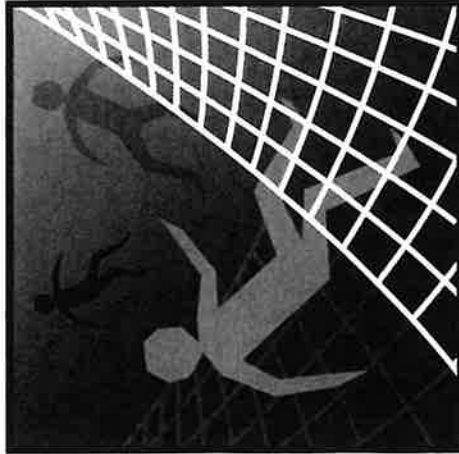


Reflection by Greg Sunter

The theme that comes through this week's readings is one of 'being called'. The first reading is the call of the prophet Isaiah (Is 6:1-8). Isaiah experiences a vision of the glory of God and is humbly reminded of his own deficiencies: he believes himself to be 'a man of unclean lips'. As such, he is certainly unfit to speak on behalf of God as his unclean lips would taint whatever message he may speak. But his lips are cleansed by God who then asks, 'Whom shall I send?' Demonstrating a complete conversion of heart and mind, Isaiah immediately replies, 'Here I am, send me!'

This first reading provides a perfect balance to the gospel. Jesus is being closely pressed by the crowd when he asks a nearby fisherman to take him just off shore to preach without being overwhelmed by the crowd. Seemingly at random, he has selected the boat of the fisherman Peter. Having finished preaching for the day, Jesus tells Peter to set out into deeper water and pay out his fishing nets. Peter is certainly not keen on the idea! Out of some interest or good nature he had agreed to allow this preacher to use his boat for a while, but now this country bumpkin is trying to tell him how to fish! Just to prove Jesus wrong, Peter agrees to go through the futile exercise and is overwhelmed by the enormous catch of fish. Like Isaiah in the first reading, Peter is suddenly acutely aware of his own deficiencies – 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man'. Like Isaiah, he recognises that he has just seen the glory of God revealed and he feels unworthy to be part of the experience. But Jesus reassures him, 'Do not be afraid,' and calls Peter to follow.

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Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:19

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 5:1-11

They left everything and followed him.

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Genesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

9 February 2025

First Reading Is 6:1-8

Here am I! Send me.

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,

for I am a man of unclean lips

and I live among a people of unclean lips,

and my eyes have looked at the King, the

Lord of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1

**(R.) In the sight of the angels I will
sing your praises, Lord.**

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways;
'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)

4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:1-11

or 1 Cor 15:3-8, 11 (shorter form)

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.'

ST PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Meets on Thursday, 13th February at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr John O'Reilly PI:

ANNIVERSARIES

Giuseppe Sgro, Pasquale Cuppari, Luigi Rizzo, Modesto Refalo, Maria Attard, Pascal Attard, Michele & Silvia Scrofani, Giuseppe Siccita, Maria Puglia

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12 noon – Sunday, 16th February 2025

Bobby Cravino

Ethan Cachia

Giorgia Conidi

Please pray for these children and their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) Next meeting Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

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 – to
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

BIBLE DIARIES FOR SALE

For sale - \$15 each.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 10 Feb St Scholastica
Friday 14 Feb Sts Cyril & Methodius

PARISH NEWS

MINISTERS' ROSTER – 1/3/25-30/6/25

Requesting all Parish volunteers who perform Special Ministry, to please update your availability to the Parish Office, for the period 1/3/25-30/6/25, no later than **Tuesday, 11th February**. This Roster includes Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday Masses on **19/20 April**. *We need more volunteers for Reading, Ext. Ministers of Communion, Ext. Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Greeters, Altar Servers. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.*

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, contact the Parish Office on 9337 4141 or email keiloreast@cam.org.au

PARISH THANKSGIVING PROGRAMME

We would be grateful if you would consider joining our Parish Thanksgiving Programme. Your pledge helps meet basic operating needs of the Parish – insurance, utility bills, wages, and supports programs of faith education, pastoral care and outreach. Payment options are: cash, direct debit, direct online transfer or credit card. Please firstly fill in a Census card, and contact the Parish Office if you would like a pledge card sent to you.

BISHOP TERENCE CURTIN – THANK YOU
On 31 January 2025, Bishop Terence (Terry) Curtin retired as an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, where he had served as Bishop for the Northern Region of the Archdiocese since 2014 and as Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Mission. We give thanks for Bishop Curtin's ministry among us and wish him many blessings for a wonderful, well-earned retirement.

WELCOME BISHOP RENE RAMIREZ RCJ

We welcome Bishop Rene Ramirez as our new Auxiliary Bishop for the Northern Region and we look forward to a visit by him to our Parish during the year.



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ,
our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of
the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from
within

both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil
vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP

Remembrances for 2025 on Monday, 17th February at 10.00am in the Church. For further information, please speak with Tina Scollo. Everyone welcome.

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-24896576799277)

[Parish-Keilor-East-24896576799277](https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-24896576799277)

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am & 10.30am

5.00pm Mass resumes on 9th February.

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: Christine Torrance

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.

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.