

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

12 July 2026

readings

Next Week

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19
Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Rom 8:26-27
Mt 13:24-43

in a nutshell

Listen, anyone who has ears. Do we really listen when the Word of God is proclaimed at Mass? Do we allow it to take root in our hearts and yield a rich harvest? If we try to listen at Mass, we will learn to listen also to the many voices that cry out to us in the midst of our busy lives—the voices of our children, of our parents, of our spouse, of those who need us to hear them.

we pray for

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

of special note

The collection box in the foyer is for flowers for the church.

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain.

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth.

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

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
moutevelyn@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

Fr Michel—Away

Fr Michel will be away this week so all weekday services will be cancelled. Weekend Mass will be as normal.

Safeguarding Compliance for Volunteers

Our aim is to have full compliance by the end of June. A reminder that all volunteers need:

- a Working With Children Check or VIT registration, and the Parish should be linked to this via the appropriate website
- To have signed the Code of Conduct
- To have completed the on-line training

Thank you to those of you who have completed the process. Emails have been sent to those who need to sign the code of conduct and complete the training. Please check your SPAM folder.

When you complete the training and sign the Code of Conduct please forward a copy of the certificate to the office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen once wrote that the purpose of the Holy Hour — a sustained, uninterrupted hour of prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament — is to encourage a deep personal encounter with Christ. Today, however, the hidden power of the Holy Hour radiates with special urgency. Many Catholics no longer believe in or understand the doctrine of the Real Presence. People of all backgrounds seek refuge in various forms of meditation and mindfulness. To all the Holy Hour offers a life-changing opportunity: The silence and simplicity of being in the presence of God. (Word on Fire)

St. Faustina says that the Sacrament of Reconciliation not only obtains for us God's forgiveness, but also heals the soul of the wounds of sin.

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

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." - MATTHEW 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

Supporting the Parish

Not part of the Stewardship program? Have you considered contributing to assist in the upkeep of the Parish through a formal stewardship pledge? 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 this either by direct debit or envelopes.

June Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Total income: \$1592 Total Expenditure: \$2187.83

St Carlo Acutis Exhibition

The Legion of Mary is hosting the Eucharistic Miracles of St Carlo Acutis Exhibition July 16-28, 10:00am-3:00pm at 456 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne. Canonised by Pope Leo XIV in September 2025, St Carlo Acutis inspired millions around the world through his deep love for Jesus in the Eucharist and his creative use of technology to share the faith.

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.

Need to Dispose of a Vehicle? - Support Lifeboat

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process - getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even garaging it until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!).

If you need to dispose of a vehicle either from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, please consider gifting it to the "Lifeboat Geelong Foundation", a registered charity with tax deductible status which for nine years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors of church-related sexual abuse. Many of these suffer post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and have limited or no employment. A donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life. If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to "Lifeboat", contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360, or frkdillon@outlook.com.au)

This Week's Joke

An English sailor just off the coast of Germany discovers that his boat is taking on water.

Alarmed, he calls the German coastguard by radio: "Hello coastguard, I'm sinking, I'm sinking!"

There is a pause for a few seconds, before the coastguard replies, "OK ... What are you sinking about?"

sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[The Word's Return](#)

Today's readings, like last week's, ask us to meditate on Israel's response to God's Word—and our own. Why do some hear the word of the kingdom, yet fail to accept it as a call to conversion and faith in Jesus? That question underlies today's Gospel especially.

Again, we see, as we did last week, that the kingdom's mysteries are unfolded to those who open their hearts, making of them a rich soil in which the Word can grow and bear fruit.

As we sing in today's Psalm, in Jesus, God's Word has visited our land to water the stony earth of our hearts with the living waters of the Spirit (see John 7:38; Revelation 22:1).

The first fruit of the Word is the Spirit of love and adoption poured into our hearts in Baptism, making us children of God, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle (see Romans 5:5; 8:15-16). In this, we are made a "new creation" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), the first fruits of a new heaven and a new earth (see 2 Peter 3:13).

Since the first humans rejected God's Word, creation has been enslaved to futility (see Genesis 3:17-19; 5:29). But God's Word does not go forth only to return to Him void, as we hear in today's First Reading.

His Word awaits our response. We must show ourselves to be children of that Word. We must allow that Word to accomplish God's will in our lives. As Jesus warns today, we must take care lest the devil steals it away or lest it be choked by worldly concerns.

In the Eucharist, the Word gives Himself to us as bread to eat. He does so that we might be made fertile, yielding fruits of holiness.

And we await the crowning of the year, the great harvest of the Lord's Day (see Mark 4:29; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 1:10)—when His Word will have achieved the end for which it was sent.

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

Christ, the Logos [Word] of Hope

Saint John powerfully expresses the fundamental paradox of the Christian faith. On the one hand, he says that “no one has ever seen God” (*Jn 1:18*). In no way can our imaginations, our concepts or our words ever define or embrace the infinite reality of the Most High. Yet Saint John also tells us that the Word truly “became flesh” (*Jn 1:14*). The only-begotten Son, who is ever with the Father, has made known the God whom “no one has ever seen” (*Jn 1:18*). Jesus Christ comes to us, “full of grace and truth” (*Jn 1:14*), to give us these gifts (cf. *Jn 1:17*); and “from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace” (*Jn 1:16*). In the Prologue of his Gospel, John thus contemplates the Word from his being with God to his becoming flesh and his return to the Father with our humanity, which he has assumed for ever. In this coming forth from God and returning to him, Christ is presented as the one who “tells us” about God. Indeed, as Saint Irenaeus of Lyons says, the Son “is the revealer of the Father”. Jesus of Nazareth is, so to speak, the “exegete” of the God whom “no one has ever seen”. “He is the image of the invisible God” (*Col 1:15*). Here we see fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah about the effectiveness of the Lord’s word: as the rain and snow come down from heaven to water and to make the earth fruitful, so too the word of God “shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (cf. *Is 55:10f.*). Jesus Christ is this definitive and effective word which came forth from the Father and returned to him, perfectly accomplishing his will in the world.

The word of God has bestowed upon us the divine life which transfigures the face of the earth, making all things new. His word engages us not only as *hearers* of divine revelation, but also as its *heralds*. The one whom the Father has sent to do his will draws us to himself and makes us part of his life and mission. The Spirit of the Risen Lord empowers us to proclaim the word everywhere by the witness of our lives. This was experienced by the first Christian community, which saw the word spread through preaching and witness. Here we can think in particular of the life of the Apostle Paul, a man completely caught up by the Lord—“it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (*Gal 2:20*)—and by his mission: “woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel!” (*1 Cor 9:16*). Paul knew well that what was revealed in Christ is really salvation for all peoples, liberation from the slavery of sin in order to enjoy the freedom of the children of God.

What the Church proclaims to the world is the *Logos of Hope*; in order to be able to live fully each moment, men and women need “the great hope” which is “the God who possesses a human face and who ‘has loved us to the end’ (*Jn 13:1*)”. This is why the Church is missionary by her very nature. We cannot keep to ourselves the words of eternal life given to us in our encounter with Jesus Christ: they are meant for everyone, for every man and woman. Everyone today, whether he or she knows it or not, needs this message. May the Lord himself, as in the time of the prophet Amos, raise up in our midst a new hunger and thirst for the word of God (cf. *Am 8:11*: “*Behold, the days are coming,*” declares the Lord God, “*when I will send a famine on the land— not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.*”). It is our responsibility to pass on what, by God’s grace, we ourselves have received.

The greater our openness to God’s word, the more will we be able to recognize that today too the mystery of Pentecost is taking place in God’s Church. The Spirit of the Lord continues to pour out his gifts upon the Church to guide us into all truth, to show us the meaning of the Scriptures and to make us credible heralds of the word of salvation before the world. Thus we return to the First Letter of Saint John. In God’s word, we too have heard, we too have seen and touched the Word of life. We have welcomed by grace the proclamation that eternal life has been revealed, and thus we have come to acknowledge our fellowship with one another, with those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, and with all those who throughout the world hear the word, celebrate the Eucharist and by their lives bear witness to charity. This proclamation has been shared with us—the Apostle John reminds us—so that “our joy may be complete” (*1 Jn 1:4*).

From the Apostolic Exhortation Verbum Domini, #90, 91 & 123, Pope Benedict XVI