

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

10 September 2023

Readings

Next Week

Sirach 27:30-28:7
Ps 102:1-4, 9-12
Rom 14:7-9
Mt 18:21-35

in a nutshell

I shall be there with them. Every Christian community experiences difficulties in one form or another. Misunderstandings occur, divisions arise. Today's Gospel reminds us that Christ is present in our communities even when they are broken, when only two or three meet in his name. Healing occurs when we seek to embody in our communities the qualities of Christ, especially forgiveness and mutual love.

we pray for

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

of special note

St Mary's Annunziata Festa will be on 24 September following the 10:30am Mass.

Come and enjoy the festivities!

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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
Karen 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. Please Leave 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: muntevelyn@cam.org.au

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

Regular Gardening/Working Bee—Friday August 18

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

Parish Meetings: Tuesday,

Finance Committee 7:00pm

Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm

Parish Council 8:00pm

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH



Parish Notices

Annunziata Festa—Organisers Meeting

All committee members and volunteers are invited to attend a meeting this Tuesday 12th September at 7:00 p.m. in the parish portable. All input and assistance will be welcome.

Annunziata Festa—24 September—Donations for Hampers!

The Festa will be held on 24th September beginning with 10:30 Mass followed by the procession. Stay and enjoy a BBQ lunch and buy a raffle ticket. Donations towards hampers to be raffled would be appreciated and can be left in the box in the foyer or handed to Fr Michel in the sacristy.

Parish Sacramental Program

For Children, not attending the Parish School, wanting to receive the Sacraments, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, instructions are available through our Parish. Contact the parish office or annevan.tilburg@gmail.com Contact Anne by mid-December for 2024 enrolments

St Mary's Prayer Group

The Prayer Group meet every first Friday of the month in the church from 2-3 p.m. "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God" (St. John Damascene).

Adoration of the Eucharist

Each moment you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament brings joy, pleasure, and delight to His Sacred Heart! "My joy, my pleasure, my delight is to be with you." (Prov 8:31)

Confession is about salvation and the care of souls. Our culture is working hard to get rid of the concept of sin. But sin is sin and because it's bad for us lots of people are hurting. That's reality. Some Catholics no longer believe that confession has anything to do with their life of faith and, to be specific, their ability to receive Holy Communion. Do we believe that what the Church teaches is true and that the sacraments are real? If we do, then confession is an essential part of our faith. (Fr. David Moses)

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

Stewardship Corner

"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..."- Ezekiel 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

Contributions can be made using the QR Code, via the website, by direct debit to: St Mary's Church BSB 083-347 account number 648531736 Ref **THK and your surname** or call the office and arrange with Janine to get envelopes or set up regular direct debit/credit card payments. **Just a reminder donations via the Tap and Go machine go towards the presbytery collection to support the parish priest.**

August Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Total income: \$4438

Total Expenditure: \$6551.24

Priests Retirement Fund

Donates can still be made using the envelopes available or electronically by logging on to:

www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation and make your donation through Paypal. Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests.

Last week's collection raised \$ 592.20 across both parishes.

Safeguarding Sunday—10 September

Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

Parish Car Parks

Please leave the disabled car spaces for those people who require them. At school times this is a shared car park and there are families with children attending the school who require these spaces.

We have a NEW parish website!

With recent upgrades to Archdiocese of Melbourne platforms we have a new website. <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/mountevelyn>. Go have a look!

Morning Tea after 10.30am Sunday Mass

Stay and chat over a cuppa! Consider joining the roster to assist in serving. If you are unable to serve but would like to contribute, donations of packaged biscuits would be appreciated. Contact Rachael 0437123802

Morning tea after 9:00am Mass first Tuesday of the month.

Pro-Life News

Get on the BUS OF LIFE!

The annual March4The Babies (marchforthebabies.com) is on Saturday October 7 at 12:30 p.m. Meeting in the Treasury Gardens cnr Spring St and Wellington Pde. Wear pink or blue.

A bus for travelling to and from the event might be available, depending on interest. To express your interest, please see the form in the foyer, or contact James at jnolet@iinet.net.au

Further items:
Watch a 4-minute update on the Born-Alive Bill from Sky News host Amanda Stoker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEkP1Mle75o>

Or visit Dr Joanna Howe's website: drjoannahowe.com

Something to make you smile!

What do a cricketer and a magician have in common? They both do hat tricks.

How do hockey players kiss? They pucker up.

What's the difference between basketball players and soccer players? Basketball players get actual injuries.

Why should you never date tennis players? To them, Love means nothing.

The boating store was having a big sale on canoes. There were lots of people there. It was quite the *oar deal*.

Readings Reflection

[To Win Them Back](#)

As Ezekiel is appointed watchman over the house of Israel in today's first Reading, so Jesus in the Gospel today establishes His disciples as guardians of the new Israel of God, the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

He also puts in place procedures for dealing with sin and breaches of the faith, building on rules of discipline prescribed by Moses for Israel (see Leviticus 19:17–20; Deuteronomy 19:13). The heads of the new Israel, however, receive extraordinary powers—similar to those given to Peter (see Matthew 16:19). They have the power to bind and loose, to forgive sins and to reconcile sinners in His name (see John 20:21–23).

But the powers He gives the Apostles and their successors depends on their communion with Him. As Ezekiel is only to teach what he hears God saying, the disciples are to gather in His name and to pray and seek the will of our heavenly Father.

But today's readings are more than a lesson in Church order. They also suggest how we're to deal with those who trespass against us, a theme that we'll hear in next week's readings as well.

Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them.

This is the love that Paul in today's Epistle says we owe to our neighbors. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back, to turn them from the false paths.

We should never correct out of anger or a desire to punish. Instead, our message must be that of today's Psalm—urging the sinner to hear God's voice, not to harden their hearts, and to remember that He is the one who made us, and the rock of our salvation.

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

Meditation on the Nativity of Mary

(The birthday of Mary was celebrated on Friday, 8 September)

BEFORE the birth of Mary the world was lost in the darkness of sin. Mary was born, and the morning arose: *"Nata Maria, surrexit auroro,"* says a holy Father. Already it had been said of Mary: "Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising?" As the earth rejoices when the day dawns, for the dawn is the precursor of the sun, so Mary at her birth gave joy to the whole world, for she was the precursor of the sun of justice, Jesus Christ, who being made her son, came to save us by his death; therefore the Church sings; "Thy nativity, oh virgin mother of God, announced joy to the whole world, for from thee the sun of justice has arisen, who has given us life eternal." Thus, when Mary was born, we received our remedy, our consolation, and our salvation; for through Mary we have received the Saviour.

This child being then destined for the mother of the eternal Word, God bestowed on her so much grace, that even from her immaculate conception her sanctity excelled the sanctity of all the saints and angels united, for she received a grace of a superior order, corresponding to the dignity of mother of God. Oh holy infant, oh full of grace, I, a miserable sinner, salute thee and adore thee. Thou art the beloved, the delight of God; have pity on me, who through my sins have been hateful and abominable in the eyes of God. Thou, oh most pure Virgin, hast so well known even from thy infancy how to gain the heart of God, that he denies thee nothing, and grants all that thou dost ask of him. In thee then I place my hopes. Recommend me to thy Son, and I shall be saved.

At the same time that Mary was destined to be the mother of our Redeemer, she was also destined to be the mediatrix between God and us sinners. Hence the Angelic Doctor, St. Thomas, says, that Mary received grace sufficient to save all men; and therefore St. Bernard calls Mary a channel so full that we can all partake of its fullness. Oh my queen, oh mediatrix of sinners, perform thy office and intercede for me! Let not my sins prevent me from confiding in thee, oh great mother of God; no, I trust in thee, and trust in thee so much, that if my salvation were in my own hands, yet I would place it all in thine. Oh Mary, receive me under thy protection, and this is enough for me.

From The Glories of Mary by St Alphonsus Liguori

490 To become the mother of the Saviour, Mary "was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role." The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as "full of grace." In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace.

491 Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.

492 The "splendour of an entirely unique holiness" by which Mary is "enriched from the first instant of her conception" comes wholly from Christ: she is "redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son." The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person "in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" and chose her "in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love."

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church