



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.

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Gospel Acclamation See Jn 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 6:60-69

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

First Reading Jos 24:1-2, 15-18

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *(R.)*
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. *(R.)*
3. They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. *(R.)*

Second Reading Eph 5:21-32

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick in our parish community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for all the recently departed.

ANNIVERSARIES

Giovanni & Victoria Cammarano, Michael Demicoli, Felice Mangion, Carmelo Gusman

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 15th September 2024

Olivia Ottelli

Benjamin & Matias Martinez

Vincent Tropea

Please pray for these children & their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

You can still join us in the Parish Centre Meeting Room at 7.00pm on 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 27 Aug St Monica
Wed 28 Aug St Augustine
Thu 29 Aug The Passion of St John the Baptist

ARCHDIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for vacancies in the Archdiocese. Further details of positions can be found at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES

The Sunday 5.00pm Mass resumes Sunday, 8th September.



melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2024

One major collection for the Archdiocese of Melbourne

The 2024 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the Campaign brochure which can be found in the narthex from this weekend.

Gifts of \$2 or more are tax-deductible. Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, University of Divinity Building Fund as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants.

Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation and evangelisation ministries.

Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift to help continue to strengthen the Christian faith and address the needs of God's people. Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes which can be found on the table in the narthex or in pews. Alternatively, you can also make a gift online:

melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or via the QR code on the campaign materials. *Many thanks to all who have already made a donation or recurring pledge to this Campaign. Please return any pledge cards by next weekend.*



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE: Social Justice Sunday - 25th August 2024

The Social Justice Sunday observance by the Catholic Church in Australia has a long tradition. Since 1940, Catholic bishops have teamed up each year to issue major social justice announcements. The 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, *Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World*, scrutinises the signs of our own times in the light of the Gospel, sees the violence and asks why the world is as it is and what is needed for there to be peace. It also asks the question: is peace possible? For further information:

socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2024/07/25/sq

social-justice-statement-2024-25/

There are also copies of the Statement available in the narthex to take home.

Prayer

O God, Trinity of love, from the profound communion of your divine life, pour out upon us a torrent of sisterly and brotherly love.

Grant us the love reflected in the actions of Jesus, in his family of Nazareth, and in the early Christian community.

Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel,

discovering Christ in each human being, recognising him crucified

in the sufferings of the abandoned and forgotten of our world,

and risen in each sister or brother who makes a new start.

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. **Amen.**

Adapted from Pope Francis' Fratelli Tutti

ST PETER'S PARISH, KEILOR EAST

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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.melbatholic.org/keiloreast>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

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

YEAR 3 STUDENTS' - 1st RECONCILIATION

COMMITMENT MASSES

Saturday, 31st August – 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 1st September – 10.30am Mass

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.