

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

21 September 2025

readings

Next Week 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 6:1, 4-7
Ps 145:6-10
1 Tim 6:11-16
Lk 16:19-31

in a nutshell

Slaves of God or Money? The Christian community must contribute to the welfare of the broader human society. We have a duty to pray for civil leaders and to act justly in our places of work. We must do what we can to ensure that the institutions of our society are devoted to the well-being of all citizens. If we ourselves are devoted to God and not to money, we will bring great riches to our society.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially Fr Pat Purcell, Margaret Marshall, Margaret Broderick, Fida Rees, and For those who have died recently and those whose anniversary occur at this time, especially June Reiner & Shirley Carter

of special note

Save the Date!
Annunziata Festa is Sunday
5 October
At St Mary's, Mount Evelyn

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.

Psalm Response

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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
mountevelyn@cam.org.au

Parish Meetings:

6:00 p.m. Wednesday 15 October

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

Donations for Flowers.

There is now a collection box in the narthex for donations towards purchasing flowers for the church each week. Thank you for your help.

Social Services Sunday: Anchors of Hope

Sunday 21 September 2025 marks Social Services Sunday in the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we give thanks for the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised in Victoria, reaching the lives of more than 300,000 people each year. We recognise and appreciate their commitment and compassion and reflect on our shared call to be anchors of hope in building a more just and equitable society.

Reflection question: How might we better support each other to support those doing it tough in our communities and society?

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

According to Pope Leo, the two new Italian saints, Saint Pier and Saint Carlo, cultivated their love for God and for their brothers and sisters through simple acts of daily Mass, prayer, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, and Eucharistic Adoration, which are available to every Catholic.

You do not want to make too much of your constant imperfections and venial sins, but you want to drag them out to the light of day as the first step in getting rid of them. The Sacrament of Reconciliation aims to support this practice and bring about God's abundant grace upon the penitent. (Dorothy Day)

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

"No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)." LUKE 16:13

Jesus knows that for many of us, God and money run "neck and neck" as top priority. Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from becoming a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

August Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Total income: \$1334

Total Expenditure: \$2319

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.

Annunziata Festa—Sunday 5 October (Mount Evelyn)

Beginning with 10:30am Mass followed by processional statue. Join us afterwards at the school hall for great food, music, huge jumping castle, raffles, auction and a wonderful social & fun afternoon together.

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!

Get on the BUS OF LIFE! – Saturday, 11th October

The annual March For The Babies (marchforthebabies.com) is approaching. A bus for travelling to and from the event will be available. Leaving St Patrick's Lilydale at 10:30 am with the march beginning at 1 pm from Treasury Gardens and leaving at 4:00 pm for the return journey

Contact James (0407 406 384, jnolet@iinet.net.au), or use the form in the narthex.

Donations: to James, or to St Patrick's Church Account, BSB 083 347 Account 63931 6508, reference: BUS

Jubilee Year—Pilgrims of Hope

Jubilee years happen every 25 years and are times of reconciliation and renewal. The theme of this Jubilee is 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. Pilgrim Places across the Archdiocese of Melbourne will offer extended hours, additional Masses, Reconciliation, and Adoration. Pilgrims will receive a commemorative postcard, monthly reflections, and a Pilgrim Passport (available for a small donation) to be stamped at each location. Local Pilgrim Places will welcome visitors from February 2025 to 6 January 2026. Besides the Cathedral as a Pilgrim Place, Sacred Heart Church, Croydon is the closest to us. 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.

This week's Joke!

A new recruit is invited to his first Aussie Rules football training session. He struts onto the oval full of confidence. The coach says, "Welcome Jack. Show us what you're made of. Can you find the chest of another player with the ball?" Jack smiles and says, "Coach, if I can pass a class at school, I can pass a football." The other players laugh but the coach continues, "Alright, can you mark the ball?" Jack nods proudly, "Coach, I've been catching rides from my friends my whole life. I can certainly catch a ball!" "Okay. Now what about tackling?" Jack quips, "Of course. I just tackled a 20-piece box of chicken nuggets last night." The coach sighs, "Okay, last question: do you know the rules of the game?" Jack pauses, scratches his head, and says, "Well, I know in soccer you don't touch the ball with your hands, so I'm guessing you can in football!" The coach turns to his assistant and says, "He might come in handy as one of the banner makers."

Readings Reflection

Prudent Stewards

The steward in today's Gospel confronts the reality that he can't go on living the way he has been. He is under judgment. He must give account for what he has done.

The exploiters of the poor in today's First Reading are also about to be pulled down, to be thrust from their stations (see Isaiah 22:19). Servants of mammon, or money, they're so in love with wealth that they reduce the poor to objects; they despise the new moons and sabbaths—the observances and holy days of God (see Leviticus 23:24; Exodus 20:8).

Their only hope is to follow the steward's path. He is no model of repentance. But he makes a prudent calculation—to use his last hours in charge of his master's property to show mercy to others, to relieve their debts.

He is a child of this world, driven by a purely selfish motive—to make friends and be welcomed into the homes of his master's debtors. Yet his prudence is commended as an example to us, the children of light (see 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Ephesians 5:8). We too must realize, as the steward does, that what we have is not honestly ours, but in truth belongs to another, our Master.

All the mammon in the world could not have paid the debt we owe our Master. So He paid it for us. He gave His life as a ransom for all, as we hear in today's Epistle.

God wants everyone to be saved, even kings and princes, even the lovers of money (see Luke 16:14). But we cannot serve two Masters. By His grace, we should choose to be, as we sing in today's Psalm, "servants of the Lord."

We serve Him by using what He has entrusted us with to give alms, to lift the lowly from the dust and dunghills of this world. By this we will gain what is ours and be welcomed into eternal dwellings, the many mansions of the Father's house (see John 14:2).

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

The vocation to holiness, that is, the perfection of charity

How can we “be perfect” as Christ demands of us?

[Jesus] opened his mouth and taught [the crowds], saying: “You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Mt 5:48)

Jesus said to [the young man], “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” (Mt 19:21)

Beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God. (2 Cor 7:1)

Although we will not become truly perfect until we enter Heaven, we can approach Christian perfection through steady growth in holiness and grace.

The call to Christian perfection is the call to holiness. *“All the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity”* (Lumen Gentium 40). The object of holiness is to become ever more perfectly united to Christ; as we grow in holiness, we necessarily become more like Christ, who is perfect because he is God. We cannot attain perfection on our own, but by our faith and actions we can dispose ourselves to grow in holiness so that the grace of the Holy Spirit can work within us. This union we seek is a mystical one because it comes to us through the Sacraments, the “holy mysteries.”

In order that the faithful may reach this perfection, they must follow in Christ’s footsteps and conform themselves to his image seeking the will of the Father in all things. They must devote themselves to his image seeking the will of the Father in all things. They must devote themselves with all their being to the glory of God and the service of their neighbour. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history.

We are aided in our growth toward holiness and Christian perfection by the practice of our faith, especially the frequent reception of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance and a life of prayer. It is the fruit of the spiritual struggle that we experience in our daily lives. It comes from self-denial and taking up our daily cross and bearing it virtuously in imitation of Christ. By following in the footsteps of the Saviour, we will find ourselves more closely living the Beatitudes, filled with peace and joy amid our suffering, with our eyes lifted in hope and focused upon our heavenly reward. Throughout our lives we ought to pray for final perseverance, a “good death” in the state of grace, that we will “finish well,” meaning that we remain faithful throughout our lives until we are called to eternal life.

From the Didache Bible

We come to a full sense of the dignity of the lay faithful if we consider the prime and fundamental vocation that the Father assigns to each of them in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit: the vocation to holiness, that is, the perfection of charity. Holiness is the greatest testimony of the dignity conferred on a disciple of Christ.

The Second Vatican Council has significantly spoken on the universal call to holiness. It is possible to say that this call to holiness is precisely the basic charge entrusted to all the sons and daughters of the Church by a Council which intended to bring a renewal of Christian life based on the gospel. This charge is not a simple moral exhortation, but an *undeniable requirement arising from the mystery of the Church: she is the choice vine*, whose branches live and grow with the same holy and life-giving energies that come from Christ; she is the Mystical Body, whose members share in the same life of holiness of the Head who is Christ; she is the Beloved Spouse of the Lord Jesus, who delivered himself up for her sanctification. The Spirit that sanctified the human nature of Jesus in Mary’s virginal womb is the same Spirit that is abiding and working in the Church to communicate to her the holiness of the Son of God made man.

It is ever more urgent that today all Christians take up again the way of gospel renewal, welcoming in a spirit of generosity the invitation expressed by the apostle Peter “to be holy in all conduct” (1 Pt 1:15). The 1985 Extraordinary Synod, twenty years after the Council, opportunely insisted on this urgency: “Since the Church in Christ is a mystery, she ought to be considered the sign and instrument of holiness ... Men and women saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult circumstances in the Church’s history. Today we have the greatest need of saints whom we must assiduously beg God to raise up”.

From Christifideles Laici 16, Pope St. John Paul II