

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

25 January 2026

readings

Next Week

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13

Ps 145:7-10

1 Cor 1:26-31

Mt 5:1-12

in a nutshell

Jesus, Our Light. At times we can find ourselves 'walking in darkness.' We get caught up in difficulties and cannot see away out. Today's liturgy reminds us that Jesus is our light and our salvation. As with the first disciples, he calls us to follow him. In Gospels we have the Good News that brings light into the dark moments of 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

The parish sacramental program will begin next month. Any children of the parish who would like to receive a sacrament this year should contact the office as soon as possible.

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Psalm Response

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
Before whom shall I shrink? (R.)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. (R.)

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

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 Meetings: February 11
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/upperyarravalley> and choose where you are donating: church, presbytery, maintenance.



Parish Notices

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

St. Faustina's prayer before the Blessed Sacrament... I adore You, Lord and Creator, hidden in the most Blessed Sacrament. Your goodness encourages me to converse with You. Your mercy abolishes the chasm which separates the Creator from the creature. Your light illumines my mind, enabling it to know You more and more deeply.

Confession: God in his mercy did not abandon men. He sent his Son to redeem us, not with gold or silver but at the price of his Blood poured out for us. Such is the grace we have received ! (St. Augustine)

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 called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." MATTHEW 4:22

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Total income: \$1747.60

Total Expenditure: \$2832.52

Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre Melbourne

Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre Melbourne provides a warm and welcoming space to explore and nurture your faith. Located on the outskirts of Melbourne's CBD, our Centre is within walking distance of major hospitals, public transport, and key sporting venues. Whether you're seeking peaceful apartment accommodation, attending retreats or reflection days, participating in our educational programs or visiting the museum, we invite you to join us and enrich your spiritual journey. For more information <https://mmsm.org.au/centres/melbourne/> or contact us on admin.mmhc@sosjspirit.org.au or 9926 9300.

Prayer Group

Meets Monday at 9:15 am and Fridays at 9:45 a.m. at St Mary's. For more information please call Maria at 0409 793 001 or just come on in and discover peace in the presence of our Lord in the Eucharist!

Pelican+ New Catholic Website—more than streaming

In a world where Catholic families struggle to find authentic, high-quality content that strengthens rather than undermines their faith, Pelican+ emerges as the comprehensive solution Traditional Catholics have been waiting for.

We're not just another streaming service. We're building the premier digital platform where Catholic culture thrives—a place where families can safely explore their faith, creators can flourish, and Traditional Catholic values are celebrated without compromise.

What Pelican+ Delivers

Premium Video Content & Podcasts

Professional-quality programming that competes with secular media standards while maintaining authentic Catholic identity.

Comprehensive Prayer & Spiritual Life

A complete Traditional Catholic prayer experience: Professional alternative to secular prayer apps, featuring Traditional Catholic prayers and practices.

Digital Catholic Library

An extensive collection of Catholic wisdom: E-book library featuring Catholic classics and contemporary works. Professional audiobook narrations of essential Catholic texts.

Family-Centered Programming

Content designed to strengthen Catholic households. Family viewing options that bring Catholic values into entertainment.

Catholic Culture & Entertainment

Celebrating the richness of Catholic tradition: Traditional sacred music, Gregorian chant, and contemporary Catholic artists.

For more information: www.pelicanplus.com

This week's Joke!

What is a New Year's resolution?

Something that goes in one year and out the other.

How can you keep a New Year's resolution to read more while never opening a book?

Watch TV with subtitles.

What happened to the man who shoplifted a calendar?

He got 12 months!

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in,
A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

Readings Reflection

[History Redeemed](#)

Today's Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history.

Isaiah's prophecy in today's First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today's Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David (see 2 Samuel 7:12–13; Psalm 89; Psalm 132:11–12).

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26).

It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14).

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall.

His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolized by the “Galilee of the Nations.” Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be “fishers of men,” gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose—in a worldwide kingdom of God.

By their preaching, Isaiah's promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in today's Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

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

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand

What do we mean by the “Kingdom of God”?

Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.” (Mk 1:14-15)

The Kingdom of God refers not only to Heaven but also to the era of peace, joy, and justice ushered in by Christ and carried on as a “work in progress” by the members of his faithful, the Church. In a very real way, the Kingdom of God is the Church herself.

The proclamation of the Kingdom of God was the central theme of Christ’s teaching. Through parables, he gave his disciples images of various aspects of the kingdom and how his followers were to live in it. His teaching makes it clear the kingdom he established is not an earthly kingdom but rather an intimate communion between God and his people. “In the word, in the works, and in the presence of Christ, this kingdom was clearly open to the view of men” (Lumen Gentium 5). This intimate communion is realised through Baptism and membership in his body, the Church.

When describing how his kingdom would affect the world, Christ stressed that his faithful must act as a leaven in the world, transforming it and sanctifying it from within as a tiny amount of yeast leavens a large measure of flour. Like a mustard seed, the Church began small but grew to be the largest of trees, spreading throughout the entire world. Christ established the kingdom, but it will never be completely fulfilled here on earth. Thus, it remains our sacred obligation to help build the Kingdom of God in our world.

The Church continues the mission of Christ by calling people to repentance and proclaiming the kingdom’s existence. Just as Christ’s divinity was veiled under his humanity while on earth, the Kingdom of God stands veiled under the appearance of a merely human institution, the Church. Only by faith are the faithful able to see the divine nature of the Church, which will be veiled until the glory of Christ is made manifest to the entire world at the end of time.

In the Lord’s Prayer, “thy kingdom come” makes two requests of Christ: to assist us in building the Kingdom of God on earth and hastening his Second Coming at the end of time.

From the Didache Bible

541 “Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying: ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.’ ” “To carry out the will of the Father Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth.” Now the Father’s will is “to raise up men to share in his own divine life.” He does this by gathering men around his Son Jesus Christ. This gathering is the Church, “on earth the seed and beginning of that kingdom.”

542 Christ stands at the heart of this gathering of men into the “family of God.” By his word, through signs that manifest the reign of God, and by sending out his disciples, Jesus calls all people to come together around him. But above all in the great Paschal mystery—his death on the cross and his Resurrection—he would accomplish the coming of his kingdom. “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” Into this union with Christ all men are called.

543 Everyone is called to enter the kingdom. First announced to the children of Israel, this messianic kingdom is intended to accept men of all nations. To enter it, one must first accept Jesus’ word...

545 Jesus invites sinners to the table of the kingdom: “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” He invites them to that conversion without which one cannot enter the kingdom, but shows them in word and deed his Father’s boundless mercy for them and the vast “joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.” The supreme proof of his love will be the sacrifice of his own life “for the forgiveness of sins.”

546 Jesus’ invitation to enter his kingdom comes in the form of parables, a characteristic feature of his teaching. Through his parables he invites people to the feast of the kingdom, but he also asks for a radical choice: to gain the kingdom, one must give everything. Words are not enough; deeds are required. The parables are like mirrors for man: will he be hard soil or good earth for the word? What use has he made of the talents he has received? Jesus and the presence of the kingdom in this world are secretly at the heart of the parables. One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to “know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven.” For those who stay “outside,” everything remains enigmatic.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church