

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

3 November 2024

Readings

Next Week

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kg 17: 10-16

Ps 145: 7-10

Heb 9: 24-28

Mk 12: 38-44

in a nutshell

You Shall Love the Lord Your God.
The commandment to love God with all one's being is kept constantly before the Jewish people. It is recited daily in prayer; and, written on a small scroll, it is worn on their person and enshrined at the entrance to their homes. To observe this commandment our love must embrace the whole creation, especially our fellow human beings made in God's image.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Harry & Dorothy Heering, Jim & Pat Henshaw

For those who have died recently especially Coral Bonini and all those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

of special note

If you haven't done so already, Please fill out a census card and return to Father after Mass.

Thank you to all who have returned one!

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R.)

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be to the God that saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown love for his anointed. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me shall have life because of me, says the Lord.

The Parish of St Mary's

Parish Priest

REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

Parish Secretary

Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours

Thursday

9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Mass

Saturday—6:30pm (EST)

5:00pm (EDST)

Sunday—10:30am & 5:00pm

Weekday Mass & Rosary

Tuesday—6:00pm

Thursday—9:00am

Friday—9:00am

Rosary prayed before morning Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday—11:30am-12:30pm

Friday—8:10am-8:40am

Exposition

Tuesday 5:00pm

Friday 8:00am

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

Principal: Angela Glennie

Website:

smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au

58 Clegg Rd, Mount Evelyn VIC 3796

Tel: (03) 9736 2850

Website: melbcatholic.org/s/mountevelyn

Email: mountevelyn@cam.org.au

Child Safety

Child Safety is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.

Remember children should be accompanied by an adult family member to the toilet.

Safeguarding Committee

Fr Michel
Janine Meades
Alan Somers
Sue Van der Linden
Karla Zmegac

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH



Car Parking –WEEKDAY Masses

Please use available car parks for Mass rather than the front of the church leaving the front for the truly disabled.

Do you need a Helping Hand?

Ring the St Vinnies Call Centre 1800 305 330
Monday - Friday 10am to 3pm, St Mary's Conference 0427 874 374 or Alan Somers 0419 134 300

Bulletin notices: by 12:00 noon Thursday please: moutevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Regular Gardening/Working Bee on first and third Saturdays of the month at 8:00 –10:00 am. Thank you to the volunteers who turn up to assist with the maintenance of the grounds around the church.
September 21

Parish Meetings: Tuesday, October 22

Finance Committee 7:00pm
Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm
Parish Council 8:00pm

Parish Notices

Parish Census

Please use BLOCK LETTERS and don't forget SURNAME. It is important that the parish receives a card from all members of our community to update the data base and remove people who are no longer part of the parish. THEREFORE IF YOU ARE A REGULAR ATTENDEE AT MASS PLEASE ENSURE YOU RETURN A CENSUS CARD WITH ALL AREAS FILLED IN.

Celebrate All Saint Day with us this Sunday

Children of all ages invited- Lollies, Games & Prizes! Dress as your favourite Saint or wear white to remind us that we are all called to be Saints!

Where: St. Mary's Catholic Church, Mount Evelyn School Hall

When: Sunday 3rd November Time: 10.30am Mass followed at 12noon-2pm Party Light lunch, drinks and party food provided. Please inform of any allergies. Contact: Rachael 0437123802

Children must be accompanied by an adult for duration of the party.

Pastoral Care Appeal 2024 - next week

Next weekend is CatholicCare Victoria's annual Pastoral Care Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year a special collection is conducted in all parishes, so that the vital work of the Catholic Chaplains can continue. The Catholic Chaplains support thousands of Victorians every year in prisons, to help them journey towards a brighter future. Your gift can help people find comfort and hope as they go through some of their darkest times of their life. Please give generously. You can donate using the envelopes available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515. Envelopes available today.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We adore Him because we love Him. Of all the movements, sensations and feelings of the soul, love is the only one in which the creature can respond to the Creator and make some sort of similar return however unequal it may be. For when God loves, all he desires is to be loved in return; the sole purpose of his love is to be loved, in the knowledge that those who love him are made happy by their love of him. (St. Bernard of Clairvaux)

Adoration: Tuesday 5:00pm, Friday 8:00am. Yarra Junction Thursday 6:00pm (first Thursday Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration.

Stewardship Corner

"And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself' is worth more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices." (MARK 12:33)

Of all the gifts that God gives us, the one He wants the most is our heart. He wants us to share out of our love for Him, not out of obligation. Using our talent in parish ministry and contributing money to support our parish mission is important, but it's more important to spend time in prayer with God daily and discern how He is calling us to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the visible ones, but the invisible ones like love, mercy and forgiveness.

Please note: Janine will be out of the office this week.

SVDP—Piety Stall

Now in stock the 2025 Columban Art Calendar which includes beautiful artwork, liturgical information and feast days at \$11.00 each. We also have a stock of Christmas Cards in packs of 5.

October Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Thanksgiving income: \$4565.54

Total Expenditure: \$2836.43

Supporting the Parish

There are a number of ways to contribute to the financial viability of the Parish:

- Cash donations and envelopes in the labelled boxes in the narthex
- Tap and Go terminals
- Via the QR code in the bulletin
- Direct Debit BSB 083347 **Church:** 648531736, **Presbytery:** 649237379

Tomato Plants for sale

This weekend St Vincent de Paul are again selling Tomato plants at \$3 each. There are 8 varieties: Grosse Lisse, Beef Steak, Bucci, Tiny Tom, Sweet Bite, Black Russian, San Marzano Roma and Ox Heart.

To order please contact Alan on 9735 5436 or email asom9346@bigpond.net.au

November Masses

Names of deceased loved ones can be written in the Prayer Book which will be placed on the Sanctuary for the month of November. Names can be added throughout the month. Masses throughout November will be offered for the repose of their souls. Envelopes are available to make an offering.

Results of the Archbishop's campaign

Thank you for your generous support! We are on track to raise over \$800,000. We've seen a strong response online and through social media, with more than 200 monthly donors— and that number keeps growing. Thanks to your contributions, the Priests Retirement Foundation, Corpus Christi College, Catholic Theological College, and John Pierce Centre will all receive their highest levels of donations since 2018. We truly appreciate the feedback you've shared and look forward to working together to enhance your experience next year.

Something to bring a smile!

A man walks into a bar and says, "Give me a beer before the problems start!" He drinks the beer and then orders another saying, "Give me a beer before the problems start!" The bartender looks confused. This goes on for a while, and after the fifth beer the bartender is totally confused and asks the man, "When are you going to pay for these beers?" The man answers, "Now the problems start!"

sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[The Law of Love](#)

Love is only law we are to live by. And love is the fulfillment of the Law that God reveals through Moses in today's First Reading (see Romans 13:8–10; Matthew 5:43–48).

The unity of God—the truth that He is one God, Father, Son, and Spirit—means that we must love Him with one love, a love that serves Him with all our hearts and minds, souls and strength.

We love Him because He has loved us first. We love our neighbor because we can't love the God we haven't seen unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen (see 1 John 4:19–21).

And we are called to imitate the love that Christ showed us in laying His life down on the Cross (see 1 John 3:16). As we hear in today's Epistle, by His perfect sacrifice on the Cross, He once and for all makes it possible for us to approach God.

There is no greater love than to lay down your life (see John 15:13). This is perhaps why Jesus tells the scribe in today's Gospel that he is not far from the kingdom of God.

The scribe recognizes that the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the old Law were meant to teach Israel that it is love that God desires (see Hosea 6:6). The animals offered in sacrifice were symbols of the self-sacrifice, the total gift of our selves, that God truly desires.

We are called today to examine our hearts. Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God? Do we love others as Jesus has loved us (see John 13:34–35)? Do we love our enemies and pray for those who oppose and persecute us (see Matthew 5:44)?

Let us tell the Lord we love Him, as we do in today's Psalm. And let us take His Word to heart, that we might prosper and have life eternal in His kingdom, the heavenly homeland flowing with milk and honey.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)
stpaulcenter.com

At the evening of life, we shall be judged on our love

What is Purgatory?

If he were not expecting that those who had fallen would rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead. But if he was looking to the splendid reward that is laid up for those who fall asleep in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Therefore he made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin. (2 Macc 12:44-45)

If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. (1 Cor 3:15)

Purgatory is a state of purification for those souls who have died in the grace of God but require cleansing from imperfections before they can enter Heaven.

Before entering Heaven, every trace of attachment to created goods must be eliminated, every imperfection of the soul corrected. The Church uses the word Purgatory to describe the final purification of the souls of those who, having died in grace, have not fully received remission of the temporal punishment for their pardoned mortal sins or their venial sins. As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offences can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come" (St. Gregory the Great).

The punishment of the souls in Purgatory is the delay in being God and the knowledge that this delay is their own fault for not having fully repented on earth. These souls also have great joy because they know that they are assured of Heaven. Purgatory is not a lesser form of Hell but rather a state of preparation for Heaven.

Scriptural evidence of Purgatory is found in both the Old and New Testaments. Most strikingly is that Judas Maccabeus offered prayers and atonement for the sins of his fallen soldiers; such prayers for the dead would have been meaningless if the deceased had already reached their final destination. The New Testament also speaks of a purification "as through fire".

Prayers for the dead have always been considered a pious duty, an act of charity and justice. The Church frequently remembers the dead — who are also members of the Communion of Saints — in her liturgies, prayers, and indulgences.

From the Didache Bible

1021 Death puts an end to human life as the time open to either accepting or rejecting the divine grace manifested in Christ. The New Testament speaks of judgment primarily in its aspect of the final encounter with Christ in his second coming, but also repeatedly affirms that each will be rewarded immediately after death in accordance with his works and faith. The parable of the poor man Lazarus and the words of Christ on the cross to the good thief, as well as other New Testament texts speak of a final destiny of the soul—a destiny which can be different for some and for others.

1022 Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven—through a purification or immediately,—or immediate and everlasting damnation.

"At the evening of life, we shall be judged on our love" St. John of the Cross.

1030 All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.

1031 The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned.⁶⁰⁶ The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent. The tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire

1032 This teaching is also based on the practice of prayer for the dead, already mentioned in Sacred Scripture: "Therefore [Judas Maccabeus] made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin" (2 Macc 12:46). From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God.⁶¹⁰ The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead:

"Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice, why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them" St. John Chrysostom.

1472 To understand this doctrine and practice of the Church, it is necessary to understand that sin has a double consequence. Grave sin deprives us of communion with God and therefore makes us incapable of eternal life, the privation of which is called the "eternal punishment" of sin. On the other hand every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified either here on earth, or after death in the state called Purgatory. This purification frees one from what is called the "temporal punishment" of sin. These two punishments must not be conceived of as a kind of vengeance inflicted by God from without, but as following from the very nature of sin. A conversion which proceeds from a fervent charity can attain the complete purification of the sinner in such a way that no punishment would remain.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church