

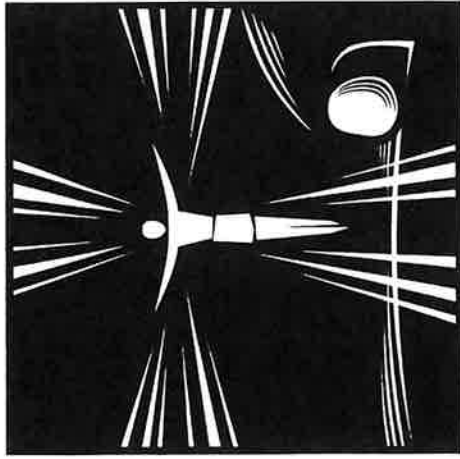
Reflection by Greg Sunter

On this, the most important celebration in the Christian calendar, it is a shame that the reading chosen for the Lectionary is something of a let down. Certainly, within the gospel reading we have the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary of Magdala; the disbelieving disciples running to find things exactly as Mary had described; and the dawning realisation of what Jesus had meant when he so frequently spoke about rising from the dead. However, if the editors of the Lectionary had chosen to also include the next nine verses of the gospel we would have also heard the magnificent encounter between Mary and the risen Lord, confirming that it was a woman, Mary Magdala, who was the first witness to Christ's resurrection. As it is, we never hear this account as part of the cycle of Sunday readings.

The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

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these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us; they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and had appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

or: 1 Cor 5:6-8

Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;

let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

or at Evening Mass: Lk 24:13-35

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there.'

First Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judea and in Jerusalem itself: and also the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v.24

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Miriam Coco

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the souls of all the Recently Deceased

ANNIVERSARIES

Bernardo, Sante, and Giancarlo Quattrucci, Augusto, Gaetano and Vincenza Fiore

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Non-Catholic parents wishing to have their children Baptised Catholic, should consider attending our RCIA classes, which will commence in July. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 4th May 2025

Molly Kennedy

Ciara Reidy

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. 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

EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you very much your kind donations towards our Easter flowers.

EASTER OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the narthex.

THANK YOU to all who came to the Working Bee last Saturday morning and for cleaning and preparing the Church for our Palm Sunday and Easter Masses. It was most appreciated. May God bless you.

PARISH NEWS



Wishing all parishioners and visitors to St Peter's a Safe & Blessed Easter

EASTER 'THANK YOU'

Thank you to all who attended & took part in our Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday Services. These celebrations require a lot of preparation and planning and I express my sincere gratitude to all those who have assisted in any way over these days. We are blessed to have volunteers who have dedicated their time and talent to make these days a beautiful participation in the Death and Resurrection of Christ. Your efforts are much appreciated by myself and the entire Parish community. May God bless you all and your families. Have a blessed Easter. **Fr. Anil Mascarenhas**

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

There will be no Morning Mass from Monday 21st April – Saturday 26th April. Mass on those days will be at 7.00pm as part of the Divine Mercy Novena, except on Saturday 26th April which is at 5.30pm.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF MERCY

Started on Good Friday, 18th April, to Saturday, 26th April. Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena. Continues at 7.00pm (see above). Saturday, 26th April at 5.30pm, followed by 6pm Vigil Mass.

DIVINE MERCY FEAST CELEBRATION – Sunday 27th April at 1.30pm. Adoration, Confessions, Rosary, Litany & Divine Mercy Chant. **3.00pm** – Holy Mass followed by blessing of the Divine Mercy Image. (There will be no 5.00pm Mass)

R.C.I.A. CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS
Congratulations to Sarah Trower, who was received into full Communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. We pray that she continues to respond to the Lord's call in her life. Many thanks to our RCIA Team, led by Teresa Paradowski and supported by Kerrie Williams and Rosetta Mistano, for this important ministry within our community.

HAPPY EASTER FROM ALL AT CARITAS AUSTRALIA!

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2025. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations**. Please return your box or set of envelopes as soon as possible. If you wish to receive a receipt, please ensure you add your details and mark it on the box or envelope. **Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.**

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

Tickets on sale from this weekend. Drawn on Mother's Day after the 10.30am Sunday Mass. Tickets: \$2 each or \$3 for \$5. Great prizes.

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 smartin@spkeilorast.catholic.edu.au. We look forward to your involvement in making this event memorable!

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 Sunday Masses

*5.00pm Mass

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

Weekday Mass Times*

9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

*No Morning Mass 21/4-25/4, due to Divine Mercy Novena and Mass from 7.00pm

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



ARCHBISHOP PETER ANDREW

COMENSOLI'S EASTER 2025 MESSAGE

Available to view on the Catholic

Archdiocese of Melbourne Website:

melbournecatholic.org.

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.