

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

17 September 2023

Readings

Next Week

Is 55:6-9
Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18
Phil 1:20-24, 27
Mt 20:1-16

in a nutshell

How often must I forgive? There is much truth in the proverb, 'to err is human, to forgive is divine.' We all make mistakes. We all do and say things we later regret. And yet, when others wrong us, we can find it beyond our human strength to forgive. As we celebrate the mystery of Christ's love today, let us ask Jesus to heal our divisions and fill our hearts with his spirit of forgiveness.

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

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of 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
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, 10 October

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

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH



Parish Notices

Fr Michel's Holiday

Fr Michel will be taking a break in the weeks beginning 25 September and 2 October therefore all midweek services will be cancelled. Weekend masses will be as usual with Fr Michel celebrating.

Annunziata Festa—Organisers Meeting

All committee members and volunteers are invited to attend a meeting this Tuesday 19th 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.

Summer Timetable

Just a reminder that Daylight Saving starts at 2:00am on Sunday 1st October therefore vigil mass times change to the 'summer' timetable on Saturday October 7th.

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

A Protestant once said he doubts that we Catholics believe in the Real Presence, because if Jesus was really there in the church (even disguised as a wafer in the monstrance), he would never ever want to leave him! Consider whom it is you go before during Eucharistic Adoration. You are in the presence of your Lord and Saviour— wait for that to settle in. Confession is the sacrament of the tenderness of God, his way of embracing us. (Pope Francis)
Adoration: Friday morning 8:00am. Yarra Junction Thursday 6:00pm (first Thursday Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration.

Stewardship Corner

"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." – Romans 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.

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.**

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.

Sunday 17 September Social Services Sunday

On this day we give thanks to the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude Catholic Social Service Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 8,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who work together to serve and support over 211,000 people. Catholic social services hold a unique position in social services because they serve and are part of an established, connected community of people sharing in the social mission of the Church. We thank parishes for often being at the forefront of providing services to members of their community in need. In this challenging time of a cost of living and housing crisis, the Gospel message of love, care and welcome is needed more than ever. On this day we consider how we all have a role to play. How might we be more involved in achieving justice in our own communities? How can we advocate for structural changes to build a more equitable society where no one is pushed to the margins, and all can prosper?

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

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=qEkP1Mle75o> Or visit Dr Joanna Howe's website: drjoannahowe.com

Something to make you smile!

A police recruit was asked during the entrance exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He said, "Call for backup."

A little boy's mother was trying to get the sauce out of the bottle to put the finishing touch on his sandwich when the doorbell rang. The boy ran to the door. "Is your Mummy home?" the visitor asked. "Yes," he said, "She's in the kitchen hitting the bottle."

Ten-year-old Jack constantly embellished his stories. One day his father had had enough and said to him, "I've told you fifty million times, Jack! Don't exaggerate!"

Readings Reflection

The Debt We Owe

Mercy and forgiveness should be at the heart of the Christian life.

Yet, as today's First Reading wisely reminds us, often we cherish our wrath, nourish our anger, refuse mercy to those who have done us wrong. Jesus, too, strikes close to home in today's Gospel with His realistic portrayal of the wicked servant who won't forgive a fellow servant's debt, even though his own slate has just been wiped clean by their master.

It can't be this way in the kingdom, the Church. In the Old Testament, seven is frequently a number associated with mercy and the forgiveness of sins. The just man sins seven times daily; there is a sevenfold sprinkling of blood for atonement of sins (see Proverbs 24:6; Leviticus 16). But Jesus tells Peter today that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time.

We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful (see Luke 6:36; Matthew 5:48). But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're willing to forgive others their trespasses against us?

Because, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross (see Revelation 5:9). As we sing in today's Psalm, though we deserved to die for our sins, He doesn't deal with us according to our crimes. The mercy and forgiveness we show to others should be the heartfelt expression of our gratitude for the mercy and forgiveness shown to us.

This is why we should remember our last days, set our enmities aside, and stop judging others. We know that one day we will stand before the judgment seat and give account for what we've done with the new life given to us by Christ (see Romans 14:10, 12).

So we forgive each other from the heart, overlook each other's faults, and await the crown of His kindness and compassion.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](http://Dr.ScottHahn.stpaulcenter.com)
stpaulcenter.com

The Exaltation of the Cross

[The Feast Day was celebrated on Thursday, 14 September]

Since Christ is risen, why do we venerate his crucified image?

I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of compassion and supplication, so that, when they look on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him. (Zec 12:10)

Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Cor 1:22-24)

Who has bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? (Gal 3:1)

A crucifix is a depiction of Christ on the Cross. We venerate the crucifix as a reminder of Christ's Passion and Death, by which we have been redeemed by God

Christ suffered and died on the Cross for our salvation; he also told us to take up our crosses daily and follow him. His crucified image serves as a powerful reminder of what he endured out of his divine love for our sake and of the true cost of our own discipleship: the willingness to endure every pain, hardship, and humiliation for the sake of attaining eternal life and being with him forever. The crucified Christ reveals to us the power of redemptive suffering.

St. Paul called the crucified Christ "the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men" (1 Cor 1:24-25). He told the Corinthians that we 'preach Christ crucified' (1 Cor 1:23). It is through his taking on human flesh and his voluntarily experiencing the suffering and humiliation of his Passion and Death that the glory and power of God is ultimately revealed in his Resurrection.

As a prayer in the Byzantine liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration says:

On the mount you were transfigured, and your disciples, as much as they could bear, beheld your glory, O Christ God; so that when they should see you crucified, they would know your Passion to be willing, and would preach to the world that you, in truth, are the Effulgence of the Father.

From the Didache Bible

571 The Paschal mystery of Christ's cross and Resurrection stands at the center of the Good News that the apostles, and the Church following them, are to proclaim to the world. God's saving plan was accomplished "once for all" (Heb 9:26) by the redemptive death of his Son Jesus Christ.

617 The Council of Trent emphasizes the unique character of Christ's sacrifice as "the source of eternal salvation" (Heb 5:9) and teaches that "his most holy Passion on the wood of the cross merited justification for us" (Council of Trent). And the Church venerates his cross as it sings: "Hail, O Cross, our only hope" (LH, Lent, Holy Week, Evening Prayer).

618 The cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the "one mediator between God and men." (1 Tim 2:5) But because in his incarnate divine person he has in some way united himself to every man, "the possibility of being made partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery" is offered to all men (GS 22 § 5). He calls his disciples to "take up [their] cross and follow [him]" (Mt 16:24), for "Christ also suffered for [us], leaving [us] an example so that [we] should follow in his steps" (1 Pet 2:21). In fact Jesus desires to associate with his redeeming sacrifice those who were to be its first beneficiaries. This is achieved supremely in the case of his mother, who was associated more intimately than any other person in the mystery of his redemptive suffering.

1067 "The wonderful works of God among the people of the Old Testament were but a prelude to the work of Christ the Lord in redeeming mankind and giving perfect glory to God. He accomplished this work principally by the Paschal mystery of his blessed Passion, Resurrection from the dead, and glorious Ascension, whereby 'dying he destroyed our death, rising he restored our life.' For it was from the side of Christ as he slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth 'the wondrous sacrament of the whole Church' " (SC 5 § 2). For this reason, the Church celebrates in the liturgy above all the Paschal mystery by which Christ accomplished the work of our salvation.

2132 The Christian veneration of images is not contrary to the first commandment which proscribes idols. Indeed, "the honor rendered to an image passes to its prototype," and "whoever venerates an image venerates the person portrayed in it" (St. Basil). The honor paid to sacred images is a "respectful veneration," not the adoration due to God alone:

Religious worship is not directed to images in themselves, considered as mere things, but under their distinctive aspect as images leading us on to God incarnate. The movement toward the image does not terminate in it as image, but tends toward that whose image it is (St. Thomas Aquinas).

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church