

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

26 July 2026

readings

Next Week

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:1-3
Ps 144:8-9, 15-18
Rom 8:35, 37-39
Mt 14:13-21

in a nutshell

Finding a treasure. A treasure is not something we earn but something we find. We can spend a lot of our lives wishing and hoping that some treasure will come our way. We can forget that we already possess a wonderful treasure in our loved ones and in the gift of life itself. And the greatest treasure of all is the kingdom of heaven which Jesus freely offers to us. May we have the wisdom to seek our treasure in God, and not in the glittering goods of a passing world.

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

Vinnies Winter Appeal will be the weekend of 1 & 2 August

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

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

58 Clegg Rd, Mount Evelyn VIC 3796
Tel: (03) 9736 2850

Website: melbcatholic.org/s/moutevelyn

Email: moutevelyn@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.

Safeguarding Committee

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

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH

Please note 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 Meetings: 29th July

Finance, Safeguarding & Parish Council
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

SVDP Winter Appeal –1/2 August

It is time again for the SVDP Winter Appeal. This will be held at all the Masses next weekend. 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 collection basket. 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 handed in to the piety stall. Direct Debit is available and, if doing this, please mark that it is for the Mount Evelyn Conference. Direct Debit details are: BSB: 063 003 Account No: 1008 1787 Reference Agent 471. Thank you very much for your previous and continued support. Alan Somers Mount Evelyn Conference President. Tap and Go is now available at the Piety stall for purchases and donations.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

A Journey in Faith Find out about this journey of faith and discovery. See what the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program can offer you. Do you ever ponder: Who is Jesus? Why a Church? What do you seek? RCIA program begins 1 August (Saturday mornings). If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the program, please contact Fr Michel

Melbourne synod 2026 – Theme Paper Release

The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt questions can be provided via the QR code which is at the end of each paper.

These papers can be accessed at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>. Information and links are also available on the parish website.

We pray for the Melbourne Synod

That our preparations will be marked by wisdom in decision-making, courage in leadership, and humility in listening to one another.
May the Spirit guide our every conversation and action. Amen.

The Parish Prayer Group

Meets Monday at 9:15a.m. come on in and discover peace in the presence of our Lord in the Eucharist!

Adoration of the Eucharist

Adoration: In the Eucharist is all the power that created the universe and all the love that redeemed it. (Msgr. Franklin Hurd)
The Sacrament of Confession is a direct encounter with God's mercy. There is a beautiful reference in the Psalms to oil running down upon your beard, upon the collar of your robe. The divine mercy is like that: poured out upon us, poured out without reservation—and not because it's earned, because it can't be earned. We don't deserve his mercy, but we soak it in and thereby are transformed. (Bishop Robert Barron)
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

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." - ROMANS 8:28

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God's plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

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.

>>> FORMED: A Faith at Home Resource <<<

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.

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

Twice a year on packing day, these cards are distributed to our champions across Australia, to raise awareness and help mothers in need. Each card links to a website with pregnancy help resources. Each card can save a life.

Your opportunity to help: **Saturday 8th of August, anytime between 9am – 3pm** at **St Mary's Catholic Church Mt Evelyn**

Contact: James Nolet, jnolet@iinet.net.au, 0407 406 384

Or speak with Maureen Cooke

More Info: <https://familyvoice.org.au/voiceforchange>

This will be a "pre-packing day". We will be preparing about 1,000 packages with labels, donation flyers and return envelopes. Kids welcome.

Safeguarding Compliance for Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who have completed the process. Emails have been sent to those who need to sign the code of conduct and complete the training. Please check your SPAM folder.

When you complete the training and sign the Code of Conduct please forward a copy of the certificate to the office.

Readings Reflection

[Treasures of the Kingdom](#)

What is your new life in Christ worth to you?

Do you love His words more than gold and silver, as we sing in today's Psalm? Would you, like the characters in the Gospel today, sell all that you have in order to possess the kingdom He promises to us? If God were to grant any wish, would you follow Solomon's example in today's First Reading—asking not for a long life or riches, but for wisdom to know God's ways and to desire His will?

The background for today's Gospel, as it has been for the past several weeks, is the rejection of Jesus' preaching by Israel. The kingdom of heaven has come into their midst, yet many cannot see that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promises, a gift of divine compassion given that they—and we—might live.

We too must ever discover the kingdom anew, to find it as a treasure—a pearl of great price. By comparison with the kingdom, we must count all else as rubbish (see Philippians 3:8). And we must be willing to give up all that we have—all our priorities and plans—in order to gain it.

Jesus' Gospel discloses what Paul, in today's Epistle, calls the purpose of God's plan (see Ephesians 1:4). That purpose is that Jesus would be the firstborn of many brothers.

His words give understanding to the simple, the childlike. As Solomon does today, we must humble ourselves before God, giving ourselves to His service. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart, one that desires only to do His will.

We are called to love God, to delight in His law, and to forsake every false way. And we are to conform ourselves daily ever more closely to the image of His Son.

If we do this, we can approach His altar as a pleasing sacrifice, confident that all things work for the good—that we whom He has justified will also one day be glorified.

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

Sanctifying the Present Moment

[One] remedy for the ills that come to us from thinking about time is what might be called the sanctification of the moment—or the Now. Our Lord laid down the rule for us in these words: “Do not fret, then, over tomorrow; leave tomorrow to fret over its own needs; for today, today’s troubles are enough.” (Matt. 6:34)

This means that each day has its own trials; we are not to borrow troubles from tomorrow, because that day, too, will have its cross. We are to leave the past to Divine Mercy and to trust the future, whatever its trials, to His Loving Providence.

Each minute of life has its peculiar duty—regardless of the appearance that minute may take. The Now-moment is the moment of salvation. Each complaint against it is a defeat; each act of resignation to it is a victory. The moment is always an indication to us of God’s will. The ways of pleasing Him are made clear to us in several ways: through His Commandments, by the events of His Incarnate Life in Jesus Christ Our Lord, in the Voice of His Mystical Body, the Church, in the duties of our state of life. And, in a more particular way, God’s will is manifested for us in the Now with all of its attendant circumstances, duties, and trials.

The present moment includes some things over which we have control, but it also carries with it difficulties we cannot avoid—such things as a business failure, a bad cold, rain on picnic days, an unwelcome visitor, a fallen cake, a buzzer that doesn’t work, a fly in the milk, and a boil on the nose the night of the dance. We do not always know why such things as sickness and setbacks happen to us, for our minds are far too puny to grasp God’s plan. Man is a little like a mouse in a piano, which cannot understand why it must be disturbed by someone playing Chopin and forcing it to move off the piano wires.

Those who love God do not protest, whatever He may ask of them, nor doubt His kindness when He sends them difficult hours. A sick man takes medicine without asking the physician to justify its bitter taste, because he trusts the doctor’s knowledge; so the soul which has sufficient faith accepts all the events of life as gifts from God, in the serene assurance that He knows best.

Nothing is more individually tailored to our spiritual needs than the Now-moment; for that reason it is an occasion of knowledge which can come to no one else. This moment is my school, my textbook, my lesson. Not even Our Lord disdained to learn from His specific Now; being God, He knew all, but there was still one kind of knowledge He could experience as a man. St. Paul describes it: “Son of God though He was, He learned obedience in the school of suffering.” (Heb. 5:8)

The University of the Moment has been built uniquely for each of us, and in comparison with the revelation God gives each in it, all other methods of learning are shallow and slow. This wisdom is distilled from intimate experience, is never forgotten; it becomes part of our character, our merit, our eternity. Those who sanctify the moment and offer it up in union with God’s will never become frustrated—never grumble or complain. They overcome all obstacles by making them occasions of prayer and channels of merit.

What were constrictions are thus made opportunities for growth. It is the modern pagan who is the victim of circumstance, and not its master. Such a man, having no practical knowledge of God, no trust in His Providence, no assurance of His Love, lacks the shock absorber of Faith and Hope and Love when difficult days come to him. His mind is caught within the pincers of a past he regrets or resents and a future he is afraid he cannot control. Being thus squeezed, his nature is in pain.

The one who accepts God’s will in all things escapes such frustration by piercing the disguise of outward events to penetrate to their real character as messengers of the God he loves. It is strange how differently we accept a misfortune—or even an insult—when we know who gave it to us. Demands that might seem outrageous from an acquaintance are met with happy compliance if it is a friend who asks our help. In like manner, we are able to adapt with a good grace to the demands of every Now when we recognize God’s will and purpose behind the illness and the shocks and disappointments of life.

The swaddling clothes of an Infant hid the Son of God in Bethlehem, and the appearance of bread and wine hides the Reality of Christ dying again on Calvary, in the Mass. This concealment of Himself that God effects with us is operative in His use of the Now to hide His Will beneath the aspect of very simple, everyday things. We live our lives in dependence on such casual, common benefits as air and water; so Our Lord is pleased to receive from us in return the thousands of unimportant actions and the trifling details that make up our lives—provided that we see, even in our sorrows, “The shade of His Hand outstretched caressingly.”

Venerable Fulton Sheen, from *Life is Worth Living*, cf. [Catholic Exchange](#)