

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

16 July 2023

Readings

Next Week

Wis 12:13, 16-19
Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Rom 8:26-27
Mt 13:24-30

in a nutshell

Listen, anyone who has ears. Do we really listen when the Word of God is proclaimed at Mass? Do we allow it to take root in our hearts and yield a rich harvest? If we try to listen at Mass, we will learn to listen also to the many voices that cry out to us in the midst of our busy lives—the voices of our children, of our parents, of our spouse, of those who need us to hear them.

we pray for

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

of special note

Vinnies Winter Appeal this weekend.

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. (R.)

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. (R.)

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, 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—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:

moutevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Regular Gardening/Working Bee—Friday June 16

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

Parish Meetings: Tuesday, June 20

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

Parish Notices

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal - This Week

All money received will go towards assisting people from our parish who are struggling to make ends meet and who ask for our help. Please place your donations in the 2nd Collection. For those who wish to donate by credit card or require a receipt there will be envelopes on the seats which can be placed in the collection or hand in to the piety stall.

Adoration of the Eucharist

From the Eucharist comes the strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others. (St. John Paul II)

Confess your sins and acknowledge them readily, repenting of them abundantly. And through this confession of the heart and contrition of the soul, you will find peace. (St. Angela of Foligno)

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

Stewardship Corner

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit."-Matthew 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

June Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Total income: \$3638.00

Total Expenditure: \$6575.77

Contributions can be made 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.**

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.

Just a reminder for school parents to use available parking spaces and leave the church driveway clear for our elderly/disabled parishioners attending weekday masses. Thank you for your consideration.

We have a NEW parish website!

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

St John Bosco Relics

We would like to warmly invite all parishioners to spend some time in personal prayer and a celebration of the Eucharist in honour of St John Bosco's relics being at the Don Bosco Retreat Centre on Tuesday 18th July 2023. (465 Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield) Personal prayer is welcome from 6pm and mass will be celebrated at 7pm.

Treasuring Our Later Years (in-person event), Sat 5 Aug, 10am–4pm

Our ageing offers us opportunities to be awake to the new possibilities offered daily. During our time together, Sr Nicole Rotaru, RSM will consider themes that have special significance in our later years: awakening to new possibilities in my life now; spirituality; what is giving my life meaning?; relationships; gratitude; death—mystery; intimacy and delight in God's presence. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$60 (BYO Lunch). Book and pay via

website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

Something to make you smile!

One evening a grandmother was babysitting her two young granddaughters. They were playing around together when all of a sudden it was 8pm, which was the girls' usual bedtime.

"Okay, time for bed," she informed the two children.

"Why?" the youngest asked. "It's so early!"

"Your father insisted your bedtime is 8pm," the grandmother said.

"You don't have to listen to him," the other replied.

"Why not?" the grandmother asked.

The grandchild answered: "Because you're his mother!"

My old aunts would come and tease me at weddings, "Well Sarah? Do you think you'll be next?" We settled this quickly once I started doing the same to them at funerals.

Readings Reflection

[The Word's Return](#)

Today's readings, like last week's, ask us to meditate on Israel's response to God's Word—and our own. Why do some hear the word of the kingdom, yet fail to accept it as a call to conversion and faith in Jesus? That question underlies today's Gospel especially.

Again, we see, as we did last week, that the kingdom's mysteries are unfolded to those who open their hearts, making of them a rich soil in which the Word can grow and bear fruit.

As we sing in today's Psalm, in Jesus, God's Word has visited our land to water the stony earth of our hearts with the living waters of the Spirit (see John 7:38; Revelation 22:1).

The first fruit of the Word is the Spirit of love and adoption poured into our hearts in Baptism, making us children of God, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle (see Romans 5:5; 8:15-16). In this, we are made a "new creation" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), the first fruits of a new heaven and a new earth (see 2 Peter 3:13).

Since the first humans rejected God's Word, creation has been enslaved to futility (see Genesis 3:17–19; 5:29). But God's Word does not go forth only to return to Him void, as we hear in today's First Reading.

His Word awaits our response. We must show ourselves to be children of that Word. We must allow that Word to accomplish God's will in our lives. As Jesus warns today, we must take care lest the devil steals it away or lest it be choked by worldly concerns.

In the Eucharist, the Word gives Himself to us as bread to eat. He does so that we might be made fertile, yielding fruits of holiness.

And we await the crowning of the year, the great harvest of the Lord's Day (see Mark 4:29; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 1:10)—when His Word will have achieved the end for which it was sent.

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

Christ, the Logos [Word] of Hope

Saint John powerfully expresses the fundamental paradox of the Christian faith. On the one hand, he says that “no one has ever seen God” (*Jn 1:18*). In no way can our imaginations, our concepts or our words ever define or embrace the infinite reality of the Most High. Yet Saint John also tells us that the Word truly “became flesh” (*Jn 1:14*). The only-begotten Son, who is ever with the Father, has made known the God whom “no one has ever seen” (*Jn 1:18*). Jesus Christ comes to us, “full of grace and truth” (*Jn 1:14*), to give us these gifts (cf. *Jn 1:17*); and “from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace” (*Jn 1:16*). In the Prologue of his Gospel, John thus contemplates the Word from his being with God to his becoming flesh and his return to the Father with our humanity, which he has assumed for ever. In this coming forth from God and returning to him, Christ is presented as the one who “tells us” about God. Indeed, as Saint Irenaeus of Lyons says, the Son “is the revealer of the Father”. Jesus of Nazareth is, so to speak, the “exegete” of the God whom “no one has ever seen”. “He is the image of the invisible God” (*Col 1:15*). Here we see fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah about the effectiveness of the Lord’s word: as the rain and snow come down from heaven to water and to make the earth fruitful, so too the word of God “shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (cf. *Is 55:10f.*). Jesus Christ is this definitive and effective word which came forth from the Father and returned to him, perfectly accomplishing his will in the world.

The word of God has bestowed upon us the divine life which transfigures the face of the earth, making all things new. His word engages us not only as *hearers* of divine revelation, but also as its *heralds*. The one whom the Father has sent to do his will draws us to himself and makes us part of his life and mission. The Spirit of the Risen Lord empowers us to proclaim the word everywhere by the witness of our lives. This was experienced by the first Christian community, which saw the word spread through preaching and witness. Here we can think in particular of the life of the Apostle Paul, a man completely caught up by the Lord—“it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (*Gal 2:20*)—and by his mission: “woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel!” (*1 Cor 9:16*). Paul knew well that what was revealed in Christ is really salvation for all peoples, liberation from the slavery of sin in order to enjoy the freedom of the children of God.

What the Church proclaims to the world is the *Logos of Hope*; in order to be able to live fully each moment, men and women need “the great hope” which is “the God who possesses a human face and who ‘has loved us to the end’” (*Jn 13:1*). This is why the Church is missionary by her very nature. We cannot keep to ourselves the words of eternal life given to us in our encounter with Jesus Christ: they are meant for everyone, for every man and woman. Everyone today, whether he or she knows it or not, needs this message. May the Lord himself, as in the time of the prophet Amos, raise up in our midst a new hunger and thirst for the word of God (cf. *Am 8:11*: “*Behold, the days are coming,*” declares the Lord God, “*when I will send a famine on the land— not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.*”). It is our responsibility to pass on what, by God’s grace, we ourselves have received.

The greater our openness to God’s word, the more will we be able to recognize that today too the mystery of Pentecost is taking place in God’s Church. The Spirit of the Lord continues to pour out his gifts upon the Church to guide us into all truth, to show us the meaning of the Scriptures and to make us credible heralds of the word of salvation before the world. Thus we return to the First Letter of Saint John. In God’s word, we too have heard, we too have seen and touched the Word of life. We have welcomed by grace the proclamation that eternal life has been revealed, and thus we have come to acknowledge our fellowship with one another, with those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, and with all those who throughout the world hear the word, celebrate the Eucharist and by their lives bear witness to charity. This proclamation has been shared with us—the Apostle John reminds us—so that “our joy may be complete” (*1 Jn 1:4*).

From the Apostolic Exhortation Verbum Domini, #90, 91 & 123, Pope Benedict XVI