

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

26 October 2025

readings

Next Week All Souls' Day

Isaiah 25:6-9
Ps 26: 1, 4, 7-9, 13-14
Rom 5: 5-11
Lk 7: 11-17

in a nutshell

The prayer of the sinner. Last Sunday's Gospel told of the determined struggle of a good person, a widow, for justice. Through this story Jesus teaches that God hears the persistent cries of the just. In today's Gospel it is a sinner who prays to God for mercy and, wonderfully, God hears the sinner's humble prayer also. The only prayer to which God cannot respond is that of the self-righteous who effectively says to God; 'I do not need you.'

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially Pauline Bennett, 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

Wednesday morning Mass will have the whole school attending and we'll celebrate All Saints.

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Psalm Response

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.
(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

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to 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/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
mountevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Meetings:

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

Wednesday Morning Mass

The whole school will be attending Mass on Wednesday to observe All Saints Day (Saturday 1 November)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

What is so important about worship? To worship is to order the whole of one's life toward the living God, and in doing so one becomes interiorly rightly ordered. Worship is not something that God needs, but it is very much what we need. (Bishop Robert Barron)

It cost Jesus so much to bring about our redemption. Contemplation of His agony makes one want to admit responsibility and to atone for one's sins. Respond to God's mercy and compassion in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Change every sin from being unforgiven to being eradicated. (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

"...for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 18:14

Pride and ego are the root causes of most of our sins. Thinking your time is so valuable or your talent is better than anyone else or your money gives you status is another way of making those things "gods" before God. Pride is the opposite of humility. Remember, all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. We should be humbled by God's incredible generosity and be grateful for all we have been given. Ultimately, gratitude leads us to humility.

Sacramental Program 2026

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 Sunday 1st March after 10:30 Mass for Confirmation and Tuesday 3rd March at 5pm for First Communion.

St Mary's Parish Prayer Group

Monday at 9:15 am and Fridays at 9:45 a.m. For more information please call Maria at 0409 793 001 or just come and discover peace in the presence of our Lord in the Eucharist!

Red November

Throughout November, Catholics in Melbourne and around the world are being called to remember and stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians. The 8:30 Mass on Sunday 23 November will be celebrated as a 'Red November' Mass.

Pastoral Letter on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

The State Government is seeking to amend Victoria's euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. If passed, the Government's Bill would further weaken protections for vulnerable patients and reduce protections for medical practitioners who conscientiously object to euthanasia and assisted suicide. Copies of the letter are available in the Foyer.

All Saints Day - Saturday 1 November

Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. at St Mary's. Confessions will follow.

Jubilee Year—Pilgrims of Hope

If you are unable to travel to Rome during the Jubilee Year, you are invited on a local journey of reconciliation and renewal by participating in the 2025 Jubilee at one or more of the many Pilgrim Places across the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, where plenary indulgences may be obtained as part of this very special time. A not too distant pilgrimage location, which offers various experiences for pilgrims this Jubilee Year, including Masses, Reconciliation and adoration. Visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/pilgrim-place-sacred-heart-croydon> for more information about Sacred Heart Croydon.

Lifeboat Foundation Need Unwanted Cars

For some years, the "Lifeboat Foundation" has been assisting victims of church-related sexual abuse with basic living costs, counselling, vehicle expenses – and just simply listening, believing and caring. The Foundation has been greatly assisted by donations of **unwanted cars** e.g. from deceased states, or people relinquishing licence etc., either to give to victims who need them, or selling them to raise funds. You could help this important work (a) by identifying people who might **donate an unwanted motor vehicle**, and (b) **identifying someone to assist** in the administration of Lifeboat's "Car Donation Project" e.g. speaking to potential donors of vehicles – it's not complicated nor over-demanding of time. If you can assist or would like more information about the "Lifeboat Foundation" and/or the "Car Donation Project", contact **Fr. Kevin Dillon** – frkdillon@outlook.com.au or **0421 777 360**.

This week's Joke!

The judge addressed Mr Hockey, who was in court on serious charges. "Mr Hockey you're charged with attacking your wife ... and with a hammer." Someone at the back of the courtroom yelled, "You rotten good for nothing." The judge said, "You're also charged with chasing your mother-in-law around your house with the same hammer." The voice in the back of the courtroom yelled again, "You disgusting wretch!" The judge stopped and said to the man shouting at the back of the courtroom. "Sir, I can understand your anger and frustration at these crimes, but no more outbursts from you, or I'll charge you with contempt. Is that understood?" The man stood up and said, "I'm terribly sorry, Your Honour, but for fifteen years I've lived next door to this lying ratbag, and every time I asked to borrow a hammer, he said he didn't have one."

Sourced from Majellan Media

Readings Reflection

No Favorites

Jesus draws a blunt picture in today's Gospel.

The Pharisee's prayer is almost a parody of the thanksgiving psalms (see for example Psalms 30, 118). Instead of praising God for His mighty works, the Pharisee congratulates himself for his own deeds, which he presents to God in some detail.

The tax collector stands at a distance, too ashamed even to raise his eyes to God (see Ezra 9:6). He prays with a humble and contrite heart (see Psalm 51:19). He knows that before God no one is righteous, no one has cause to boast (see Roman 3:10; 4:2).

We see in the Liturgy today one of Scripture's abiding themes: that God "knows no favorites," as today's First Reading tells us (see 2 Chronicles 19:7; Acts 10:34–35; Romans 2:11).

God cannot be bribed (see Deuteronomy 10:17). We cannot curry favor with Him or impress Him—even with our good deeds or our faithful observance of religious duties such as tithing and fasting.

If we try to exalt ourselves before the Lord, as the Pharisee does, we will be brought low (see Luke 1:52).

This should be a warning to us—not to take pride in our piety, not to slip into the self-righteousness of thinking that we're better than others, that we're "not like the rest of sinful humanity."

If we clothe ourselves with humility (see 1 Peter 5:5–6), if we recognize that all of us are sinners in need of His mercy, we will be exalted (see Proverbs 29:33).

The prayer of the lowly, the humble, pierces the clouds. Paul testifies to this in today's Epistle as He thanks the Lord for giving him strength during his imprisonment.

Paul tells us what the Psalmist sings today—that the Lord redeems the lives of His humble servants.

We too must serve Him willingly. And He will hear us in our distress, deliver us from evil, and bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](mailto:Dr.Scott.Hahn@stpaulcenter.com)
stpaulcenter.com

Those in Whom the Spirit Dwells are Divinized

What is justification?

It is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. (Rom 2:13)

We ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by men and hating one another; but when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. (Titus 3:3-7)

Now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from law, although the law and the prophets bear witness to it, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction; since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as an expiation by his blood, to be received by faith. (Rom 3:21-25)

Justification means the forgiveness of our sins, sanctification, and interior renewal through faith and the state of being on the path to eternal life — in other words, being in the state of grace.

Under the Old Law the People of God remained in God's favour as long as they kept the Law of Moses. Under the New Law of Love instituted by Christ, the Commandments are enriched and perfected; they are now understood not as the sole benchmark of righteousness but as the indispensable expression and response of true faith. Christ is the "end" of the Law; we are made righteous, or justified, by faith in Christ, who gives us grace through the Holy Spirit.

Justification cleanses us from sin and puts us in right order with God, i.e., in the state of grace. We are reconciled and no longer slaves to sin. We are justified first of all in Baptism and remain justified as long as we freely cooperate with God's grace. We do this by keeping the moral law and the laws of the Church. It requires continual interior conversion. Justification is lost by mortal sin but can be restored through the Sacrament of Penance.

From the Didache Bible

1987 The grace of the Holy Spirit has the power to justify us, that is, to cleanse us from our sins and to communicate to us "the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ" and through Baptism.

1988 Through the power of the Holy Spirit we take part in Christ's Passion by dying to sin, and in his Resurrection by being born to a new life; we are members of his Body which is the Church, branches grafted onto the vine which is himself:

[God] gave himself to us through his Spirit. By the participation of the Spirit, we become communicants in the divine nature.... For this reason, those in whom the Spirit dwells are divinized. (St. Athanasius)

1989 The first work of the grace of the Holy Spirit is conversion, effecting justification in accordance with Jesus' proclamation at the beginning of the Gospel: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Moved by grace, man turns toward God and away from sin, thus accepting forgiveness and righteousness from on high. "Justification is not only the remission of sins, but also the sanctification and renewal of the interior man." (Council of Trent (1547))

1990 Justification detaches man from sin which contradicts the love of God, and purifies his heart of sin. Justification follows upon God's merciful initiative of offering forgiveness. It reconciles man with God. It frees from the enslavement to sin, and it heals.

1991 Justification is at the same time the acceptance of God's righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ. Righteousness (or "justice") here means the rectitude of divine love. With justification, faith, hope, and charity are poured into our hearts, and obedience to the divine will is granted us.

1992 Justification has been merited for us by the Passion of Christ who offered himself on the cross as a living victim, holy and pleasing to God, and whose blood has become the instrument of atonement for the sins of all men. Justification is conferred in Baptism, the sacrament of faith. It conforms us to the righteousness of God, who makes us inwardly just by the power of his mercy. Its purpose is the glory of God and of Christ, and the gift of eternal life.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church