



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

16 August 2026

readings

Next Week

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23
Ps 137:1-3, 6,8
Rom 11:33-36
Mt 16:13-20

in a nutshell

Woman, You Have Great Faith! The Canaanite woman in today's Gospel enjoyed no status in the eyes of the Jewish people of her time. She was someone to be scorned and ignored. Yet, in her deep love for her daughter and her great faith, she is a model of the true disciple of Jesus. She reminds us that what identifies us as Christians most fundamentally is our faith, our hope and our love.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially, Chris Nolet, Marilyn, John Laan, Harry Heerings, Pat Henshaw, Fr Pat Purcell

For those who have died recently: and those whose anniversary occur at this time.

of special note

Archbishop's Campaign Collection for the next two weeks.

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

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—5:00pm
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
Tuesday—5:10pm-5:40pm
Friday—8:10am-8:40am

Exposition

Tuesday 5:00pm
Friday at 8:00am

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mrs. Ronnie Pritchard

Website:

smmoutevelyn.catholic.edu.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.

Please note children using the toilet should be accompanied by a parent.

Safeguarding Committee

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

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH

Collections are not taken up during masses.

To contribute to the financial viability of the Parish: Place cash donations and envelopes in the labelled boxes in the narthex or use Tap and Go terminals, or by scanning the QR code



Parish Council Meeting: 26 August

Members please add the date to your diary.

Do you need a Helping Hand?

Ring the St Vinnies Call Centre 1800 305 330
Monday - Friday 10am to 3pm 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.

Parish Notices

Parish Feast Day Celebrations Sunday August 16

As a parish we recognise the Feast of the Assumption (August 15) as our Feast Day. Come and join the celebrations after 10:30 Mass; BBQ & Jumping Castle.

Adoration of the Eucharist

The gospel tells us how marvellously he obeyed Mary and Joseph. Today he obeys every priest in the world. (St. Alphonsus Liguori)
He who could create all things from nothing would not remake his ruined creation without Mary. For God begot the Son, through whom all things were made, and Mary gave birth to him as the Saviour of the world. Without God's Son, nothing could exist; without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed. (St. Anselm)

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Holy Eucharist: Tuesday at 5:00pm & Friday 8:00am. Yarra Junction: Thursday at 6:00pm. Confessions available during Adoration.

Stewardship Corner

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." (Romans 11:29)

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.

Archbishop's Campaign 2026

The Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Brochures and more information can be found around the church. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made via the QR code. You can also donate via the supplied campaign envelopes or anonymously via cash directly into the collection taking place on the weekends of 15/16 & 22/23 August.

Annunziata Festa—Sunday 20 September

Mark your calendars! The Annunziata committee welcome new volunteers to help make the event successful for our parish & visitors. Speak to Fr Michel if you are interested.

Festa Raffle Prizes—Donation Request

As well as the major raffle with a prize of \$1000 there will be hampers raffled throughout the day. As in previous years the committee is calling for hamper donations: these should be NEW, UNUSED and something YOU would be happy to WIN. Perhaps a bottle of wine, a box of chocolates, a voucher for somewhere special etc. Donations can be placed in the box in the foyer. Tickets for the major raffle are on sale before and after weekend masses for \$2.00 a ticket.

PRO-LIFE NEWS – 365Life Cards "Every card can save a life"

10 volunteers came together on 8th of August in an endeavour that has a three-fold purpose: to save babies' lives, help mothers and change minds. We prepared at least 905 plastic pockets, and labelled, stamped and signed 905 tough bags. Later this month these tough bags will each carry 90 cards bearing the pro-life message and resource link to champions across Australia. Thank you to the volunteers who have made this happen – a great effort! Sign up for your own cards: <https://familyvoice.org.au/365-life-sign-up>, or email jnolet@inet.net.au

FORMED: A Faith at Home Resource—Have you signed Up?

This resource is FREE for parishioners. FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere

To sign up go to <https://formed.org/signup>

1. Enter your email address
2. A screen which will ask you to confirm your email and add your name. Phone is optional.
3. Click “sign up”
4. Lastly: you need to find the parish. Search by post code “3796”
5. It will ask for a password. You don’t need one but if you don’t it will send an authentication code to your email each log in.

Simplicity September

This September, simplify one thing in your life and discover what truly matters. Sponsor yourself, your family or a friend to participate and raise money for Palms International Volunteering, Australia’s only Catholic lay organisation that delivers international development and formation through long term international volunteering. Join Australians across the country supporting Palms’ work in the Asia-Pacific.

02 9560 5333 / 0422 472 567 www.simplicityseptember.org.au

Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026

Caritas Australia and Catholic Religious Australia warmly invite you to participate in the Catholic Earthcare **Season of Creation Gathering 2026: Listen, Reflect, Act**, a national online event on **3–4 September 2026**.

The Gathering offers inspiring keynote presentations and practical workshops to help participants deepen their faith and respond to the call to care for our common home.

Parishioners can register individually for **\$20**.

Learn more and register: www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

Melbourne Synod Membership—Are you Interested?

Sixty (60) lay members (15 from each region) will be nominated to participate in the Melbourne Synod.

PARISHES are invited to nominate 1-2 parishioners to be considered as a regional member for the Melbourne Synod.

PARISHIONERS are invited to nominate a fellow parishioner who is active in parish life, and who represents the diversity of the parish community.

NOMINEES are invited to complete the nomination form and have it endorsed by the parish priest prior to **Thursday 27 August 2026**. Speak to Fr Michel or the office to obtain a form.

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 Launch

Thursday 20 August 2026 6.30pm–9.00pm

Join Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and young people from across the Archdiocese as we launch the Archdiocese of Melbourne’s pilgrimage to WYD Seoul 2027. The night begins with Six30 Holy Hour, with adoration and Benediction in St Patrick’s Cathedral, and continues with food trucks, music and celebrations in the Cathedral grounds. Gather your family, friends, youth group and community members as we begin our journey to South Korea. Your invitation could be the first step in someone’s encounter with Christ. See you there! For enquires, contact wyd@cam.org.au.

Readings Reflection

[A Foreigner’s Faith](#)

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today’s First Reading prophesies.

Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomized by the Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God’s covenant with Israel.

Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, He uses “dog,” an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites (see Matthew 7:6). Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation.

In this family drama, we see fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy and the promise we sing of in today’s Psalm. In Jesus, God makes known among all the nations His way and His salvation (see John 14:6).

At the start of salvation history, God called Abraham (see Genesis 12:2). He chose his offspring, Israel, from all the nations on the face of the earth to build His covenant kingdom (see Deuteronomy 7:6–8; Isaiah 41:8).

In God’s plan, Abraham was to be the father of many nations (see Romans 4:16–17). Israel was to be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God, made up of all who believe what the Canaanite professes—that Jesus is Lord (see Exodus 4:22–23; Romans 5:13–24).

Jesus came first to restore the kingdom to Israel (see Acts 1:6; 13:46). But His ultimate mission was the reconciliation of the world, as Paul declares in today’s Epistle.

In the Mass we join all peoples in doing Him homage. As Isaiah foretold, we come to His holy mountain, the heavenly Jerusalem, to offer sacrifice at His altar (see Hebrews 12:22–24, 28). With the Canaanite, we take our place at the Master’s table to be fed as His children.

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

In the earthly liturgy we share in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy

The keys of the kingdom

551 From the beginning of his public life Jesus chose certain men, twelve in number, to be with him and to

participate in his mission. He gives the Twelve a share in his authority and “sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal.” They remain associated for ever with Christ’s kingdom, for through them he directs the Church:

As my Father appointed a kingdom for me, so do I appoint for you that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

552 Simon Peter holds the first place in the college of the Twelve; Jesus entrusted a unique mission to him. Through a revelation from the Father, Peter had confessed: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Our Lord then declared to him: “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.” Christ, the “living stone,” thus assures his Church, built on Peter, of victory over the powers of death. Because of the faith he confessed Peter will remain the unshakeable rock of the Church. His mission will be to keep this faith from every lapse and to strengthen his brothers in it.

553 Jesus entrusted a specific authority to Peter: “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” The “power of the keys” designates authority to govern the house of God, which is the Church. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, confirmed this mandate after his Resurrection: “Feed my sheep.” The power to “bind and loose” connotes the authority to absolve sins, to pronounce doctrinal judgments, and to make disciplinary decisions in the Church. Jesus entrusted this authority to the Church through the ministry of the apostles and in particular through the ministry of Peter, the only one to whom he specifically entrusted the keys of the kingdom.

A Foretaste of the Kingdom on earth

1084 “Seated at the right hand of the Father” and pouring out the Holy Spirit on his Body which is the Church, Christ now acts through the sacraments he instituted to communicate his grace. The sacraments are perceptible signs (words and actions) accessible to our human nature. By the action of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit they make present efficaciously the grace that they signify.

1085 In the liturgy of the Church, it is principally his own Paschal mystery that Christ signifies and makes present. During his earthly life Jesus announced his Paschal mystery by his teaching and anticipated it by his actions. When his Hour comes, he lives out the unique event of history which does not pass away: Jesus dies, is buried, rises from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father “once for all.” His Paschal mystery is a real event that occurred in our history, but it is unique: all other historical events happen once, and then they pass away, swallowed up in the past. The Paschal mystery of Christ, by contrast, cannot remain only in the past, because by his death he destroyed death, and all that Christ is—all that he did and suffered for all men—participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all. The event of the Cross and Resurrection abides and draws everything toward life.

1086 “Accordingly, just as Christ was sent by the Father so also he sent the apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit. This he did so that they might preach the Gospel to every creature and proclaim that the Son of God by his death and resurrection had freed us from the power of Satan and from death and brought us into the Kingdom of his Father. But he also willed that the work of salvation which they preached should be set in train through the sacrifice and sacraments, around which the entire liturgical life revolves.”

1087 Thus the risen Christ, by giving the Holy Spirit to the apostles, entrusted to them his power of sanctifying: they became sacramental signs of Christ. By the power of the same Holy Spirit they entrusted this power to their successors. This “apostolic succession” structures the whole liturgical life of the Church and is itself sacramental, handed on by the sacrament of Holy Orders.

1088 “To accomplish so great a work”—the dispensation or communication of his work of salvation—“Christ is always present in his Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the Sacrifice of the Mass not only in the person of his minister, ‘the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross,’ but especially in the Eucharistic species. By his power he is present in the sacraments so that when anybody baptizes, it is really Christ himself who baptizes. He is present in his word since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church. Lastly, he is present when the Church prays and sings, for he has promised ‘where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them.’ ”

1089 “Christ, indeed, always associates the Church with himself in this great work in which God is perfectly glorified and men are sanctified. The Church is his beloved Bride who calls to her Lord and through him offers worship to the eternal Father.”

1090 “In the earthly liturgy we share in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the Holy City of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle. With all the warriors of the heavenly army we sing a hymn of glory to the Lord; venerating the memory of the saints, we hope for some part and fellowship with them; we eagerly await the Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ, until he, our life, shall appear and we too will appear with him in glory.”

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church