

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction & Warburton



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

24 September 2023

Readings

Next Week

Ezek 18:25-28

Ps 24:4-9

Phil 2:1-11

Mt 21:28-32

in a nutshell

My ways are above your ways. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterized by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Fida Rees, Margaret Moore, Pauline Bennett, Peter Nathan

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

of special note

St Mary's Annunziata Festa will be on 24 September following the 10:30am Mass.

Come and enjoy the festivities!

More information inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

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

Sunday Mass

Warburton: Saturday—4:30pm (EST)

7:00pm (EDST)

Yarra Junction: Sunday—8:30am

Weekday Mass

Wednesday—9:00am Yarra Junction

First Friday—11:30am Warburton

Reconciliation

Thursday 6:00pm-6:45pm

Thursdays at Yarra Junction

First Thursday at Warburton

Exposition

Thursday at 6:00pm

Thursdays at Yarra Junction

First Thursday at Warburton

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

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: moutevelyn@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
Mary Ryan
Enzo Torresan
Nino Troiani

Working With Children

There are a number of parishioners whose Working With Children Check has expired. Could you please check your cards and update if necessary.

Bulletin notices by 12:00 noon Thursday please

mountevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Parish Meetings: Wednesday, 25 October

Finance Committee	7:00pm
Parish Safeguarding	7:30pm
Parish Council	8:00pm

Parish Notices

Fr Michel's Holiday

Fr Michel will be taking a break in the weeks beginning 25 September and 2 October therefore all midweek services will be cancelled. Weekend masses will be as usual with Fr Michel celebrating.

Summer Timetable

Just a reminder that Daylight Saving starts at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday 1st October therefore vigil mass times change to the 'summer' timetable on Saturday October 7th.

Unexpected Maintenance Expenses—Donations needed!

Due to plumbing leaks and repairs needed to toilets we have a bill of \$5387.00. This is a major and unexpected expense to the Parish. Also needing repairs was the security lighting at Warburton at a cost of \$902.

If you can donate towards covering these expenses it would be appreciated. Contributions can be made via direct debit using the bank details listed below (use the reference 'repairs') or by cash/cheque in an envelope marked repairs. **Donations to date \$220**

Parish Sacramental Program

For Children, not attending the Parish School, wanting to receive the Sacraments, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation, instructions are available through our Parish. Contact the parish office or annevan.tilburg@gmail.com Contact Anne by mid-December for 2024 enrolments. Please note classes are held at St Mary's.

Adoration of the Eucharist

In 2019, a survey revealed that two-thirds of Catholics did not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. In America, the National Eucharistic Revival is presently underway to help restore a vibrant belief in the Real Presence. The revival will help Catholics understand the sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood more thoroughly, precisely so that they might fall in love with the Lord more completely. The greatest grace the Church can offer: reconciliation, the restoration of the divine friendship, the forgiveness of our sins in the wonderful Sacrament of Confession. (Bishop Robert Barron)

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Holy Eucharist: Yarra Junction, Thursday nights at 6:00pm except first Thursday (Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration. Friday mornings 8:00am Mount Evelyn

Stewardship Corner

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last". - Matthew 20:16
You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

Contributions can be made via the website, by direct debit to: Sacred Heart Church BSB 083-347 account number 670642723 Ref **THK and your surname** or call the office and arrange with Janine to get envelopes or set up regular direct debit/credit card payments.

Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. Donate at www.caritas.org.au

Pro-Life News

The annual March4The Babies (marchforthebabies.com) is on Saturday October 7 in the Melbourne CBD.

A bus for travelling to and from the event might be available, depending on interest. To express your interest, please see the form in the foyer, or contact James at jnolet@iinet.net.au

St Mary's Events—All Welcome

1. St Mary's Prayer Group

The Prayer Group meet every first Friday of the month in the church from 2-3 p.m. Come and join us! "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God" (St. John Damascene).

2. Annunziata Festa—24 September

The Festa will be held on 24th September beginning with 10:30 Mass followed by the procession. Stay and enjoy a BBQ lunch, festivities and buy a raffle ticket!

Something to make you smile! To put a spring in your step ...

Why should you start a gardening business?

To rake in the cash.

Which type of bow can't be tied?

A rainbow.

What falls but never gets hurt?

The spring rain.

Why did the gardener bury all her money?

To make her soil rich.

Why are trees very forgiving?

Because in Autumn, they 'Let It Go,' and in the spring, they 'turn over a new leaf.'

Readings Reflection

[First and Last](#)

The house of Israel is the vine of God, who planted and watered it, preparing the Israelites to bear fruits of righteousness (see Isaiah 5:7; 27:2–5).

Israel failed to yield good fruits and the Lord allowed His vineyard, Israel's kingdom, to be overrun by conquerors (see Psalm 80:9–20). But God promised that one day He would replant His vineyard and its shoots would blossom to the ends of the earth (see Amos 9:15; Hosea 14:5–10).

This is the biblical backdrop to Jesus' parable of salvation history in today's Gospel. The landowner is God. The vineyard is the kingdom. The workers hired at dawn are the Israelites, to whom He first offered His covenant. Those hired later in the day are the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, who, until the coming of Christ, were strangers to the covenants of promise (see Ephesians 2:11–13). In the Lord's great generosity, the same wages, the same blessings promised to the first-called, the Israelites, will be paid to those called last, the rest of the nations.

This provokes grumbling in today's parable. Doesn't the complaint of those first laborers sound like that of the older brother in Jesus' prodigal son parable (see Luke 15:29–30)? God's ways, however, are far from our ways, as we hear in today's First Reading. And today's readings should caution us against the temptation to resent God's lavish mercy.

Like the Gentiles, many will be allowed to enter the kingdom late—after having spent most of their days idling in sin.

But even these can call upon Him and find Him near, as we sing in today's Psalm. We should rejoice that God has compassion on all whom He has created. This should console us, too, especially if we have loved ones who remain far from the vineyard.

Our task is to continue laboring in His vineyard. As Paul says in today's Epistle, let us conduct ourselves worthily, struggling to bring all men and women to the praise of His name.

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

A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful

How can we form a good conscience?

I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward God and toward men. (Acts 24:16)

We have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. (2 Cor 4:2)

To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure; their very minds and consciences are corrupted. (1Ti 1:15)

Every person is morally obligated to form his or her own conscience and then to follow it. Forming a reliable and accurate conscience is a lifelong effort that includes education in the teaching and moral principles of the Church. It requires the sound use of reason and the fostering of interior virtue through faith and prayer.

While a person is obliged to follow the dictates of his or her conscience, a badly formed conscience can lead to error. An individual, therefore, must ensure that his or her conscience is well formed so its dictates will be good and true. It must be informed and enlightened in order to lead a person on the correct path rather than to guide him or her into making poor choices.

The conscience is properly formed by attuning it to the truth. In faith we seek the will of God; by reason we apply our faith to every given situation. We must learn not only the moral law taught by the Church but also its guiding principles. We are enlightened by the Word of God in Sacred Scripture, particularly in the Gospels, the Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Beatitudes. We also align our consciences to the will of God through humble prayer, contemplation of the Passion of Christ, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and through frequent and thorough examinations of conscience. We must always look to the authoritative teachings of the Church for guidance in making moral decisions.

With a well-formed and certain conscience, we experience freedom as we rise above the ambiguities surrounding many of today's moral questions, allowing us to see them as God perceives them rather than as the world perceives them. We also experience peace within our hearts, knowing that what our faith teaches us is the right path so that we can eschew all other options, which only lead to confusion and sin.

From the Didache Bible

1777 Moral conscience, present at the heart of the person, enjoins him at the appropriate moment to do good and to avoid evil. It also judges particular choices, approving those that are good and denouncing those that are evil. It bears witness to the authority of truth in reference to the supreme Good to which the human person is drawn, and it welcomes the commandments. When he listens to his conscience, the prudent man can hear God speaking.

1778 Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right. It is by the judgment of his conscience that man perceives and recognizes the prescriptions of the divine law...

1781 Conscience enables one to assume responsibility for the acts performed. If man commits evil, the just judgment of conscience can remain within him as the witness to the universal truth of the good, at the same time as the evil of his particular choice. The verdict of the judgment of conscience remains a pledge of hope and mercy. In attesting to the fault committed, it calls to mind the forgiveness that must be asked, the good that must still be practiced, and the virtue that must be constantly cultivated with the grace of God:

We shall ... reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. (1 Jn 3:19-20)

1783 Conscience must be informed and moral judgment enlightened. A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator. The education of conscience is indispensable for human beings who are subjected to negative influences and tempted by sin to prefer their own judgment and to reject authoritative teachings.

1784 The education of the conscience is a lifelong task. From the earliest years, it awakens the child to the knowledge and practice of the interior law recognized by conscience. Prudent education teaches virtue; it prevents or cures fear, selfishness and pride, resentment arising from guilt, and feelings of complacency, born of human weakness and faults. The education of the conscience guarantees freedom and engenders peace of heart.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church