

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

FIRST READING – Isaiah 22: 19-23

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his Father's house.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 137: 1-3, 6, 8.

**R. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

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

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.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

SECOND READING – Romans 11: 33-36

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods? Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him: all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

■ The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia

GOSPEL – Matthew 16: 21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' The he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Let's reflect...

"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" (Romans 11:35)

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything - God already owns it all. God made everything. All we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity! Through your generous sharing, you just may be the answer to someone's prayer.

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving: Aaron Peters, [Mark Padernilla](#), William Mark P. Gonlag, Walter Bordon, John Palacios, Marissa & Daday de Guzman

For the sick: Leonie Hillas

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Doreen La Frenais, Celine Martinz, Austin Peters, Shirley Augustus Kelaart, Renerisa Devesa-Panabang, Sr. Benigno Aquino, Lyndon Rodrigues

It is important to be aware that our Parish secretaries, Michelle and Indrani, are required to work from home during this period of Stage 4 restrictions. Additionally, parish volunteers should not be attending Parish facilities and working from home if at all possible. Only essential services personnel can attend the Parish Office with the COVID-safe plan being followed.

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH HAMPTON PARK

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)



22nd & 23rd August 2020

PARISH CENTRE
120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Dong Tran
DEACON : Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender
PARISH SECRETARIES: Mrs. Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Mrs. Indrani Guinan
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ST. KEVIN'S : Jason Micallef – 9709 8600
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES : Christine White – 8773 6700

Parish Website

<https://stkevins.org.au/>
'Support us' page
<https://stkevins.org.au/support-us/>

YouTube Channel

<https://youtu.be/k-qBOvfy-I0>
(st kevins parish hampton park)
You can now follow us on Facebook too!

Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation

Until further notice the Saturday morning time for the Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation will be suspended. Arrangements can be made privately by contacting one of the priests.



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For spiritual books including children's books, religious music, cards and posters.

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Project Compassion 2020 campaign

The people of Melbourne contributed **\$1.216 million** this year - a truly outstanding result which speaks to generosity, and the willingness of so many people to send their contributions directly to Caritas, and to the many priests and people in parishes, and school families and staffs, that made the extra effort to raise donations and send them in.

Everyone in Caritas is deeply grateful for your dedication to this part of the Catholic church's work with those in need. This work is even more vital at a time when the whole world is in crisis. To put this year's figure in context, it compares with the \$1.524 million donated in 2019.

If you need to contact Caritas Australia please do so through **Toll Free 1800 024 413**.

A short reflection for 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

"How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge...To him be the glory for ever! Amen." It is on the note of this amazing and beautiful outburst of joy from our second reading this Sunday that we begin our reflection on this 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time.

The first reading tells us: God exhibits his power over all sovereignty, throne and kingdom. In his wise judgment, he reduces the proud and wicked hearted while exalting the lowly and faithful.

In the second reading, we see St. Paul bursting out in jubilant excitement and exaltation over the wisdom of God, and the plan of God in the government of mankind spread out before Paul, and he expresses the feelings of admiration and gratitude with which the prospect fills his heart.

And in today's gospel, Jesus fully aware of the on-going debate about him and the ignorance of the people about his personality, decided to also know the minds of those close to him - His disciples: "Who do people say the Son of Man is?...and...You, who do you say I am?" We must not distance ourselves from this question today. Rather, we must ask ourselves: "Who is Jesus to me?

St. Peter spoke up, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This answer was not just by his own power, but by the grace of God. It was a gift offered to him by God in order to prepare him for more blessings and the exalted position from the Son himself. He is blessed and happy today because he knew who Jesus is. In order to be blessed and be exalted like St. Peter, you and I must first of all declare: "You are the Christ, the son of the living God!" And, "How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge...To him be the glory for ever! Amen."

Fr. Dong Tran