

# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

## Mount Evelyn



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

### 13 February 2022

### readings

#### Next Week

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23  
Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
1 Cor 15:45-49  
Lk 6:27-38

#### in a nutshell

*Trust in a year of drought.* It is hard to imagine families on the land having no worries in a year of drought. They are fortunate if they are able to put their hope and trust in God in such a difficult time. Happy also are the poor, the hungry and the sorrowful if they turn to God in their plight. Today's Scripture readings call for an heroic trust in God, a trust that will bring great rewards in heaven and surprising rewards on earth as well.

#### we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially, Maureen O'Kane, Kaye Law, Bernie Reed.

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

#### of special note

Catholic Care Victoria Appeal collection will be taken up this weekend.

*More information inside*

### Raise Your Voices

#### Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

#### Psalm Response

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man  
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;  
nor lingers in the way of sinners  
nor sits in the company of scorners,  
but whose delight is the law of the Lord  
and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)

He is like a tree that is planted  
beside the flowing waters,  
that yields its fruit in due season  
and whose leaves shall never fade;  
and all that he does shall prosper. (R.)

Not so are the wicked, not so!  
For they like winnowed chaff  
shall be driven away by the wind.  
For the Lord guards the way of the just  
but the way of the wicked leads to doom. (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward is great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

#### Communion Antiphon

God so loved the world  
that he gave his Only Begotten Son,  
so that all who believe in him may not perish,  
but may have eternal life.

### The Parish of St Mary's

#### Parish Priest

REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

#### Parish Secretary

Janine Meades

#### Parish Office Hours

Thursday  
9:00am-4:00pm

#### Weekly Schedule

##### Sunday Mass

Saturday—5:00pm  
Sunday—10:30am & 5:00pm

##### Weekday Mass & Rosary

Tuesday—9:00am  
Thursday—9:00am  
Friday—9:00am  
*Rosary prayed before morning Mass*

##### Reconciliation

Saturday—11:30am-12:30pm  
Friday—8:10am-8:40am

##### Exposition

Friday at 8:00am

#### Weddings

*Please contact the office*

#### Baptisms

*Please see Father after Mass*

#### Parish Primary School

Principal: Angela Glennie

Website:

[smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au](http://smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au)

58 Clegg Rd, Mount Evelyn VIC 3796  
Tel: (03) 9736 2850

Website: <http://pol.org.au/mountevelyn>

Email: [moutevelyn@cam.org.au](mailto:moutevelyn@cam.org.au)

## Parish Notices

Child Safety is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.

### **Do you need a Helping Hand?**

Ring the St Vinnies Call Centre 1800 305 330  
Monday - Friday 10am to 3pm, St Mary's Conference 0427 874 374 or John Bird 0407 848 192

**Bulletin notices: by 12:00 noon Thursday please**

[moutevelyn@cam.org.au](mailto:moutevelyn@cam.org.au)

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:  
<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

### **Parish Meetings: Tuesday February 15**

<b>Finance Committee</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Parish Safeguarding</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>8:00pm</b>

### **CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal– This weekend**

This weekend is the Chaplaincy Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help the Chaplaincy programs to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

Your support and generosity will ensure that Catholic Chaplains can continue to be the messengers of God's mercy, love and compassion. Parishioners are encouraged to offer prayers and financial support to help provide continued spiritual and emotional comfort to individuals and families in Victoria facing loneliness, illness, pain, grief and death. You can donate using the envelopes available or online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.

### **Adoration of the Eucharist**

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

Our Lord did not want to remain on earth only through His grace, His truth or His words; He remains in person. We possess the same Lord Jesus Christ who lived in Judea, although under a different form of life. He has put on a sacramental garment, but he does not cease being Jesus, the Son of God and the Son of Mary. (St. Peter Julian Eymard – Apostle of the Eucharist)

### **Stewardship Corner**

"Blessed are you when people hate you,...exclude and insult you, and denounce your name...on account of the Son of Man." (LUKE 6:22)

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time; the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

### **January Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report**

Weekly pledge amount: \$864.31

Average weekly given: \$705.60

Total income January: \$3529

Total Expenditure January: \$4931

### **Thanksgiving/Stewardship - Support for your Parish.**

As you would understand income from both the stewardship and presbytery donations suffered during the last two years causing a significant decrease in income for both the church and the presbytery. The Parish appreciates the ongoing support by those parishioners who are formally engaged in the Stewardship Program either using the envelopes or via direct debit. It's not too late to decide to become a regular contributor to the finances of the Parish. Please notify the office if you would like to be part of the Stewardship.

### **Sacramental Program Registration 2022**

If you have a child that is ready to make Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation this year you will need to attend the registration night on February 16 at 6pm.

### **Parish Family Group**

A few families have expressed an interest in forming a parish family group to foster friendships and to support each other in growing our family's faith. If you have a young family and are interested in hearing more, please join us for an initial meeting after Mass on Sunday 13th March. BYO lunch

### **Volunteer Opportunity Assisting Refugee Students**

**Mercy Connect Melbourne** – Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement.

Email: [somml@bigpond.com](mailto:somml@bigpond.com) (preferred for contact )

Website: [www.mercyworks.org.au](http://www.mercyworks.org.au)

Mercy Connect Melbourne Tel: 9326 1895

### **World Day of Prayer - Friday 4th March**

Sacred Heart Warburton is hosting this year's World Day of Prayer with the theme "I know the plans I have for you" and have invited the other Churches in the area to join us at 10:00am (Note change of time). We would be delighted if parishioners came along and joined, with people including in the host countries England, Wales & Northern Ireland, in the World Day of Prayer.

<https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org/wdp2022/>

### **Something to make you Smile!**

A man went to the doctor and said his wife was losing her hearing.

"How bad is it?" the doctor asked.

"I've no idea," replied the husband.

The doctor suggested this little test. "Say something to her from a few paces away, and if she doesn't hear you, then move closer and say the same thing until she does. That way we'll have some idea of her range of hearing loss."

The man went home and found his wife in the kitchen cutting up vegetables.

From a few paces away he asked: "What's for dinner?" No answer.

He moved closer and asked the same thing. Finally, he stood right behind her and asked: "What's for dinner?"

She turned and looked at him and said: "For the third time, beef stew!"

## **Readings Reflection**

### [Rich in Poverty](#)

The blessings and woes we hear in today's Gospel mark the perfection of all the wisdom of the Old Testament.

That wisdom is summed up with marvelous symmetry in today's First Reading and Psalm: Each declares that the righteous—those who hope in the Lord and delight in His Law—will prosper like a tree planted near living waters. The wicked, who put their "trust in human beings," are cursed to wither and die.

Jesus is saying the same thing in the Gospel. The rich and poor are, for Him, more than members of literal economic classes. Their material state symbolizes their spiritual state.

The rich are "the insolent" of today's Psalm, boasting of their self-sufficiency, the strength of their flesh, as Jeremiah says in the First Reading. The poor are the humble, who put all their hope and trust in the Lord.

We've already seen today's dramatic imagery of reversal in Mary's Magnificat. There, too, the rich are cast down while the hungry are filled and the lowly exalted (see Luke 1:45–55, also 16:19–31).

That's the upside-down world of the Gospel: in poverty, we gain spiritual treasure unimaginable; in suffering and even dying "on account of the Son of Man," we find everlasting life.

The promises of the Old Testament were promises of power and prosperity—in the here and now. The promise of the New Covenant is joy and true freedom even amid the misery and toil of this life.

But not only that. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we're to be pitied if our hope is "for this life only."

The blessings of God mean that we'll laugh with the thanksgiving of captives released from exile (see Psalm 126:1–2), feast at the heavenly table of the Lord (see Psalm 107:3–9), "leap for joy" as John the Baptist leapt in his mother's womb (see Luke 6:23; 1:41, 44), and rise with Christ, "the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)  
[stpaulcenter.com](http://stpaulcenter.com)

## The Path of Life or Death

There are many ways to live, many paths through this world. But ultimately there are only two. “The way of Christ ‘leads to life’; a contrary way ‘leads to destruction’ [Mt 7:13; cf. Deut 30:15–20]. The Gospel parable of the two ways ... shows the importance of moral decisions for our salvation: ‘There are two ways, the one of life, the other of death; but between the two, there is a great difference’ (Didache 1.1)”.

This antithesis, this dualism, this either-or, life-or-death vision is not familiar to the modern secular mind. But it is familiar to all other cultures. The most common image for life in all the world’s literature is the “road” of life. Roads fork, and at each fork the traveler must make a choice. Thus the need for morality.

Christ, Church, and Scripture teach this; so do natural reason, conscience and experience. It is moral realism. In the real world, choices have real consequences: you cannot get from Chicago to the Pacific by walking east, however sincerely you try. Subjective sincerity is not enough. We must not only choose in the right spirit, but we must also choose the right thing.

Moses summarizes all God’s moral demands in the two words “choose life” (Deut 30:19); for moral choice is ultimately a matter of life or death, for each individual and each civilization. If our civilization is becoming a “culture of death”, as Pope John Paul II has dared to call it, we must call it back to the path to life, both human and divine. But we must first find and walk that path ourselves.

On this road to life, the Ten Commandments (Ex 20:1–17) summarize a kind of minimum, or what is necessary, and the Beatitudes (Mt 5:1–11) summarize a kind of maximum, or what is sufficient. The Beatitudes describe beatitude (the perfection of charity and supreme happiness). Beatitude is supernatural in three ways: it is beyond human nature, beyond human reason, and beyond human power.

“Beatitude makes us ‘partakers of the divine nature’ and of eternal life [2 Pet 1:4; cf. Jn 17:3]. With beatitude, man enters into the glory of Christ [cf. Rom 8:18] and into the joy of the Trinitarian life”. “Such beatitude surpasses the understanding and powers of man. It comes from an entirely free gift of God: whence it is called supernatural”.

This supernatural end gives Catholic morality a greater hope and a greater joy than any other. True morality is a prescription for joy—in heaven and also on the way (for “all the way to heaven is heaven”, says St. Thérèse). The Church will not canonize a saint without evidence of heroic, supernatural joy in his life as well as heroic virtue. It is secular, godless morality that is joyless and dull; Catholic morality is something more full of joy than The Joy of Sex. It could rightly be titled The Joy of Love.

*From Dr. Peter Kreeft, Catholic Christianity*

**1691** “Christian, recognize your dignity and, now that you share in God’s own nature, do not return to your former base condition by sinning. Remember who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Never forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of the Kingdom of God.” (St Leo the Great)

**1693** Christ Jesus always did what was pleasing to the Father, and always lived in perfect communion with him. Likewise Christ’s disciples are invited to live in the sight of the Father “who sees in secret,” in order to become “perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

**1694** Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with him, Christians can strive to be “imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love” by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the “mind ... which is yours in Christ Jesus,” and by following his example.

**1695** “Justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God,” “sanctified ... [and] called to be saints,” Christians have become the temple of the Holy Spirit. This “Spirit of the Son” teaches them to pray to the Father and, having become their life, prompts them to act so as to bear “the fruit of the Spirit” by charity in action. Healing the wounds of sin, the Holy Spirit renews us interiorly through a spiritual transformation. He enlightens and strengthens us to live as “children of light” through “all that is good and right and true.”

**1696** The way of Christ “leads to life”; a contrary way “leads to destruction.” The Gospel parable of the two ways remains ever present in the catechesis of the Church; it shows the importance of moral decisions for our salvation: “There are two ways, the one of life, the other of death; but between the two, there is a great difference.” (Didache 1.1)

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church*