

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

9 August 2026

readings

Next Week 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7
Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
Mt 15:21-28

in a nutshell

Jesus went up into the hills to pray. The prophet Elijah and Jesus both went up a mountain to pray. Many people have experienced the presence of God in the wonder and solitude of a mountain top. But God is also found at sea level, in the ups and downs of daily lives. When we are swamped by troubles and cry out, 'Lord, save me,' we allow God to reach out and hold us.

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

Next Saturday is the Assumption of Mary — a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The bread that I will give, says the Lord, is my flesh for the life of the world.

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

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:

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

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

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.

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.

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

Adoration: God is an infinite, perfect, communion of persons responsible for the intentional creation of everything around us — which begs the question, if God is perfect, why does he need us to worship him? Well, he actually doesn't. God doesn't need us to worship him because there is nothing he lacks. Why do we worship God if he doesn't need us to? It is because we need to worship him. Man was created to reverence, serve and praise God our Lord, by this means to save his soul. (Fr. Mike Schmitz)

Confession: The day of the Lord is great and terrible; who can endure it? Yet even now, return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful. (Joel 2: 11- 13)

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

"He said, 'Come.' Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus." - MATTHEW 14:29

When you hear Jesus calling, do you responded immediately and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, you are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of his presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

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.

National Vocations Awareness

Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

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.

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.

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

Readings Reflection

Sinking Fear:

How do we find God in the storms and struggles of our lives, in the trials we encounter in trying to do His will?

God commands Elijah in today's First Reading to stand on the mountain and await His passing by. And in the Gospel, Jesus makes the disciples set out across the waters to meet Him.

In each case, the Lord makes himself present amid frightening tumult—heavy winds and high waves, fire and earthquakes.

Elijah hides his face. Perhaps he remembers Moses, who met God on the same mountain, also amid fire, thunder, and smoke (see Deuteronomy 4:10–15; Exodus 19:17–19). God told Moses no one could see His face and live, and He sheltered Moses in the hollow of a rock, as He shelters Elijah in a cave (see Exodus 33:18–23).

The disciples, likewise, are too terrified to look on the face of God. Today's Gospel is a revelation of Jesus' divine identity. Only God treads across the crest of the sea (see Job 9:8) and rules the raging waters (see Psalm 89:9–10). And the words of assurance that Jesus speaks—"It is I"—are those God used to identify himself to Moses (see Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10).

Even Peter is too overcome by fear to imitate his Lord. His fears, Jesus tells him, are a sign of his lack of faith. And so it often is with us. Our fears make us doubt, make it hard to see His glory dwelling in our midst.

Yet, we should know, as we sing in today's Psalm, that His salvation is near to those who hope in Him. By faith we should know, as Paul asserts in today's Epistle, that we are heirs to the promises made to His children, Israel.

We must trust that He whispers to us in the trials of our lives—that He who has called us to walk along the way of His steps. He will save us whenever we begin to sink.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](mailto:Dr.Scott.Hahn@stpaulcenter.com)
stpaulcenter.com

How the Church Represents Christ

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. (1 Cor 12:12)

You are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Cor 12:27)

The Church represents Christ not only as the credible exponent of his life and teachings but also as a sign of his living presence, as his instrument, and as his permanent presence among his people. “Where there is Christ Jesus, there is the Catholic Church” (St. Ignatius of Antioch). It is this singular presence that makes the Church truly catholic, or “universal.”

Christ is present among us in many ways, but he is present in a visible way in his Church. The Church is dependent upon Christ as she received her doctrines and worship from Christ himself, “the fullness of the means of salvation” (Decree On Ecumenism, UR 3). She confesses him in her faith, speaks about him in her teachings, celebrates him in her liturgy, imitates him in her moral law, calls upon him in prayer, desires his consolation, seeks his will, and loves him with a pure spousal love.

Because of that dependency, the Church is rightly described as a sign of Christ. As the Fathers of the Church taught, the Church permanently revolves around Christ as the moon revolves around the earth. Moreover, the Church, as his Mystical Body, represents Christ because she does not speak about him as an historical figure of the past but as a Person who is alive with us today. The Church is thus the instrument that Christ founded on earth to make his saving action present to the world through her apostolic mission of preaching and the sacramental life. As St. Augustine wrote:

Divine virtue and power are not manifested to our eyes in the life of Christ. That we have not seen. But we do see these in present things, in his Church that lives now. The first disciples that saw Jesus did not see the Church. They saw the head and believed in the Body. For our part, what do we see? The Church. What is it that we don't see that they saw? We don't see Jesus in his human shape. Therefore, as they, seeing the head, believed in the Body, so we, seeing the Body, should believe in the head.

From the Didache Bible

748 “Christ is the light of humanity; and it is, accordingly, the heart-felt desire of this sacred Council, being gathered together in the Holy Spirit, that, by proclaiming his Gospel to every creature, it may bring to all men that light of Christ which shines out visibly from the Church” (*Lumen Gentium*, 1). These words open the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church. By choosing this starting point, the Council demonstrates that the article of faith about the Church depends entirely on the articles concerning Christ Jesus. The Church has no other light than Christ’s; according to a favourite image of the Church Fathers, the Church is like the moon, all its light reflected from the sun.

751 The word “Church” (Latin *ecclesia*, from the Greek *ek-kalein*, to “call out of”) means a convocation or an assembly. It designates the assemblies of the people, usually for a religious purpose. *Ekklesia* is used frequently in the Greek Old Testament for the assembly of the Chosen People before God, above all for their assembly on Mount Sinai where Israel received the Law and was established by God as his holy people. By calling itself “Church,” the first community of Christian believers recognized itself as heir to that assembly. In the Church, God is “calling together” his people from all the ends of the earth. The equivalent Greek term *Kyriake*, from which the English word Church and the German *Kirche* are derived, means “what belongs to the Lord.”

760 Christians of the first centuries said, “The world was created for the sake of the Church.” God created the world for the sake of communion with his divine life, a communion brought about by the “convocation” of men in Christ, and this “convocation” is the Church. The Church is the goal of all things, and God permitted such painful upheavals as the angels’ fall and man’s sin only as occasions and means for displaying all the power of his arm and the whole measure of the love he wanted to give the world:

Just as God’s will is creation and is called “the world,” so his intention is the salvation of men, and it is called “the Church.” (Clement of Alexandria)

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church