

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)

29 March 2026

readings

Next Week

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection

Mass of the day

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Col 3:1-4

Jn 20:1-9

in a nutshell

The forgiveness of sins. We see ourselves in the crowds who cried 'Hosanna to the Son of David' one day and 'Crucify him' just a few days later. Like Peter and the other disciples we can be fickle followers of Jesus. We should not, however, imitate Judas and despair at our infidelity. Rather, we should look to Jesus who allowed his blood to be poured out for many 'for the forgiveness of sins'. Let us praise him with grateful hearts.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially Helen O'Kane, 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

Project Compassion Boxes can be returned on Holy Saturday night.

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

** Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!*

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

** Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!*

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.'

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones.

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me!

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

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/upperyarra

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



Parish Notices

Chrism Mass –10:00am

You are warmly invited to join us for the annual Chrism Mass, which will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday 31 March. In this ancient and beautiful liturgy, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, together with all of Melbourne's priests, will bless the oils being used in the sacraments for the year ahead.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In an apparition to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Jesus spoke these beautiful words: "I have a burning thirst to be honoured by men in the Blessed Sacrament." Go to Adoration, Jesus desires to be with you, to have you gaze upon Him, as He so lovingly gazes upon you.

Confession: The Sacrament of Confession is an encounter with the mercy of the living God. God's will is to save us, and nothing pleases him more than our coming back to him with true repentance. The divine Word of God with untold condescension, lived among us in the flesh. He freed us from our sins by suffering and dying, taking them upon himself as if he were answerable for them, sinless though he was. There is nothing closer to God's heart than to save us. (St. Maximus)

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

"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbour. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbour and help him "carry his cross." These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

Project Compassion—Palm Sunday

As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion.

Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. There is still time to donate! Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice.

Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes 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.*

BOXES CAN BE RETURNED ON HOLY THURSDAY

Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection

This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres in the Holy Land rely on assistance from this collection. Envelopes are available this weekend to be returned at Good Friday ceremonies or Easter Masses.

Interested in Spiritual Direction?

The Catholic Encyclopaedia defines Spiritual direction as an interpersonal relationship in which one person, a director, accompanies another on the journey of faith. Its form is a conversation around the events and concerns of the directee's life and prayer that focuses on the leading of the Spirit and the directee's openness, awareness and response to the mystery of God's presence and action in his or her life.

Volunteers for Spiritual Direction needed

My name is Mary Ryan, I am studying at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Croydon, which is part of the University of Divinity. I am doing a Spiritual Direction course and need volunteers to help me perfect my skills as a Spiritual Director. This would entail an 1 hour session, once a month free of charge to have a conversation. Anyone interested in helping can contact me on 0437101274. Thank you.

Easter Schedule — (Both Parishes)

Holy Thursday

NO 9am Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper: Yarra Junction 6pm, Mt Evelyn 8pm

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross: Yarra Junction 10:30, Mt Evelyn 9am

Passion of the Lord: Mt Evelyn 3pm

Confessions following Stations and Passion

Easter Vigil

Yarra Junction 6pm, Mt Evelyn 8:30pm

Saturday Confessions Mt Evelyn 11:30am-12:30pm

Easter Sunday

Yarra Junction 8:30am, Mt Evelyn 10:30am & 5pm

Readings Reflection

[All Is Fulfilled](#)

"All this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled," Jesus says in today's Gospel (see Matthew 26:56).

Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled.

By the close of today's long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished: the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the Cross at the place called the Skull.

In His Passion, Jesus is "counted among the wicked," as Isaiah had foretold (see Isaiah 53:12). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today's First Reading and Psalm.

The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see Matthew 27:31), as His hands and feet are pierced, as enemies gamble for His clothes (see Matthew 27:35), and as His enemies dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see Matthew 27:39-44).

He remains faithful to God's will to the end. He does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today's First Reading, "The Lord God is My help . . . I shall not be put to shame."

Destined to sin and death as children of Adam's disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ's perfect obedience to the Father's will (see Romans 5:12-14, 17-19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6).

This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken. We know, as the centurion realizes today, that truly this is the Son of God (see Matthew 27:54).

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

Jesus makes His Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

The time of his Passion being now at hand, our Redeemer departs from Bethany to go to Jerusalem. On drawing close to that ungrateful city, he beheld it, and wept: *Beholding the city, He wept over it.* He wept because he foresaw its ruin, which would be the consequence of the stupendous crime of taking away the life of the Son of God, of which that people would shortly become guilty. Ah, my Jesus, when You were then weeping over that city You were weeping also over my soul, beholding the ruin which I have brought upon myself by my sins, constraining You to condemn me to hell, even after You having died to save me. Oh, leave it to me to weep over the great evil of which I have been guilty in despising You, the greatest of all good, and please have mercy upon me.

Jesus Christ enters the city: the people go forth to meet him; they receive him with acclamations and rejoicings; and, in order to do him honor, some of them strew branches of palms along the road, whilst others spread out their garments for him to pass over. Oh, who would ever then have said that that Lord, now recognized as the Messias, and welcomed with so many demonstrations of respect, the next time that he appeared along the self-same ways would be under sentence of death, and with a cross upon his shoulders? Ah, my beloved Jesus, these people now receive Thee with acclamations, saying, *Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!* Glory to the Son of David! Blessed be he who cometh in the name of God for our salvation! And then they will raise their voices insultingly to Pilate to take Thee out of the world, and cause Thee to die upon a cross: *Away with Him! away with Him! crucify Him!* Go, my soul, and do Thou too lovingly say to him, *Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!* Blessed forever be Thou that art come, O Saviour of the world! for, otherwise, we had all been lost. O my Saviour, save me!

When the evening, however, came, after all those acclamations, there was no one found who would invite him to lodge in his house; so that he was obliged to retrace his steps to Bethany.

O my beloved Redeemer, if others will not give Thee a welcome, I desire to welcome Thee into my poor heart. At one time, I, unhappily, expelled Thee from my soul; but I now prize to have Thee with me more than the possession of all the treasures of earth. I love Thee, O my Saviour; what power shall ever be able to separate me from my love of Thee? Sin only; but from this sin it is Thine to deliver me, by Thy help, O my Jesus; and thine too, by thy intercession, O Mary, my Mother.

Jesus prays in the Garden

Jesus, knowing that the hour of his Passion had now come...goes to the Garden of Gethsemane, where he knew already that his enemies would come to take him. He there begins to pray, and lo! he finds himself assailed by a great dread, by a great repugnance, and by a great sadness: *He began to be afraid, to be weary, and sorrowful.* There came upon him, first, a great dread of the bitter death which he would have to suffer on Calvary, and of all the anguish and desolations by which it would be accompanied. During the actual course of his Passion, the scourges, the thorns, the nails, and the rest of his tortures came upon him but one at a time; whereas, in the garden, they all came upon him together at once, crowding into his memory in order to torment him. For his love of us he embraced them all; but in embracing them, he trembles and is in agony: *Being in an agony, He prayed the longer.*

There comes upon him, moreover, a great repugnance to that which he has to suffer; so that he prays his Father to deliver him from it: *My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass away from Me.* He prayed thus to teach us that in our tribulations we may indeed beg of God to deliver us from them; but we ought at the same time to refer ourselves to his will, and to say, as Jesus then said, Not, however, as I will, but as You wilt. Yes, my Jesus, Your will, not mine, be done. I embrace all the crosses that You will send me. You, innocent as You are, has suffered so much for love of me; it is but just that I, who am a sinner, and deserving of hell, should suffer for love of You that which You do ordain.

There came upon him, likewise, a sadness so great that it would have been enough to cause him to die, had he not, of himself, kept death away, in order to die for us after having suffered more: *My soul is sorrowful even unto death.* This great sadness was occasioned by the sight of the future ungratefulness of men, who, instead of corresponding to so great a love on his part, would offend him by so many sins, the sight of which caused him to sweat in streams of blood: *And his sweat became as drops of blood trickling down upon the ground.*

So, then, O my Jesus, it is not the executioners, the scourges, the thorns, or the cross that have been so cruel: the cruelty lies in my sins, which afflicted Thee so much in the garden. Give to me, then, a share of that sorrow and abhorrence which You did experience in the garden, that so, even to my death, I may bitterly weep for the offences that I have given You. I love You, O my Jesus: Receive with kindness a sinner who wishes to love You. Recommend me, O Mary, to this your Son, who is in affliction and sadness for love of me.