

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

21 April 2024

Readings

Next Week

Acts 9:26-31
Ps 21:26-28, 30-32
1 Jn 3:18-24
Jn 15:1-8

in a nutshell

I am the Good Shepherd. Though few shepherds remain in our modern world, the image of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, continues to bring comfort to us. It reminds us that we are not alone. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, watches over us always. He lays down his life for us. He leads us to pasture, to water, to safety. He searches for us when we stray and bandages our wounds. Today, let us listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Harry & Dorothy Heering, Frankie Petinella. For those who have died recently and all those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

of special note

Sunday, 21 April, is Good Shepherd Sunday
The World Day of Prayer for Vocations

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men:

it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. (R.)

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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—9:00am

Thursday—9:00am

Friday—9:00am

Rosary prayed before morning Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday—11:30am-12:30pm

Friday—8:10am-8:40am

Exposition

Friday at 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

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: mountevelyn@cam.org.au**

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

Regular Gardening/Working Bee—1st & 3rd Saturday

Thank you to the volunteers who turn up to assist with the maintenance of the grounds around the church. 4pm onwards

Next—Friday March 15

Parish Meetings: Tuesday, 30 April

Finance Committee 7:00pm

Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm

Parish Council 8:00pm

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH



Parish Notices

New Tap and Go Terminals

Further to our new method of collecting contributions to the Parish and Presbytery, we have two new Tap and Go machines: one for the parish account and one for the presbytery account. These are placed beside the respective collection boxes in the narthex. These machines allow you to choose the amount you are giving. It can take some time for the machine to register, please **be patient, we are trying to rectify connection problems!**

A reminder that collections are no longer taken up during Mass. Place donations in the labelled boxes in the narthex either before or after Mass. Donations can also be made through the website using the QR code on this page.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The importance of Eucharistic Adoration is shown in the fact that the Church has a ritual that regulates it: the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. Many people to my knowledge felt the call to become Catholic Christian because of the extraordinary sense of the presence of God they experienced while attending Benediction. (Fr. Antony Jones)

Confession should not be viewed only as a way to obtain a clean slate. Instead, this important sacrament allows you to remember that God is on your side and is always there when you need Him. Confession allows you to strengthen your relationship with God. (Catholic World Mission)

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

Stewardship Corner

"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice." - John 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

Regular Gardening/Working Bees

Please note the working bees will now be held on Saturday mornings 8:00-10:00am. Thank you to the parishioners who turn up to assist with the maintenance of the grounds around the church. **Next—Saturday May 4**

Project Compassion— Last Call for Boxes /Envelopes

If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Good Shepherd Sunday

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us:

There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

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 and young people should be accompanied by an adult family member to the toilet.

Visit the [Safeguarding page](#) on our parish website.

World Mission May Rosary Prayers

As the month of May approaches, we would like to invite your parish to join us in online prayer to mark the traditional time for Marian devotions. Catholic Mission will host the recitation of the Rosary every day (from Monday to Friday) in May, and we invite our friends, supporters and collaborators from around the country to join in. During this virtual Rosary, we will reflect on the mysteries of the Rosary and offer our intentions for peace, healing and blessings for our parishes and the world. This online gathering is open to everyone in the parish community. For more information see noticeboard or visit the parish website.

Catholic Theological College

Sign up for one of 9 short, online sessions. Engaging Your Faith: Theology, Scripture, Meditation, Spirituality, Science & Faith. Choose what interests you from \$25 per session. For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

Are You Being Called to Serve?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **4 May 2024 Saturday, 10:00 -11.45 am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

For more information: The Vocations website for the Archdiocese is available. The links below (copy, then paste) are a source of additional information.

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Something to Bring a Smile!

After a long and successful career as a small business owner, a man decides he wants to devote the rest of his life to God, so he joins a seminary and studies to be a priest. A few years later after his ordination he is assigned to a parish. One Saturday afternoon he was about to hear confessions when he met an old friend from his former life. "How do you like the new job?" the friend asked. "Well," said the new priest, "The pay is not as good and the hours are long." Then pointing to the confessional, he added, "But what I do like is that in this business the customer is always wrong!"

Sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[The Shepherd's Voice](#)

Jesus, in today's Gospel, says that He is the good shepherd the prophets had promised to Israel.

He is the shepherd-prince, the new David—who frees people from bondage to sin and gathers them into one flock, the Church, under a new covenant, made in His blood (see Ezekiel 34:10–13, 23–31).

His flock includes other sheep, He says, far more than the dispersed children of Israel (see Isaiah 56:8; John 11:52). And He gave His Church the mission of shepherding all peoples to the Father.

In today's First Reading, we see the beginnings of that mission in the testimony of Peter, whom the Lord appointed shepherd of His Church (see John 21:15–17).

Peter tells Israel's leaders that the Psalm we sing today is a prophecy of their rejection and crucifixion of Christ. He tells the "builders" of Israel's temple that God has made the stone they rejected the cornerstone of a new spiritual temple, the Church (see Mark 12:10–13; 1 Peter 2:4–7).

Through the ministry of the Church, the shepherd still speaks (see Luke 10:16), and forgives sins (see John 20:23), and makes His body and blood present, that all may know Him in the breaking of the bread (see Luke 24:35). It is a mission that will continue until all the world is one flock under the one shepherd.

In laying down His life and taking it up again, Jesus made it possible for us to know God as He did—as sons and daughters of the Father who loves us. As we hear in today's Epistle, He calls us His children, as He called Israel His son when He led them out of Egypt and made His covenant with them (see Exodus 4:22–23; Revelation 21:7).

Today, let us listen for His voice as He speaks to us in the Scriptures, and vow again to be more faithful followers. And let us give thanks for the blessings He bestows from His altar.

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

There is one mediator between God and Man, Christ Jesus (1 Tim 2.5)

[Note: Sunday is World Day of Prayer for Vocations]

“Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time: thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry” (CCC 1536).

“[I]t confers a gift of the Holy Spirit that permits the exercise of a ‘sacred power’ ...which can come only from Christ himself” (CCC 1538). After ordination, a priest has the power to turn bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Such a supernatural power can come only from a supernatural source.

Bishops are the successors to the apostles, in an “‘unbroken succession going back to the beginning’” (CCC 1555); for the apostles “‘passed on to their auxiliaries the gift of the Spirit which is transmitted down to our day through episcopal consecration’” (CCC 1556). “‘Episcopal consecration confers ... also the offices of teaching and ruling’” (CCC 1558).

“Apostolic succession” is a historical fact. Scripture shows that Christ chose apostles and commissioned them to continue his work with his authority and that they in turn ordained successors. Apostolic succession is the link that connects the Church today to the Christ who walked the earth two thousand years ago. Many converts from Protestantism, both great (such as Cardinal Newman) and small (such as the present writer), found their way into the Church through confronting this simple historical fact.

Christ did not tell the apostles how to choose successors, and the “politics” of choosing bishops has varied through Church history. “In our day, the lawful ordination of a bishop requires a special intervention of the Bishop of Rome” [the pope], “because he is the supreme visible bond of the communion of the particular Churches in the one Church” (CCC 1559).

Priests are “‘co-workers of the episcopal order for the proper fulfillment of the apostolic mission’” (CCC 1562). “Priests can exercise their ministry only in dependence on the bishop and in communion with him” [and, indeed, make a] “promise of obedience ... to the bishop at the moment of ordination” (CCC 1567). Priests, in turn, as “presbyters”, share in the priestly office of the bishop.

The priesthood exists for the Eucharist. It is in the Eucharist that “‘they exercise in a supreme degree their sacred office; there, acting in the person of Christ ... and in the sacrifice of the Mass they make present again ... the unique sacrifice of ... Christ offering himself....’ From this unique sacrifice their whole priestly ministry draws its strength [cf. PO 2]” (CCC 1566). When the priest pronounces Christ’s words “This is my Body” and “This is my Blood”, it is Christ who speaks and acts. Only Christ has such miraculous power.

That is why the saintly Curé of Ars said, “‘The priest continues the work of redemption on earth.... If we really understood the priest on earth, we would die not of fright but of love’” (CCC 1589). Saints have seen angels bowing before priests—not because the priests were especially holy as human beings but because the power Christ gave them in the Eucharist infinitely exceeds the greatest powers of the greatest angel.

The title “Father” should show that love of which the Curé of Ars speaks. It is a reminder that the relationship between priest and people is familial, since it expresses the relationship between God and his people, which is also familial and “fatherly”. “Father” was the word Christ used the most for God, and we cannot be better taught than by him.

A priest is a mediator between God and man. “Everything that the priesthood of the Old Covenant prefigured finds its fulfillment in Christ Jesus, the ‘one mediator between God and men’” (CCC 1544).

Israel was God’s “chosen people”—chosen not for their own sake but for service to the whole world. As Israel was God’s collective prophet to the whole world, Israel was also the collective priest for the whole world. “The chosen people was constituted by God as ‘a kingdom of priests and a holy nation’” (CCC 1539). And “within the people of Israel, God chose one of the twelve tribes, that of Levi, and set it apart for liturgical service.... The priests are ‘appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins’” (CCC 1539).

Even earlier there was also the priesthood of Melchizedek (Gen 14:18). “The Christian tradition considers Melchizedek, ‘priest of God Most High,’ as a prefiguration of the priesthood of Christ, the unique ‘high priest after the order of Melchizedek’; ... ‘by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified’, that is, by the unique sacrifice of the cross” (CCC 1544).

Christ fulfilled the Old Covenant priesthood on the Cross and extended that work through all time by the ordained priesthood of his Catholic Church, which God designed, like Israel, not for herself but for the whole world (“catholic” means “universal”). The Catholic priesthood today is the extension of Christ. It is not a third step, so to speak, after the Old Covenant priests and then Christ. Priests are Christ’s own hands and lips. “‘Christ is the source of all priesthood: the priest of the old law was a figure of Christ, and the priest of the new law acts in the person of Christ’” (CCC 1548).

What Christ did on the Cross was the most important thing he came to earth to do: to save us from sin and reconcile us to the Father. This was his “priestly” work; and this incomparably important work—the work of salvation—he now performs through the ordained priesthood of his Church, for her priests are the ones he appointed as successors to the apostles to communicate his salvation through his sacraments. Thus the fundamental purpose of the Sacrament of Holy Orders is the salvation of the world.

“The redemptive sacrifice of Christ is unique, accomplished once for all” (see Heb 10:10); “yet it is made present in the Eucharistic sacrifice of the Church. The same is true of the one priesthood of Christ; it is made present through the ministerial priesthood without diminishing the uniqueness of Christ’s priesthood: ‘Only Christ is the true priest, the others being only his ministers’” (CCC 1545).

Dr Peter Kreeft, Catholic Christianity: A Complete Catechism of Catholic Beliefs Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church