



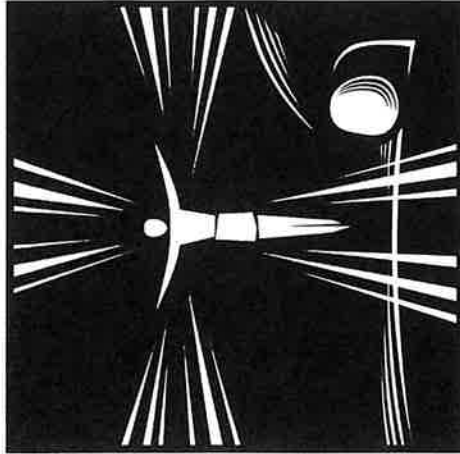
Reflection by Greg Sunter

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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or Mt 28:1-10

He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee.

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men.

But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee: it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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 Judeaea; 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 Judeaea and in Jerusalem itself; and also to 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.

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.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all the sick in our parish community

RECENTLY DECEASED

Sr. Ornella Parisotto

ANNIVERSARIES

Antonia Afrard, Antonio Catalano, Bernardo, Sante & Giancarlo Quattrucci, Augusto, Gaetano & Vincenza Fiore, Sam Ratnatunga

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Next meet on Tuesday 14th April 2026 at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 19th April 2026

Myrah Rose Ferris

Natalia Norris

Kyle Lazari

Matteo Peter Whyte

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

EASTER FLOWERS 'THANK YOU'

Thank you to all who made donations towards our Easter flowers.

EASTER OFFERINGS

Envelopes are available in the narthex.

ARCHBISHOP PETER ANDREW COMENSOLI'S EASTER 2026 MESSAGE

Available to view on the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Website: melbournecatholic.org, or: <https://melbournecatholic.org/easter26>

PARISH NEWS



Wishing all parishioners and visitors to

St Peter's a Happy, 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 6th April-Friday 10th April. Mass on those days will be at 7.00pm as part of the Divine Mercy Novena, except on Saturday 11th April, which is at 5.30pm.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF MERCY
Started on Good Friday, 3rd April, to Saturday, 11th April. Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena. Continues at 7.00pm (see above). Saturday, 11th April at 5.30pm, followed by 6pm Vigil Mass.

DIVINE MERCY FEAST CELEBRATION – Sunday 12th April at 1.30pm. Adoration, Confessions, Rosary, Litany & Divine Mercy Chapter & Benediction.. **3.00pm** – Holy Mass followed by blessing of the Divine Mercy Image. (no 5.00pm Mass)

EASTER HOLY WATER

At the Easter Vigil and Sunday Masses, Holy Water bottles will be available to take home (one per family). These will be placed near the Altar after the Mass.

R.C.I.A. CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

Congratulations to Sienna, Joshua and Simon, who were received into full Communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. We pray that they continue to respond to the Lord's call in their lives. Many thanks to our RCIA Team, led by Teresa Paradowski and supported by Kerrie Williams and Rosetta Mistano, for this very important ministry within our community.

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

We will have a Mother's Day Raffle, which will be drawn on Sunday, 10th May. Donations of suitable, good quality items would be much appreciated to make up hampers. Please bring items to the Parish Office by Friday, 17th April.

HAPPY EASTER FROM ALL AT CARITAS AUSTRALIA! Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Your generosity is helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities, enabling them to overcome challenges and lift themselves out of poverty. 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.



Building the Synodal Way Together

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The *Synodal Way* calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit. The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod. If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email: Synod2026@cam.org.au

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.melbournecatholic.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: Kate Wilson

MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

9.15am Saturday Morning Mass

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm Sunday Masses

No 5.00pm Sunday Mass 5/4 & 12/4

Weekday Mass Times

*9.15am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

*No 9.15am morning mass 6th-10th April due to Divine Mercy Novena, followed by Mass

RECONCILIATION

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

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Wishing all St Peter's Primary School staff, students and families, a happy and blessed Easter and hope you all have a safe and relaxing School Holiday break.

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.