

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

4 February 2024

Readings

Next Week

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46
Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11
1 Cor 10:31-11:1
Mk 1:40-45

in a nutshell

Jesus took her by the hand. We sometimes come to Mass poor, sick and troubled, much like the people who crowd around the door of Jesus in today's Gospel. In this Mass let us express our needs to Jesus. Let us ask him to take us by the hand and help us as he helped Simon's mother-in-law. Then, with our spirits uplifted, we will go out from Mass with a renewed desire to share God's love with others.

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

Order of Malta Lourdes Day Mass
on Saturday 10 February at the
Cathedral.

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due. (R.)

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. (R.)

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

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. 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—1st & 3rd Friday

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

Parish Meetings: Tuesday, 13 February

Finance Committee 7:00pm

Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm

Parish Council 8:00pm

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH



Parish Notices

Ash Wednesday—14 February

Mount Evelyn, 11:40am (Whole School Mass) & 7:30pm

Yarra Junction, 9:00am (Whole School Mass), Warburton, 6:00pm

Gardening Group—Friday February 2

Come along and assist in tidying up the church grounds. All Welcome!

The Giving Tree helped 109 families!

The St Vincent de Paul Society Mount Evelyn branch would like to thank all who donated to the Giving Tree at Christmas time. Your support allowed us to assist 109 families across the parish with hampers.

Adoration of the Eucharist

There is a great story about an old farmer that St. John Vianney found in the church just staring at the tabernacle. The priest asked him what he was doing and the man explained, "I look at Him and He looks at me." St. John Vianney advocated contemplation, a loving awareness of God's presence, especially in the Eucharist. We too can love being in His company- in the presence of Him who prefers nothing to us.

Confession: Scripture pronounces happy those whose transgressions are pardoned, whose sins are forgiven. (Pope St. Clement I)

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

Stewardship Corner

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'" - Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces needed to do what He wishes us to do. Praying before acting is a great habit to develop.

Parish Sacramental Program 2024 Enrolments

For Children, not attending the Parish School, wanting to receive the Sacraments, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, instructions are available through our Parish. Contact Anne at annevan.tilburg@gmail.com

2024 Lent Challenge – Free Access

Start your journey. This Lent, join Scott Hahn and John Bergsma as they lead us out of exile and on the journey home. **Begins Ash Wednesday, February 14th visit:** <https://stpaulcenter.com/exodus/> to sign up. Free access to the entire site for the duration of Lent.

PIETÀ Lenten Reflection

PIETÀ is an exquisite 80-page (full-color book) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday). For individual orders: <https://www.dow.org.au/shop/> Hard copies have sold out but a digital copy is available for purchase.

St Mary's Prayer Group—Every Friday

The Prayer Group meets every Friday 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).

2024 The Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has declared 2024 as the Year of Prayer, reminding us of the importance of this timeless spiritual practice. Majellan Media has launched a new podcast series on prayer titled [Prayer is Life](#) which coincides with the start of a Year of Prayer announced by Pope Francis. Prayer is Life is aimed at giving listeners a better understanding about prayer and what prayer can do for them.

Order of Malta Lourdes Day Mass

For some years now, the Order of Malta has organised an annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm particularly for those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes. The Mass will take place again on Saturday, 10th February at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. For further information, please contact: Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.

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

NOTE: Morning tea after Tuesday 9:00am Mass in resumes 6 February.

Something to Bring a Smile!

In February last year, I learned that National Grammar Day was to be celebrated with a series of events in Sydney. I was looking forward to celebrating with some friends of mine so we travelled from Melbourne by car. My friends Mike, Susan, and Mary organised a wonderful trip consisting of a host of grammar related activities on the way to Sydney: proof-reading, sentence structuring, and more. It was so much fun!

Susan also turned out to be a wonderful cook; she prepared some delightful ham and tomato sandwiches and a refreshing thermos of hot coffee. Needless to say, after an extraordinary time, I was not expecting what awaited me on the return journey. About 30 kilometres west of Gundagai, we unfortunately collided with a four wheel drive. My small Toyota was wrecked, but my fate was even worse. While the others escaped injury I was air-lifted to the nearest hospital where the doctors revived me and the surgeons began the delicate task of reconstructing my lower GI tract. The collision had decimated my colon. The doctors did the best they could, but my colon is now much shorter.

Anyway, it's not all bad news. I now know what a semicolon is.

Sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[Raised to Serve](#)

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ.

His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin (see Genesis 3:17–19). Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes.

But, as we sing in today's Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the brokenhearted and gather those lost in exile from Him (see Isaiah 11:12; 61:1). We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel.

Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself.

But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand (see Isaiah 42:6), Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise (see Mark 5:41–42). It's used again to describe His own resurrection (see Mark 14:28; 16:7).

What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity—raised all of us who lay dead through our sins (see Ephesians 2:5).

Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ.

We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence (see Hosea 6:1–2).

Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel.

Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in today's Epistle. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come—that others, too, may have a share in this salvation.

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

The Church as the Universal Sacrament of Salvation

Must a person be a member of the church in order to be saved?

“He who believes and is baptised will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” (Mk 16:16)

“He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.” (Jn 6:54)

All salvation comes through Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church founded by Christ, regardless of whether the saved person is a member of that Church. Christ has willed to bestow the merits of his redemption through his Church. The two Scripture references above point to the necessity of the Sacraments of Baptism, Penance, and the Eucharist. Therefore, as the Body of Christ, the Church is “the way” of salvation. This is why she is also called the “Sacrament of Salvation.”

The phrase “outside the Church there is no salvation” (*“Extra Ecclesiam nulla salus”*) was first coined by St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, in the third century. This traditional teaching was further clarified by Pope Bl. Pius IX (cf. Allocution of December 9, 1854). While emphasising that all salvation comes from Christ through the Catholic Church, Pope Bl. Pius taught that God does not impute guilt to those who are innocently unaware of the truth of the Catholic Church. Those who are not aware of the true of the Church through no fault of their own may attain salvation if they are seeking the truth and try to live according to the truth. People invincibly ignorant of the truth of the Catholic Church are expected to follow the natural law that is written on the hearts of all people. God binds salvation to Baptism, but he himself is not bound by his Sacraments.

It is important to remember that “all men are bound to seek the truth, especially in what concerns God and his Church, and to embrace it and hold on to it as they come to know it” (*Dignitatis Humanae* 1).

The possibility that people who have never heard the Gospel can be saved does not excuse Catholics from fulfilling their role in the evangelical mission of the Church. Everyone has the right to hear the truth, and Christ instructed his Apostles to preach to and make disciples of all people. Without the Sacraments and the guidance of the teaching authority established by Christ, those who do not hear the Gospel are at a decided disadvantage as far as the pursuit of truth and holiness is concerned. This reality makes it all the more urgent that we lead others, by our word and example, toward full union with our Lord through the Church. For this reason, the Church has always held her missionary role as an essential priority.

From the Didache Bible

759 “The eternal Father, in accordance with the utterly gratuitous and mysterious design of his wisdom and goodness, created the whole universe and chose to raise up men to share in his own divine life,” to which he calls all men in his Son. “The Father ... determined to call together in a holy Church those who should believe in Christ.” This “family of God” is gradually formed and takes shape during the stages of human history, in keeping with the Father’s plan. In fact, “already present in figure at the beginning of the world, this Church was prepared in marvellous fashion in the history of the people of Israel and the old Alliance. Established in this last age of the world and made manifest in the outpouring of the Spirit, it will be brought to glorious completion at the end of time.”

763 It was the Son’s task to accomplish the Father’s plan of salvation in the fullness of time. Its accomplishment was the reason for his being sent. “The Lord Jesus inaugurated his Church by preaching the Good News, that is, the coming of the Reign of God, promised over the ages in the scriptures.” To fulfill the Father’s will, Christ ushered in the Kingdom of heaven on earth. The Church “is the Reign of Christ already present in mystery.”

765 The Lord Jesus endowed his community with a structure that will remain until the Kingdom is fully achieved. Before all else there is the choice of the Twelve with Peter as their head. Representing the twelve tribes of Israel, they are the foundation stones of the new Jerusalem. The Twelve and the other disciples share in Christ’s mission and his power, but also in his lot. By all his actions, Christ prepares and builds his Church.

767 “When the work which the Father gave the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost in order that he might continually sanctify the Church.” Then “the Church was openly displayed to the crowds and the spread of the Gospel among the nations, through preaching, was begun.” As the “convocation” of all men for salvation, the Church in her very nature is missionary, sent by Christ to all the nations to make disciples of them.

768 So that she can fulfill her mission, the Holy Spirit “bestows upon [the Church] varied hierarchic and charismatic gifts, and in this way directs her.” “Henceforward the Church, endowed with the gifts of her founder and faithfully observing his precepts of charity, humility and self-denial, receives the mission of proclaiming and establishing among all peoples the Kingdom of Christ and of God, and she is on earth the seed and the beginning of that kingdom.”

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church