

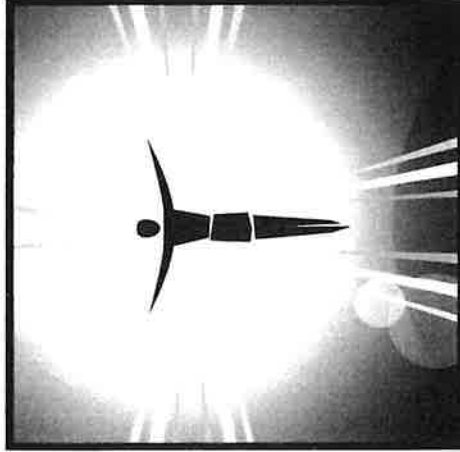
Reflection by Greg Sunter

The short gospel passage for today is taken from the final words of the gospel of Matthew. It is known as 'The Great Commission' as Jesus is portrayed commissioning his disciples to go out to the world and spread the good news. They are charged to 'Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations.' This is the basis of much of the missionary work of the Church that has gone on ever since then.

However, the focus of today's feast is much more on the first reading than the gospel. The opening verses of the Book of Acts, from the author of Luke-Acts, describe the final instructions of Jesus to his disciples and then his 'lifting up'. The Luke-Acts writer is the only gospel writer to actually describe the Ascension. The fact that the other gospels don't discuss the Ascension in any detail at all is a good indication that this description should not be taken literally.

However, the message of the Ascension is a powerful one. It reminds us that Jesus, the human incarnation of God on earth, was limited to a specific time and place in history. Despite the physical limitations of his life on earth, Jesus ensured that his message and ministry would continue through those he had taught. Knowing that the disciples would need time to grieve and come to terms with all that had occurred in a relatively short space of time, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come upon them in the days to come. That visiting of the Spirit upon the disciples at Pentecost was the motivation to set about doing what Jesus had charged them to do. Without the Ascension, there is no Pentecost.

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in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19-20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also

IN YOUR PRAYERS



SICK

We pray for all the sick, especially those in our parish community

RECENTLY DECEASED

Antonio Canturi, Dilki Peiris

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Couacaud, Berenice Cesile

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Next meets on Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

BAPTISMS AT ST PETER'S

12noon – Sunday, 17th May 2026

Lulu Schmidt

Please pray for this child and her family.

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

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Continues this weekend. Collectors at weekend Masses are asked to compile the figures and complete the clipboard.

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL – 'THANK YOU'

Thank you to all who donated to the 2026 CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. We raised \$440.00. Thank you for your generous donations.

PARISH NEWS



RELIC OF SAINT CARLO ACUTIS – 16TH & 17TH MAY

This weekend, our Parish is blessed to host the relic of Saint Carlo Acutis, the young saint who inspired many through his deep love for the Holy Eucharist and his witness of faith in the digital age.

After all Masses this weekend, parishioners are invited to pray, venerate the relic, and reflect on the beauty and importance of the Eucharist in our daily lives.

“The Eucharist is my highway to Heaven.” — Saint Carlo Acutis

PENTECOST VIGIL – SATURDAY 23 MAY

All parishioners are warmly invited to our Pentecost Vigil Mass on Saturday 23 May at 6.00pm. After the Mass, we will have Adoration, reflection, and Benediction, until 8.30pm.

Pentecost reminds us of the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon the Church — bringing renewal, courage, peace, and hope. Come and spend this sacred time with the Lord, asking the Holy Spirit to deepen our faith and renew our hearts. All are welcome.

PROCESSION OF OUR LADY: SATURDAY 30TH MAY

On Saturday, 30th May, we will have a Procession (weather permitting) with Our Lady's statue, commencing at 5.15pm from St Peter's Church and returning before 6.00pm for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Mass at 6.00pm. All Welcome.

YEAR 5 STUDENTS' FAMILY MASS

At the 10.30am Mass this weekend, we welcome our Year 5 students, families and teachers for their Family Mass.

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE - RESULTS

1st Prize – Red A90 M. Walsh, 2nd Prize – Yellow D33 R. Morley, 3rd Prize – Red A65 P. Symington, 4th Prize – Red A97 A. Colosimo, 5th Prize – Red A11 M. Portelli, 6th Prize – Red A88 Lidia.

Congratulations to all the lucky winners. Thanks again to those who donated prizes, everyone who purchased tickets and to the volunteers who sold tickets.

PRAYING THE ROSARY AT HOME

If you would like to borrow the small statue of our Lady of Fatima to pray the Rosary at home, you may do so. We ask you return it the next day (except if taking Sunday, then it can be returned on Tuesday morning). Please ensure add your name and contact details on the clipboard in the narthex before removing the Statue from the Church.

MINISTERS' ROSTER: 1/7/26-31/10/26

The next Ministers' Roster will be prepared soon. Please email or call the Parish Office with any 'away' dates between July-October 2026, by Tuesday, 2nd June.

ST PETER'S PARISH 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED'

We need more volunteers to serve as Readers, Greeters, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound, Mass Helpers and Altar Servers, for our Weekend Rosters. Please fill in a Liturgical Ministers Contact & Preference form (*salmon coloured forms can be found on the display stand in the narthex*). Please return to the Parish Office by 2nd June. Training will be provided.

ARCHDIOCESAN CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION - Sunday 7 June at 2.00pm from St Patrick's Cathedral, concluding at Federation Square

All are warmly invited to join the annual Archdiocesan Corpus Christi Procession through the streets of CBD Melbourne and concluding at Federation Square. melbournecatholic.org/corpuschristi

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

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Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Email: keiloreast@cam.org.au

Website:

<https://www.melbocatholic.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

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

2026 PARISH THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

We are grateful for the school families ongoing support of the Parish Thanksgiving Program (2026 family contribution), which continues to sustain the life and mission of our parish. May God bless your families with peace and joy.

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.