

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



First Sunday in Lent (Year A)

22 February 2026

readings

Next Week
2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen 12:1-4
Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22
2 Tim 1:8-10
Mt 17:1-9

in a nutshell

A time of Preparation. The forty days spent by Jesus in the wilderness can be likened to the season of Lent. Jesus' time in the wilderness was a time of preparation for his ministry, a time in which he confronted the temptation to choose self and not the Father. For us Lent is a time of preparation for the feast of Easter. It is a time in which we are invited to examine whether the will of God is central to our lives.

we pray for

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

of special note

Stations of the Cross celebrated every Friday during Lent at 6pm at Mount Evelyn

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Psalm Response

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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/upperyarvalley

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
moutevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Meetings: April 8
6:00 p.m. Wednesday

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/upperyarraalley> and choose where you are donating: church, presbytery, maintenance.



Parish Notices

Stations of the Cross During Lent 6pm from February 20 (Mount Evelyn)

We will be praying the Stations of the Cross at St Mary's every Friday during Lent beginning Friday 20 February. Please come and pray this traditional devotion following the path of our Lord to Calvary. Jesus said to St Faustina: There is more merit to one hour of meditation on My sorrowful Passion than there is to a whole year of flagellation that draws blood; the contemplation of My painful wounds is of great profit to you, and it brings Me great joy. Mount Evelyn: 6:00 pm.

Lenten Bible Study: Images of Hope (Mount Evelyn)

Come and join us for a Lenten Bible Study on Wednesdays in Lent beginning on 25 February at 7pm and will conclude on Wednesday, 25 March. Bring your Bible! Bible passages we will study:

1. Binding of Isaac: Gen 22.1-19 (cf. Mt 26.36-46)
2. Ecce Homo: Jn 18.38-19.6 (cf. Is 52.13-53.12)
3. My God, My God: Mt 27.32-56 (cf. Ps 22)
4. There came out blood and water: Jn 19.17-37 (cf. Zech 12.10-13.1 & Gen 2.18-25)
5. Mary Magdalene (The Christian Life): Lk 7:36-8.2 & Jn 12:1-8 (cf. Lk 10:38-42 & Jn 20:11-18 & Mt 21.28-32)

Sacramental Program 2026—Time to Register Now

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. Lessons will begin at St Mary's on Sunday 1st March after 10:30 Mass for Confirmation and Tuesday 3rd March at 5pm for First Communion.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

When we contemplate Him present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, Christ draws near to us and becomes more intimate to us than we are to ourselves. (Pope St. John Paul II)

In Confession, where I realise that, especially when I say the words of absolution, "I absolve you from your sins..." that my words carry divine authority and weight. There's something really awesome and humbling about that. But I'm also, in a sense worshipping God's mercy, which is coming down through me, yes, but it's not me. I'm there as a part of it, but there's something that's even beyond my reach that I can just praise and adore and love the way God is working right now. (Father Johnathan Hank. OMV)

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

"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the centre of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

International Eucharistic Congress 2028

Parishes across Australia are invited to begin a renewed journey of prayer, formation and mission as the Church in Australia prepares to host the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028 (Eucharist28). Eucharist28 prayer cards are available in the foyer.

Holy Hour 1st March—St Mary's

As an early national focus, parishes are especially encouraged to participate in the Nationwide Holy Hour on Sunday 1 March 2026, the Second Sunday of Lent. As Parishes are invited to offer an hour of Eucharistic Adoration following Mass, uniting with communities across Australia in prayer for renewal, as we reflect on the Gospel of the Transfiguration and place our lives and mission before the Eucharistic Lord. Parishioners are welcome to attend at St Mary's Mount Evelyn after 10:30 Mass.

Project Compassion

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 or by scanning the QR code. **Or online at:**

www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

Celebration of Venerable Mary Glowrey

A celebration of Venerable Mary of the Sacred Heart Glowrey will be held on Friday 13 March 2026, following Pope Leo XIV's recognition of her heroic virtues. All are welcome at the Mass of Thanksgiving at St Patrick's Cathedral at 5pm, and then for a presentation and reflections at Cathedral Hall, Fitzroy at 6pm.

More information: melbcath.org/maryglowrey

REGISTER FOR PRESENTATION: www.trybooking.com/DIWC1
RSVP: 10 March 2026

...And for a giggle...

Do you know the oldest computer was owned by Adam and Eve?

It was an apple, with very limited memory, one byte and everything crashed!

Did Adam and Eve have a date together? No, they had an apple.

It's never worth getting into an argument about creationist Adam and Eve versus evolution. You're just comparing apples and origins.

Isaac Newton, Steve Jobs, Snow White, William Tell, and Adam and Eve are having dinner together in a restaurant. A waiter approaches their table and asks, "Did someone order an apple?"

sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[Tale of Two Adams](#)

In today's Liturgy, the destiny of the human race is told as the tale of two "types" of men—the first man, Adam, and the new Adam, Jesus (see 1 Corinthians 15:21–22; 45–59).

Paul's argument in the Epistle is built on a series of contrasts between "one" or "one person" and "the many" or "all." By one person's disobedience, sin and condemnation entered the world, and death came to reign over all. By the obedience of another one, grace abounded, all were justified, and life came to reign for all.

This is the drama that unfolds in today's First Reading and Gospel.

Formed from the clay of the ground and filled with the breath of God's own Spirit, Adam was a son of God (see Luke 3:38), created in His image (see Genesis 5:1–3). Crowned with glory, he was given dominion over the world and the protection of His angels (see Psalms 8:6–8; 91:11–13). He was made to worship God—to live not by bread alone but in obedience to every word that comes from the mouth of the Father.

Adam, however, put the Lord his God to the test. He gave in to the serpent's temptation, trying to seize for himself all that God had already promised him. But in His hour of temptation, Jesus prevailed where Adam failed—and drove the devil away.

Still, we sin after the pattern of Adam's transgression. Like Adam, we let sin in the door (see Genesis 4:7) when we entertain doubts about God's promises, when we forget to call on Him in our hours of temptation.

But the grace won for us by Christ's obedience means that sin is no longer our master.

As we begin this season of repentance, we can be confident in His compassion, that He will create in us a new heart (see Romans 5:5; Hebrews 8:10). As we do in today's Psalm, we can sing joyfully of our salvation, renewed in His presence.

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

I Absolve You From Your Sins

[Jesus] breathed on [the disciples], and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (Jn 20.23)

“Unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” (Lk 13.3)

The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, or simply Confession, was instituted by Christ to forgive those sins committed after Baptism; for this reason, Tertullian (c.155 – c. 240 AD) called it “the second plank [of salvation] after the shipwreck which is the loss of grace”. Bishops and priests are empowered to give solution in the name of Christ.

Baptism cleanses us from all sin, but the inclination to sin, or concupiscence, remains part of the human condition. Christ established the Sacrament of Penance as a means to receive God’s forgiveness and healing for sins committed after Baptism.

Christ entrusted this ministry to the Apostles, and this power is handed on through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Through the Sacrament of Penance, God reconciles the penitent with himself and his Church and restores his friendship after it has been either broken through mortal sin or wounded by venial sin.

To receive God’s forgiveness the penitent must have contrition for his or her sins. When a person is sorry for sins out of love for God, it is called perfect contrition; when sorrow arises from fear of Hell or punishment, it is called imperfect contrition. Either perfect or imperfect contrition is sufficient for divine forgiveness.

The form of the Sacrament has changed over the centuries, but its essential elements - admission of guilt, contrition, absolution, and penance - have remained. In the Rite of Penance, the penitent confesses aloud to a bishop or priest, who grants absolution and prescribes a penance or restitution.

In addition to forgiving sins, the Sacrament of Penance restores sanctifying grace lost by mortal sin, remits eternal punishment and part of the temporal punishment due to sin, imparts actual graces to avoid sin in the future, reconciles the penitent with the Church, and gives peace of conscience and spiritual consolation.

While the Church requires Catholics to confess all mortal sins at least once yearly, it is best to confess any mortal sin as soon as possible. The Church recommends frequent confession even of venial sins as a way to help combat sinful tendencies.

From the Didache Bible

1449 The formula of absolution used in the Latin Church expresses the essential elements of this sacrament: the Father of mercies is the source of all forgiveness. He effects the reconciliation of sinners through the Passover of his Son and the gift of his Spirit, through the prayer and ministry of the Church:

God, the Father of mercies,
through the death and the resurrection of his Son
has reconciled the world to himself
and sent the Holy Spirit among us
for the forgiveness of sins;
through the ministry of the Church
may God give you pardon and peace,
and I absolve you from your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

1451 Among the penitent’s acts contrition occupies first place. Contrition is “sorrow of the soul and detestation for the sin committed, together with the resolution not to sin again.” (Council of Trent 1551)

1454 The reception of this sacrament ought to be prepared for by an examination of conscience made in the light of the Word of God. The passages best suited to this can be found in the Ten Commandments, the moral catechesis of the Gospels and the apostolic Letters, such as the Sermon on the Mount and the apostolic teachings.

1455 The confession (or disclosure) of sins, even from a simply human point of view, frees us and facilitates our reconciliation with others. Through such an admission man looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and to the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible.

1462 Forgiveness of sins brings reconciliation with God, but also with the Church. Since ancient times the bishop, visible head of a particular Church, has thus rightfully been considered to be the one who principally has the power and ministry of reconciliation: he is the moderator of the penitential discipline. Priests, his collaborators, exercise it to the extent that they have received the commission either from their bishop (or religious superior) or the Pope, according to the law of the Church.

1467 Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to persons, **the Church declares that every priest who hears confessions is bound under very severe penalties to keep absolute secrecy regarding the sins that his penitents have confessed to him. He can make no use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitents’ lives. This secret, which admits of no exceptions, is called the “sacramental seal,” because what the penitent has made known to the priest remains “sealed” by the sacrament.**

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church