

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

2 August 2026

readings

Next Week 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13
Ps 84:9-14
Rom 9:1-5
Mt 14:22-33

in a nutshell

Giving them something to eat themselves. With the five loaves and two fish that Jesus had blessed, the disciples fed a vast crowd. Our acts of service and love towards others may often seem small but, blessed by Jesus, they too can have an impact. We need Jesus to bless our work, and Jesus needs us to feed the hungry and comfort the lonely of our world. Together, we can do great things.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially Pauline Bennett, Paul Latham, Fr Pat Purcell, Margaret Broderick, Fida Rees
For those who have died recently and those whose anniversary occur at this time.

of special note

Vinnies Winter Appeal will be this weekend

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. (R.)

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word
that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I am the bread of life, says the Lord; whoever
comes to me will not hunger and whoever
believes in me will not thirst.

The Parish of Sacred Heart

Parish Priest
REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

Parish Secretary
Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours
Thursday
9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule St Thomas a Becket, Yarra Junction

Sunday Mass
Sunday—8:30am

Weekday Mass
Wednesday—9:00am
First Friday—11:30am

Reconciliation
Thursday 6:10pm- 6:40pm
Mount Evelyn: Saturday
11:30am-12:30pm

Exposition
Thursday at 6:00pm

Weddings
Please contact the office

Baptisms
Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School
St Josephs
Principal: Nick Boyhan

Website:
www.siyarrajunction.catholic.edu.au

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

Website: melbcatholic.org/s/upperyarraalley

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 to the toilets.

Safeguarding Committee

Fr Michel
Janine Meades
Michael Fahey
Paul Latham
Enzo Torresan
Nino Troiani

Bulletin notices by 12:00 noon Thursday
mountevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Council Meetings:

6:00 p.m. Wednesday 12 August

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH

Your financial support can be made via:

- Cash using the stewardship envelopes—call the office for information on how to become a contributor
- Direct Debit BSB 083347 **Sacred Heart Church**: 670642723, Presbytery: 649237379
- Use the QR Code on this page
- The website <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/upperyarra> and choose where you are donating: church, presbytery, maintenance.



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.

Archbishop Peter Comensoli to visit the parish

The archbishop will make an official visit to the parish on the weekend of 4-6 September. He will be visiting with the school and with parishioners. More information will be provided once his itinerary is confirmed. We look forward to welcoming the archbishop to the parish.

Solemnity of the Assumption—Saturday 15 August

The Assumption is a holy day of obligation which means everyone is required to attend Mass on this day. The schedule of Masses for both parishes:

Mount Evelyn: Saturday 15 August, 11:00 a.m.

Yarra Junction: Friday Vigil 14 August, 6:00 p.m.

Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration, where we pray in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, is an important practice that can change your life. We can come to know Him more clearly through prayer, and we can show Him that we love him more deeply. (Fr. Jeffrey)

If we say we have no sin in us, we are deceiving ourselves, (1 John 1:8) but if we acknowledge our sins, then God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins in the great Sacrament of Mercy.

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Holy Eucharist: Yarra Junction: Thursday 6:00pm. Mount Evelyn: Tuesday 5:10pm, Friday 8:10am. Confessions available during Adoration.

Stewardship Corner

"Jesus said to them, 'There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves'." - MATTHEW 14:16

This is what Jesus said right before he fed the five thousand men. How often do we really place our trust in Jesus when the situation looks grim? With Jesus, no gift is too small or insignificant when offered with love. But, we have to do our part. We should trust that Jesus will provide all that we need. We need to believe that Jesus has a better plan in store for us.

Supporting the Parish

Please note **only money in official stewardship envelopes goes towards the support of the parish**: loose cash supports the Parish Priest.

Contact the office to become part of the Stewardship program either by direct debit or a set of envelopes.

Archbishop's Campaign 2026

The Archbishop's Campaign will begin next week and run for three weekends. Envelopes and pledge cards will be available next weekend for you to consider how you can contribute either as a one off or an ongoing donation. Collections will take place on the weekends of 15/16 & 22/23 August.

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? An RCIA program begins 1 August (Saturday mornings at Mount Evelyn). If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the program, please contact Fr Michel.

Donations for Flowers.

There is a collection box in the narthex for donations towards purchasing flowers for the church each week. Thank you for your generosity.

National Vocations Awareness Week: 2-9 August 2026

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

Safeguarding Compliance for Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who have completed the process. Please check your SPAM folder for any emails from the parish. When you complete the training and sign the Code of Conduct please forward a copy of the certificate to the office.

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

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.

Readings Reflection

[Food in Due Season](#)

In Jesus and the Church, Isaiah's promises in today's First Reading are fulfilled. All who are thirsty come to the living waters of Baptism (see John 4:14). The hungry delight in rich fare—given bread to eat and wine to drink at the Eucharistic table.

This is the point, too, of today's Gospel. The story of Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 brims with allusions to the Old Testament. Jesus is portrayed as a David-like shepherd who leads His flock to lie down on green grass as He spreads the table of the Messiah's banquet before them (see Psalm 23).

Jesus is shown as a new Moses, who likewise feeds vast crowds in a deserted place. Finally, Jesus is shown doing what the prophet Elisha did—satisfying the hunger of the crowd with a few loaves and having some left over (see 2 Kings 4:42–44).

Matthew also wants us to see the feeding of the 5,000 as a sign of the Eucharist. Notice that Jesus performs the same actions in the same sequence as at the Last Supper—He takes bread, says a blessing, breaks it, and gives it (see Matthew 26:26).

Jesus instructed His Apostles to celebrate the Eucharist in memory of Him. And the ministry of the Twelve is subtly stressed in today's account. Before He performs the miracle, Jesus instructs the Twelve to give the crowd "some food yourselves." Indeed, the Apostles themselves distribute the bread blessed by Jesus (see Matthew 15:36).

And the leftovers are enough to fill precisely 12 baskets—corresponding to each of the Apostles, the pillars of the Church (see Galatians 2:9; Revelation 21:14).

In the Church, as we sing in today's Psalm, God gives us food in due season, opens His hands and satisfies the desires of every living thing. Now, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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

HE WHO EATS MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD HAS ETERNAL LIFE

What are the benefits of receiving the Eucharist?

Jesus said to [the Jews], “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” (Jn 6:53-56)

The Holy Eucharist, in which the faithful receive the Body and Blood of Christ, is the ultimate sign of our sharing in the divine life of Christ as well as of our status as one Body in Christ.

In the Gospel of St. John, Christ identified himself as the “bread which came down from heaven” (Jn 6:41). At the Last Supper he took the bread and the cup filled with wine and said, “This is my body....this is my blood of the covenant” (Mt 26:27-28). Each time a bishop or priest repeats these words of consecration in the Mass, the substance of the bread and wine is changed into the Body and Blood of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because the members of the Church are one Body in Christ, we partake of the one bread, the Body of Christ, in the Eucharist, “the fount and apex of the whole Christian life” (LG11). Holy Communion is thus a rich symbol of our unity in Christ and of Christ’s presence dwelling within us.

Though every Catholic is required to receive the Eucharist at least once yearly, he or she should receive it as often as possible, even daily, as long as he or she is properly disposed.

The person who receives the Eucharist is blessed with many graces. The Eucharist...

- ◇ Maintains and increases intimate union with Christ.
- ◇ Reinforces the unity of the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ.
- ◇ Removes venial sins and increases charity toward God and neighbour.
- ◇ Strengthens the recipient from grave sins.
- ◇ Decreases temporal punishment due to sin.
- ◇ Helps the recipient to avoid temptation and control concupiscence.

From the Didache Bible

1362 The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ’s Passover, the making present and the sacramental offering of his unique sacrifice, in the liturgy of the Church which is his Body. In all the Eucharistic Prayers we find after the words of institution a prayer called the anamnesis or memorial.

1363 In the sense of Sacred Scripture the memorial is not merely the recollection of past events but the proclamation of the mighty works wrought by God for men. In the liturgical celebration of these events, they become in a certain way present and real. This is how Israel understands its liberation from Egypt: every time Passover is celebrated, the Exodus events are made present to the memory of believers so that they may conform their lives to them.

1364 In the New Testament, the memorial takes on new meaning. When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, she commemorates Christ’s Passover, and it is made present: the sacrifice Christ offered once for all on the cross remains ever present. “As often as the sacrifice of the Cross by which ‘Christ our Pasch has been sacrificed’ is celebrated on the altar, the work of our redemption is carried out.”

1365 Because it is the memorial of Christ’s Passover, the Eucharist is also a sacrifice. The sacrificial character of the Eucharist is manifested in the very words of institution: “This is my body which is given for you” and “This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in my blood.” In the Eucharist Christ gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross, the very blood which he “poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

1366 The Eucharist is thus a sacrifice because it re-presents (makes present) the sacrifice of the cross, because it is its memorial and because it applies its fruit:

[Christ], our Lord and God, was once and for all to offer himself to God the Father by his death on the altar of the cross, to accomplish there an everlasting redemption. But because his priesthood was not to end with his death, at the Last Supper “on the night when he was betrayed,” [he wanted] to leave to his beloved spouse the Church a visible sacrifice (as the nature of man demands) by which the bloody sacrifice which he was to accomplish once for all on the cross would be re-presented, its memory perpetuated until the end of the world, and its salutary power be applied to the forgiveness of the sins we daily commit. (Council of Trent)

1367 The sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: “The victim is one and the same: the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different.” “And since in this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and offered in an unbloody manner ... this sacrifice is truly propitiatory.” (Council of Trent)

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church