



Reflection by Greg Sunter

We are, perhaps, used to thinking of the season of Advent as a time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. But this week's readings, and the readings of the next few weeks, remind us that the notion of preparation extends well beyond the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We are reminded that we are, in fact, living in an 'in-between time'. From this week's first reading we are reminded that the expectation of a Messiah was a very long-standing hope for Israel. The coming of the Messiah would usher in a new prosperity and a divine reign of God. The earliest Christians began to see that the ancient prophecies could all be applied to Jesus and they began to regard Jesus as the promised Messiah – the fulfilment of prophecy. However, Jesus also promised that he would come again, and the expectation of the first followers of Jesus was that his return would be in their lifetime. In our second reading from the letter to the Thessalonians, we can see the growing realisation that perhaps Jesus' return will not occur within the current generation. This realisation had a dramatic effect on the life and faith of the community. Imagine living with the belief that the end of time was going to occur not just in your lifetime but literally any day now. Slowly, they realised that Jesus' words were not that specific and the time of return had not been identified. What Jesus had called for was a state of readiness, a state of preparedness. This didn't mean he was coming immediately; what it meant was that there was need to get the house in order because he would be coming at some time. Advent is a time to remember that we still haven't really got the house in order.



Gospel Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

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First Sunday of Advent, Year C

First Reading Jer 33:14-16

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v.1

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

1 December 2024

3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thes 3:12-4:2

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

We pray for all who are sick in our Parish Community.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for all the Recently Deceased.

ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 1 December

Orlando Calleja

Leilani-Rose D'Rozario

Lucia & Olivia Mure

Please pray for these children & their families.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Next meets on Tuesday, 3rd December in the Church (please note change of venue for this week only) at 7.00pm. Enquiries: Mrs Teresa Paradowski on 9337 3103.

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

Tuesday 3 Dec St Francis Xavier
Saturday 7 Dec St Ambrose

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>

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

Donations for the costs associated with flowers for our Altar at Christmas would be appreciated.

PARISH NEWS

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 'GIVING TREE'

Our Vinnies Tree is up in the narthex. If you are able to, please take a tag and purchase a gift or gift card and return to the tree by **Sunday, 15th December**. Please choose appropriate gifts for the age shown on the tag e.g. Toys etc for the younger ones, Gift Cards for teenagers. *Unwrapped* (open Gift Bags or supermarket bags) would be appreciated. Gifts will be distributed by Vinnies to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Cash donations and gift cards can be left in the box on the back wall of the church (next to the picture of St Mary MacKillop) or in an envelope marked "SVDP – Giving Tree" and left in a collection basket during mass. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We will have a Christmas Raffle, to be drawn after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 22nd December. Donations of suitable items for the raffle, would be appreciated. Please contact the Parish Office by Tuesday if you can assist. Tickets available from next weekend!

2025 COLUMBAN CALENDAR

These beautiful calendars are available to purchase - \$10 each.

PARISH CENSUS

During October, we asked for all parishioners to fill in a Parish Census Card so we can update our Parish Database. We notice some parishioners have not yet filled in a card. Perhaps you were away during October? It would be appreciated if everyone who hasn't had the opportunity to do so, could please complete a card and either return on the collection plate at Mass, or hand in at the Parish Office. Census cards can be found in the stands next to Our Lady, in the narthex. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Will be published next weekend.



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

CONGRATULATIONS

Lorraine & Ken Mitchell

on the occasion of their

60th Wedding Anniversary

28th November 2024

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.melbrcatholic.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

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

*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.*