

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

6 September 2026

readings

Next Week

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30-28:7

Ps 102:1-4, 9-12

Rom 14:7-9

Mt 18:21-35

in a nutshell

I shall be there with them. Every Christian community experiences difficulties in one form or another. Misunderstandings occur, divisions arise. Today's Gospel reminds us that Christ is present in our communities even when they are broken, when only two or three meet in his name. Healing occurs when we seek to embody in our communities the qualities of Christ, especially forgiveness and mutual love.

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

WELCOME

ARCHBISHOP
PETER COMENSOLI

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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 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

Welcome Archbishop Comensoli to Sacred Heart Parish

A Prayer for Father's Day

Lord, we thank You for the gift of fathers.
May they feel appreciated, valued, and loved.
Fill their hearts with Your peace and joy.
Amen.

National Child Protection Week 6-12 September

Every conversation matters, Shifting Conversation to Action

National Child Protection Week is an important opportunity for us all to renew our commitment to creating safe, welcoming and respectful environments where every child and young person is valued, heard and protected.

Safeguarding is a shared responsibility and a shared mission, which at its core is central to Catholic teachings. It is reflected not only in our policies and procedures, but in the everyday actions of our parish. It is demonstrated in how we listen to children, respond to concerns, and ensure that their safety, wellbeing and inherent dignity remain at the heart of all we do. This Child Protection Week, we invite everyone across our Archdiocese to reflect on how we can each contribute to making our Church a safer place for children and young people, and work to centre their voice in the conversation.

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

We are of such value to God that he came to live among us ... and to guide us home. He will go to any length to seek us, even to being lifted high upon the Cross to draw us back to himself. We can only respond by loving God for his love. (St. Catherine of Siena)

Pope St. John Paul 11, who repeatedly stressed the importance of God's message of mercy, has exhorted us that, the Church of the new Advent must be the Church of the Eucharist and of Penance". (Redemptor Hominis)

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

"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..." - EZEKIEL 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

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—Sunday 20 September

Mark your calendars! Come and join in the festivities starting with 10:30 mass followed by a procession and BBQ. Buy a raffle ticket and yummy foods.

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.

Pro-life News

URGENT. Babies born alive after abortion. Open letter to the Prime Minister. Please read and sign.

<https://www.drjoannahowe.com.au/birthequality>

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

[To Win Them Back](#)

As Ezekiel is appointed watchman over the house of Israel in today's first Reading, so Jesus in the Gospel today establishes His disciples as guardians of the new Israel of God, the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

He also puts in place procedures for dealing with sin and breaches of the faith, building on rules of discipline prescribed by Moses for Israel (see Leviticus 19:17–20; Deuteronomy 19:13). The heads of the new Israel, however, receive extraordinary powers—similar to those given to Peter (see Matthew 16:19). They have the power to bind and loose, to forgive sins and to reconcile sinners in His name (see John 20:21–23).

But the powers He gives the Apostles and their successors depends on their communion with Him. As Ezekiel is only to teach what he hears God saying, the disciples are to gather in His name and to pray and seek the will of our heavenly Father.

But today's readings are more than a lesson in Church order. They also suggest how we're to deal with those who trespass against us, a theme that we'll hear in next week's readings as well.

Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them.

This is the love that Paul in today's Epistle says we owe to our neighbors. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back, to turn them from the false paths.

We should never correct out of anger or a desire to punish. Instead, our message must be that of today's Psalm—urging the sinner to hear God's voice, not to harden their hearts, and to remember that He is the one who made us, and the rock of our salvation.

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

Meditation on the Nativity of Mary

(The birthday of Mary is celebrated on Tuesday, 8 September)

BEFORE the birth of Mary the world was lost in the darkness of sin. Mary was born, and the morning arose: *"Nata Maria, surrexit auroro,"* says a holy Father. Already it had been said of Mary: "Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising?" As the earth rejoices when the day dawns, for the dawn is the precursor of the sun, so Mary at her birth gave joy to the whole world, for she was the precursor of the sun of justice, Jesus Christ, who being made her son, came to save us by his death; therefore the Church sings; "Thy nativity, oh virgin mother of God, announced joy to the whole world, for from thee the sun of justice has arisen, who has given us life eternal." Thus, when Mary was born, we received our remedy, our consolation, and our salvation; for through Mary we have received the Saviour.

This child being then destined for the mother of the eternal Word, God bestowed on her so much grace, that even from her immaculate conception her sanctity excelled the sanctity of all the saints and angels united, for she received a grace of a superior order, corresponding to the dignity of mother of God. Oh holy infant, oh full of grace, I, a miserable sinner, salute thee and adore thee. Thou art the beloved, the delight of God; have pity on me, who through my sins have been hateful and abominable in the eyes of God. Thou, oh most pure Virgin, hast so well known even from thy infancy how to gain the heart of God, that he denies thee nothing, and grants all that thou dost ask of him. In thee then I place my hopes. Recommend me to thy Son, and I shall be saved.

At the same time that Mary was destined to be the mother of our Redeemer, she was also destined to be the mediatrix between God and us sinners. Hence the Angelic Doctor, St. Thomas, says, that Mary received grace sufficient to save all men; and therefore St. Bernard calls Mary a channel so full that we can all partake of its fullness. Oh my queen, oh mediatrix of sinners, perform thy office and intercede for me! Let not my sins prevent me from confiding in thee, oh great mother of God; no, I trust in thee, and trust in thee so much, that if my salvation were in my own hands, yet I would place it all in thine. Oh Mary, receive me under thy protection, and this is enough for me.

From The Glories of Mary by St Alphonsus Liguori

490 To become the mother of the Saviour, Mary "was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role." The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as "full of grace." In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace.

491 Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.

492 The "splendour of an entirely unique holiness" by which Mary is "enriched from the first instant of her conception" comes wholly from Christ: she is "redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son." The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person "in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" and chose her "in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love."

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church