mass).

PARISH NEWS

YOU'RE INVITED – Year 6 Confirmation Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral

The St Peter's Parish community is warmly invited to join the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation of our Year 6 students on Friday 30th May at 6:00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne.

This special Mass is not only a milestone in the faith journey of our young candidates but also a joyful parish celebration during the Jubilee Year – a time of renewal, grace, and unity in the Church.

As our students are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we give thanks for their growing commitment to faith and pray that, as a community, we may continue to support them with our presence and prayers.

All are welcome. Join us in this significant moment for our parish family.

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. **There is will be a second rehearsal on Tuesday, May 27th, at 5.00pm in the Church.** We will also sing at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 25th May. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact Seona Martin smartin@spkilleast.catholic.edu.au We look forward to your involvement in making this event memorable!



Especially during this National Volunteer week, we thank our amazing St Peter's Parish volunteers, the ones in roles that are seen and known and the volunteers that are busy behind the scenes.

May God bless you all

MINISTERS' ROSTER: 1/7/25-31/10/25

The next Ministers' Roster will be prepared soon. Please email or call the Parish Office with any 'away' dates between July–October 2025 by Tuesday, 3rd June.

ST PETER'S PARISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need more volunteers to serve as Readers, Greeters, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Mass Helpers and Altar Servers, for our Weekend Rosters. Please fill in a Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference form and note which Liturgical Ministry you are interested in joining (*salmon coloured forms can be found on the display stand in the narthex*). Please return to the Parish Office by 1st June. Training will be provided.

ANNUAL GUILD MASS

The Annual Guild of St Stephen Mass for Altar Servers will take place on **Friday June 6, 2025 at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne**. Please let us know if any altar servers, Year 7 and above, are interested in taking part.

PENTECOST VIGIL

ST PETER'S PARISH KEILOR EAST

"LET US BE RENEWED AND FILLED BY THE FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" ACT 2:4

SATURDAY 7TH JUNE

VIGIL MASS AT 6PM FOLLOWED BY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION TILL 10PM

(ROSARY, SPIRITUAL TALKS AND BENEDICTION)

COME AND JOIN US TO RECEIVE, AND WELCOME THE HOLY SPIRIT

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@spkilleast.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 & 5.00pm Sunday Masses

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

Please keep all the children who are preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation, in your prayers.

Thank you to the parents and guardians for your encouragement and sacrifice in your children's faith journey.

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.