

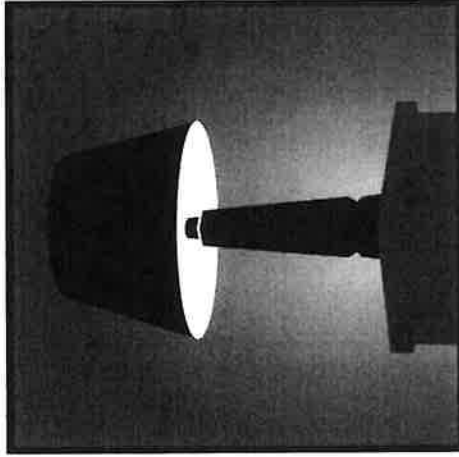


Reflection by Greg Sunter

Today, when we describe a person as being the 'salt of the earth' it's generally meant in a way that says the person is hard working, straight talking and pretty down to earth. It's usually meant as a compliment but sometimes can come across as a bit condescending when used inappropriately. When Jesus tells the disciples that they are salt of the earth and the light of the world he is really saying 'You are to be the salt of the earth; you are to be the light of the world.' It is more of a directive than an affirmation of them.

Today's first reading from Isaiah helps to shed light on Jesus' meaning in the gospel passage: 'Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn.' It sounds a lot like the message from the last judgment in Matthew 25 when the king says 'whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' It's a message of justice and right relationship not only with God but with one another also.

To be salt of the earth and light of the world means to be the one who puts their hand up and steps forward to speak for, work for and act for those who are the least in this world. To have the potential and resources to be a force for good in the world and not act on it is to be like salt that's used for salting the streets or a lamp that's under a tub.



Gospel Mt 5:13-16

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

8 February 2026

First Reading Is 58:7-10

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

2. The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)

3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:1-5

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

the man who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour (R.)

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Miriam Coco

RECENTLY DECEASED

Francesco Magarelli

ANNIVERSARIES

Maria Puglia, Sylvia Linda D'Mello, Antonio Catalano, Michelina Iannaccone, Luigi Rizzo Muscat, Modesta Refalo, John Louis Jacob, Celine Almeida

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA) Next meets on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 7pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 15th February 2026

Xavier Cullen

Milla & Charlie Kidd

Madison Lauder

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/CBSB: 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

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 10 Feb St Scholastica

Saturday 14 Feb Sts Cyril & Methodius

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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 our Welfare Assistance Line on free call 1800 305 330 Monday to Friday (except for public holidays). This service is free and confidential.

PARISH NEWS

COMMISSIONING OF ST PETER'S SCHOOL STAFF, PARISH COMMITTEES, GROUP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to all who attended last Sunday's Commissioning Mass. It was wonderful to have our Northern Region Auxiliary Bishop, Rene Ramirez, preside for us. A special 'Thank You' to all the volunteers who prepared the BBQ, those who brought along some food to share & all who helped in any way. Your generous efforts were very much appreciated.

LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY

Mass times for Ash Wednesday 2026
9.15am Mass (with whole School)
7.00pm Mass

PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

If you have kept your palms from Palm Sunday last year, please bring them to the Church during this week. These palms will be burnt and the ashes used for our Ash Wednesday Masses.

MINISTERS' ROSTER – 1/3/26-30/6/26

Requesting all Parish volunteers who perform Special Ministry including Readers, Greeters, Ext. Ministers of Communion, Ext. Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Sacristans, Musicians and Altar Servers, to please update your availability to the Parish Office, for the period 1/3/26-30/6/26, no later than **Tuesday, 10th February**. This Roster includes Easter Sunday Masses on 5th April. *Easter Triduum Masses will be advertised separately.*

LITURGICAL MINISTERS' NEEDED

If you are interested in joining our Parish Liturgical Ministry team, please fill in a salmon-coloured **Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference Form**, which can be found in the narthex, and return to the Parish Office. A Working with Children Check, Safeguarding Training Module and Safeguarding Code of Conduct form will need to be completed. Training will be provided.

PARISH GROUPS

NEW FAMILIES TO ST PETER'S

We welcome all new families into our Parish. If you wish to be enrolled onto our Census, please take a Parish Census Card from the narthex, to fill in and return.

NOTICES FOR PARISH BULLETIN

If you have a death anniversary you would like included in the Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office by Wednesday afternoon prior to the weekend you would like it published. Mass offering envelopes are available in the narthex.

ST PETER'S GOSPEL DISCUSSION GROUP

Has recommenced for 2026. 10.00am-11.30am in the Parish Centre Meeting Room. New members are welcome. Please contact Margaret Walsh on 0401 399 577 for further details.

ST PETER'S SOCIAL CLUB

Every Wednesday in the Parish Centre (entry via Bellarine Avenue) from 10.00am until 1.15pm. New members are welcome. Come for a cuppa, a chat, play some Bingo and meet new friends. BYO lunch.

ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP

Recommences for on Monday, 16th February at 10.00am in the Church. For further information, please speak with Tina Scollo after the 8.30am Sunday Mass. All welcome.

LOURDES MASS

You are invited to attend the annual Lourdes Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 14 February at 10.30am. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Comensoli. This is a special occasion to pray for our sick, infirm and elderly and those who care for them. Everybody attending will receive a gift pack containing water from the grotto at Lourdes, rosary beads and prayer resources. For more information, please contact Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250

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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: Stephanie Wood

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am, 10.30am & *5.00pm Sunday Masses

5.00pm Sunday Mass resumes 8th February

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

WELCOME BACK!

We warmly welcome all teachers, administrative staff, and students to the 2026 school year. May the Lord guide your steps, bless your efforts, and walk with you every day.

On Friday, 6th February, we had a whole school Mass. It was lovely to start the year, asking for God's grace.

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.