

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

28 June 2026

readings

Next Week

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zech 9:9-10

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14

Rom 8:9, 11-13

Mt 11:25-30

in a nutshell

Hard Sayings. Today's Gospel includes a number of so-called 'hard sayings' of Jesus. They identify the basic paradox of our Christian faith: it is only emptying ourselves in imitation of Jesus (Phil 2:7) that we receive the fullness of life which is his gift (Jn 10:10). There can be no real growth in the Spirit if self-interest prevails.

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

Peter's Pence second collection this week.

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss.

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.
(R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

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.sjyarrajunction.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
mountevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Meetings: July 1
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

Please note Janine will be out of the office on Thursday 2 July.

Fr Michel—Away

Fr Michel will be away during the weeks beginning Monday 6 & 13 July so all weekday services will be cancelled. Weekend masses will be as normal.

Special Collection This Weekend —Peter's Pence

This collection helps provide the Holy Father with funds for emergency assistance to those in need. The proceeds enable Pope Leo to assist the most disadvantaged in emergency situations including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Adoration: God's mercy and desire for our salvation are so great that he is not content to redeem us with his Body and Blood, but also prays for us over and over again. "I pray not only for these, but for those who through their words will believe in me." Jn.17:20. Let us spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, in imitation of our Divine Redeemer who spent long hours in prayer while he was on earth. As recorded in Lk. 6:12, Now it was about this time that he went out into the hills to pray: and he spent the whole night in prayer to God. (St. Cyprian)

Confession: When you know what it cost Jesus to redeem us, when you know of his bitter passion, are you still not going to seek his forgiveness in the Sacrament of Mercy? To atone for our sins we must admit responsibility and respond to God's invitation, as he wants to pour out his mercy, love and peace on us. (Fr. Mike Schmitz)

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

"...whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." MATTHEW 10:38

Pope Benedict XVI said "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness". "Comfort" puts me first. "Picking up your cross and following Jesus" puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

Donations for Flowers.

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

Mass For Marriage Anniversaries

Married couples and their families are cordially invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family. Couples who register and are celebrating the following anniversaries—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years and above—will receive a commemorative certificate.

Please register for your spot by Tuesday 7 July.

For any queries, please contact the Proclaim team on 9926 5761 or at proclaim@cam.org.au.

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

Jemma was explaining to her younger brother, Pete, about the Winter Solstice. She says, "The winter solstice results in the longest night of the year because on this day, the Earth's South Pole is tilted furthest away from the Sun. This tilt causes the Sun to take its lowest and shortest path across the sky, leading to the shortest period of daylight and ..." Unimpressed and after some time, Pete interrupts, "Thanks for making the longest night of the year longer by explaining why it's the longest night of the year."

sourced from www.majellan.media

Readings Reflection

[To Find Our Lives](#)

The Liturgy this week continues to instruct us in the elements of discipleship. We're told that even the most humble among us have a share in the mission Christ gives to His Church.

We're not all called to the ministry of the Apostles, or to be prophets like Elisha in today's First Reading. But each of us is called to a holy life (see 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:3).

At Baptism our lives were joined forever to the cross of Christ, as Paul tells us in today's Epistle. Baptized into His death, we're to renounce sin and live for God in Christ Jesus.

We are to follow Him, each of us taking up our personal cross, as Jesus says in today's Gospel. That doesn't mean we will all be asked to suffer a martyr's death. But each of us is called to self-denial, to the offering of our lives in service of God's plan.

Jesus must be elevated to first place in our lives—above even our closest bonds of kinship and love. By Baptism, we've been made part of a new family—the kingdom of God, the Church. We are to proclaim that kingdom with our lives, bringing our fathers and mothers, and all men and women, to live as "little ones" under the fatherhood of God and the kingship of the Holy One.

We do this by opening our hearts and homes to the service of the Lord, following the Shunnamite woman's example in today's First Reading. As Jesus tells us, we're to receive others—not only prophets but also little children, the poor, and the imprisoned—as we receive Christ Himself (see Matthew 18:5; 25:31–46).

As we sing in today's Psalm, we are to testify to His favors and kindness in our lives.

We're to hold fast to the promise—that if we have died with Christ, we shall also live, that if we lose our lives for His sake, we shall find our reward, and walk forever in His countenance.

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

Harmonizing the voice with the praying heart

What is the Liturgy of the Hours?

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your merciful love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night (Ps 92:1-2)

From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised! (Ps 113:3)

Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous ordinances. (Ps 119:164)

The Liturgy of the Hours is a cycle of psalms, prayers, litanies, hymns, and readings that is prayed at various times of the day and night.

The ancient Israelites developed the custom of praying psalms in the morning and evening and at the third, sixth, and ninth hours of the day, i.e., mid-morning, midday, and mid afternoon, a custom that was continued by the first Christians. By the fifth century the Liturgy of the Hours had become standardised in roughly the form that we have today: the Office of Readings (to be prayed at any time), Morning Prayer (Lauds, Midmorning Prayer, Midday Prayer, Midafternoon Prayer, Evening Prayer (Vespers), and Night Prayer (Compline).

The Liturgy of the Hours, also called the Divine Office, is the public prayer of the Church: “[Christ Jesus] continues His priestly work through the agency of his Church” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 83). It comprises the reciting or singing of psalms, prayers, litanies, hymns, and various readings, both from Scripture and from the Church Fathers and saints, which help take the participant deeper in meditation on the mystery of Christ. Its purpose is to sanctify the day (cf. SC 88), and its celebration at various times throughout the day makes the whole course of the day holy.

The Second Vatican Council reemphasised the Church’s encouragement that the laity pray the Liturgy of the Hours either with their pastors, among groups of laity, or even individually. Pope St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI both strongly promoted the Liturgy of the Hours throughout their pontificates. In the words of Pope Benedict:

I would like to renew my call to everyone to pray the Psalms, to become accustomed to using the Liturgy of the Hours, Lauds, Vespers, and Compline. Our relationship with God can only be enriched by our journeying towards him day after day. (Pope Benedict XVI, Wednesday Audience, November 16, 2011)

From the Didache Bible

1174 The mystery of Christ, his Incarnation and Passover, which we celebrate in the Eucharist especially at the Sunday assembly, permeates and transfigures the time of each day, through the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours, “the divine office.” This celebration, faithful to the apostolic exhortations to “pray constantly,” is “so devised that the whole course of the day and night is made holy by the praise of God.” In this “public prayer of the Church,” the faithful (clergy, religious, and lay people) exercise the royal priesthood of the baptized. Celebrated in “the form approved” by the Church, the Liturgy of the Hours “is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom. It is the very prayer which Christ himself together with his Body addresses to the Father.”

1175 The Liturgy of the Hours is intended to become the prayer of the whole People of God. In it Christ himself “continues his priestly work through his Church.” His members participate according to their own place in the Church and the circumstances of their lives: priests devoted to the pastoral ministry, because they are called to remain diligent in prayer and the service of the word; religious, by the charism of their consecrated lives; all the faithful as much as possible: “Pastors of souls should see to it that the principal hours, especially Vespers, are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and on the more solemn feasts. The laity, too, are encouraged to recite the divine office, either with the priests, or among themselves, or even individually.”

1176 The celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours demands not only harmonizing the voice with the praying heart, but also a deeper “understanding of the liturgy and of the Bible, especially of the Psalms.”

1177 The hymns and litanies of the Liturgy of the Hours integrate the prayer of the psalms into the age of the Church, expressing the symbolism of the time of day, the liturgical season, or the feast being celebrated. Moreover, the reading from the Word of God at each Hour (with the subsequent responses or *troparia*) and readings from the Fathers and spiritual masters at certain Hours, reveal more deeply the meaning of the mystery being celebrated, assist in understanding the psalms, and prepare for silent prayer. The *lectio divina*, where the Word of God is so read and meditated that it becomes prayer, is thus rooted in the liturgical celebration.

1178 The Liturgy of the Hours, which is like an extension of the Eucharistic celebration, does not exclude but rather in a complementary way calls forth the various devotions of the People of God, especially adoration and worship of the Blessed Sacrament.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church