



Reflection by Greg Sunter

We are perhaps more familiar with the Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew in which the kingdom of heaven is promised to those who are 'blessed' because of their afflictions. Rather than the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of Luke presents the same event and teaching as the sermon on the plain as it occurs on 'a piece of level ground'. This version may appear a little more confronting than the Matthew version. Rather than the afflicted being 'blessed', they are to be 'happy'. It seems odd that anybody should be happy to be poor, hungry, mourning or reviled and we would certainly regard these as states of sadness and difficulty; not times for rejoicing at our good fortune! However, this gospel in particular frequently reminds us that God does not think, feel and behave as we might expect. God's actions are frequently contrary to the expectations of society. The Gospel of Luke makes it plain that the reign of God will upend the structures of society. The lowly will be raised and the mighty will be brought low. It is in this context that the poor, the hungry and the outcast are regarded as happy. Their happiness comes from the reassurance that although they are rejected and dismissed by society, they are indeed the most favoured of God. Whatever the world dishes up to such as these, they can rejoice in the knowledge that in the reign of God their fortunes will be reversed and they will be favoured. However, just as the fortunes of the poor and afflicted will be reversed for the better, those who are rich, well fed, happy and well regarded will also have their fortunes reversed. Alas to them! Their comfort and joy leaves no room for the generosity of God!

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Gospel Lk 6:17. 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

First Reading Jer 17:5-8

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,

who relies on things of flesh,

whose heart turns from the Lord.

He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:

if good comes, he has no eyes for it,

he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,

a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,

with the Lord for his hope.

He is like a tree by the waterside

that thrusts its roots to the stream:

when the heat comes it feels no alarm,

its foliage stays green;

it has no worries in a year of drought,

and never ceases to bear fruit.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

- Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)

- He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper. (R.)

- Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind.
For the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to
doom. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: 'Offertory Program' Meeting
Wednesday, 19th February at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre Meeting Room. Please advise your attendance to the Parish Office by 18/2/25.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED
Antonio Catalano
ANNIVERSARIES
Anthony Doan, John Chalabi, Sylvia D'Mello, Jack Rennie, Sebastiana Giardino, Nunzia Bonnici, Faith Rodrigues, Hope Rodrigues

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 18th 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

Saturday 22 Feb The Chair of St Peter

PARISH NEWS

DATE FOR THE DIARY: ST PETER'S LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO TA PINU SHRINE, BACCHUS MARSH
Saturday, 5th April. *Please note the change of date.*
Details in next weekend's Parish Bulletin.

LEADING IN HOPE: VITAL PARISHES – A FORMATION DAY FOR PARISH LEADERSHIP The Proclaim Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne are inviting all parishes to attend a special day of formation and planning for 2025. The day will feature keynote talks and practical workshops focused on the elements of a vital parish: developing a missionary vision, leadership excellence and collaboration. Parish Leadership team, pastoral council members, finance committee members, lay ecclesial ministers are especially invited to attend. Details: **Saturday 22nd February 2025 from 10.30am-3.15pm at Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.** We will organise registration and cover the cost of attendance for St Peter's parishioners. Please advise your attendance to the Parish Office no later than close of business on **Tuesday, 18th February.**

PARISH THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES STAMPED 2ND & 9TH MARCH
Parishioners using envelopes for Parish Thanksgiving may notice some missing envelopes – 2nd & 9th March. This was due to the printing company only supplying envelopes until the end of February. Please contact the Parish Office if you are missing these envelopes and we will organise to get them to you. Alternatively, you can use any envelope for 2 & 9 March, but please add your name and thanksgiving number, if you know it.

ALPHA MASTERCLASS – SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH FROM 10AM-4.30PM

Flyers with information on an upcoming Alpha Masterclass are available in the narthex. The Masterclass will be held at Good Shepherd Parish Hall, Gladstone Park from 10.00am-4.30pm. If you are interested in attending, please speak with Fr Anil or contact the Parish Office.



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

ST PETER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
CAR PARK

A meeting was held with the Parish Pastoral Council on 13th February 2025. Details of the car park outcome will be included in next weekend's Parish Bulletin.

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-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 Mass

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.