

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

13 September 2026

readings

Next Week

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:6-9

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Phil 1:20-24, 27

Mt 20:1-16

in a nutshell

How often must I forgive? There is much truth in the proverb, 'to err is human, to forgive is divine.' We all make mistakes. We all do things we regret. And yet, when others wrong us, we can find it beyond our human strength to forgive. As we celebrate the mystery of Christ's love today, let us ask Jesus to heal our divisions and fill our hearts with his spirit of forgiveness.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially Pauline Bennett, Paul Latham, Fr Pat Purcell, Margaret Broderick, Fida Rees

For those who have died recently and those whose anniversary occur at this time.

of special note

Annunziata Festa next Sunday at Mount Evelyn

Mor information on back page

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of 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/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 Council Meeting:

Friday 30 October—1:30pm

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

Safeguarding Sunday 2026: 'Love Protects'

The 2026 theme "Love Protects" recognises that safeguarding is a practical expression of Christian love. When communities prioritise the safety, dignity, and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, they embody the love and care that is at the heart of the Gospel.

"Safeguarding is an essential part of our mission and ministry. It calls each of us to be attentive, accountable and committed to ensuring that every person can participate in the life of the Church safely and with confidence."

Safeguarding Sunday also provides an opportunity to acknowledge the work of clergy, staff and volunteers who work to foster cultures of safety and trust throughout church communities. Their dedication strengthens the Church's commitment to preventing harm, responding appropriately to concerns and promoting the dignity of every person.

The Church is showing national leadership in safeguarding through:

Professional development that strengthens the capacity of Catholic organisations

Reviews, audits and assessments of Catholic organisations

Management of the Australian Catholic Ministry Register

Safeguarding awareness, education and communications initiatives

As we gather to mark Safeguarding Sunday, we are encouraged to reflect on the example of Jesus, who welcomed and protected the vulnerable and marginalised. His ministry inspires the Church's commitment to care, respect, and justice.

"Love protects when we listen. Love protects when we act. Love protects when we place the wellbeing of others at the centre of our decisions and our ministry," Bishop Bennet said.

"Together, we can build communities where every person is valued, respected and safe."

Archbishop's Weekend Visit

Thank you to all parishioners who welcomed Archbishop Comensoli to the parish and were instrumental to him enjoying the weekend. A special thank you to the small group of parishioners who attended the meeting on Saturday morning here at St Thomas A Becket.

Sacramental Program 2027

For Children, not attending the Parish School, wanting to receive the Sacraments, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, instructions are available through our Parish.

Contact Anne at annevan.tilburg@gmail.com Lessons will begin first Sunday in March after 10:30 Mass for Confirmation and the second Tuesday of March at 5pm for First Communion.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

O sweet Saviour Christ, by the torments of Thy most bitter Passion, take from me, good Lord, this lukewarm, half-hearted meditation, and this dullness in praying to Thee. Give me Thy grace to long for Thy Holy Sacraments, and especially to rejoice in the Presence of Thy blessed Body, sweet Saviour Christ, in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar, and duly to thank Thee for Thy gracious visitation therewith. (St. Thomas Moore)

God's will is to save us, and nothing pleases him more than our coming back to him with true repentance. Indeed, God's desire for our salvation is the primary and pre-eminent sign of his infinite goodness. (St. Maximus, abbot)

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

"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." – ROMANS 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.

Supporting the Parish

Please note **only money in official stewardship envelopes goes towards the support of the parish**: loose cash and money in plain envelopes are given to support the Parish Priest.

Contact the office to become part of the Stewardship program either by direct debit or a set of envelopes.

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.

Annunziata Festa—Next Sunday at Mount Evelyn

You are invited to come and join in the festivities starting with 10:30 mass followed by the procession, BBQ, food & drinks, Entertainment, Auction & Raffle, Jumping castle & Face painting

Prayer Service of Lament—4:00pm 15 September 2026

This Service, held in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral, is an occasion to humbly stand alongside those who have suffered abuse, and all who continue to carry its lasting effects.

March for the Babies 2026 - Saturday 10th October

Meet at 1pm at Treasury Gardens. Please wear pink and/or blue. Babies' lives depend on you! Vote pro-life. Book your free tickets at marchforthebabies.com (Note: no bus this year.)

Safeguarding Compliance for Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who have completed the process. Please check your SPAM folder for any emails from the parish. When you complete the training and sign the Code of Conduct please forward a copy of the certificate to the office.

Caritas Australia: Nepal Floods Appeal

Communities in northern Nepal are facing a humanitarian crisis after devastating flash floods swept through the Rasuwa District on 26 August. Over 1,000 people have lost their lives, many remain missing, and thousands of families have been affected. Homes, roads, bridges, schools and essential infrastructure have been destroyed, leaving vulnerable communities in urgent need of support.

Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to provide lifesaving assistance, including emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support for affected families.

Together, we can provide urgent relief and hope to families rebuilding their lives in Nepal. To donate to the Caritas Australia Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call **1800 024 413**.



Readings Reflection

[The Debt We Owe](#)

Mercy and forgiveness should be at the heart of the Christian life.

Yet, as today's First Reading wisely reminds us, often we cherish our wrath, nourish our anger, refuse mercy to those who have done us wrong. Jesus, too, strikes close to home in today's Gospel with His realistic portrayal of the wicked servant who won't forgive a fellow servant's debt, even though his own slate has just been wiped clean by their master.

It can't be this way in the kingdom, the Church. In the Old Testament, seven is frequently a number associated with mercy and the forgiveness of sins. The just man sins seven times daily; there is a sevenfold sprinkling of blood for atonement of sins (see Proverbs 24:6; Leviticus 16). But Jesus tells Peter today that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time.

We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful (see Luke 6:36; Matthew 5:48). But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're willing to forgive others their trespasses against us?

Because, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross (see Revelation 5:9). As we sing in today's Psalm, though we deserved to die for our sins, He doesn't deal with us according to our crimes. The mercy and forgiveness we show to others should be the heartfelt expression of our gratitude for the mercy and forgiveness shown to us.

This is why we should remember our last days, set our enmities aside, and stop judging others. We know that one day we will stand before the judgment seat and give account for what we've done with the new life given to us by Christ (see Romans 14:10, 12).

So we forgive each other from the heart, overlook each other's faults, and await the crown of His kindness and compassion.

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

FESTA ANNUNZIATA—FROM OPPIDO MAMERTINA TO MT EVELYN

Throughout Italy, towns and villages have their own patron saint, honoured each year with a special festa — often bringing together faith, tradition, food and the whole community.

In Oppido Mamertina, a small town in Calabria in Southern Italy, that special devotion is to Maria Santissima Annunziata — the Madonna Annunziata, Patroness of the town.

For generations, the people of Oppido have come together to honour the Madonna with Mass, a procession through the streets and, of course, food, family and celebration.

It's a tradition that has been passed down through generations — and eventually travelled all the way from Calabria to Mt Evelyn!

So how did a Festa from a small town in Calabria end up being celebrated here at St Mary's?

Like so many Italian traditions in Australia, the story begins with migration. In the years following the Second World War, many families from Oppido Mamertina (and surrounding towns) left Calabria in search of new opportunities and a new life in Australia.

Some eventually made their homes in Melbourne's outer east, including Mt Evelyn and the surrounding areas.

They may have left Oppido and other parts behind, but they brought with them something incredibly important — their faith, their traditions and their devotion to Maria Santissima Annunziata.

Whilst Australia was filled with many opportunities, there was always a feeling of nostalgia for these religious celebrations. Something was missing...and so, thousands of kilometres from Calabria, the Festa della Madonna Annunziata became part of the story of our community here at St Mary's, Mt Evelyn.

For many families, the Festa became more than a religious celebration. It was a way to stay connected, to bring families together and to pass a little piece of home on to the next generation.

And generations later, we are still carrying that tradition forward.

So what was involved in starting this festa here in Mt Evelyn? It wasn't easy, but that's a story for our next post at [Annunziata on Facebook](#)

