

# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

20 February 2022

### readings

#### Next Week

Sirach 27; 4-7  
Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16  
1 Cor 15: 54-58  
Lk 6:39-45

#### in a nutshell

*Love your enemies.* The words of Jesus we hear in today's Gospel are very challenging: 'love your enemies, do good to those who persecute you, freely part with your possessions and money, do not judge, forgive.' In brief, we are asked to imitate unconditional compassion and love of God. The challenge is great but so is the reward. The more we give to others, the more richly we are blessed.

#### 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

Lenten resources available for your family.

*More information inside*

### Raise Your Voices

#### Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

#### Responsorial Psalm

(R) The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment;  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

#### Communion Antiphon

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,  
the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.

### 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: [mountevelyn@cam.org.au](mailto:mountevelyn@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.

### Child Safety

Remember children should be accompanied by an adult to the toilets.

### 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**

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

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

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

### Parish Meetings: Tuesday March 15

**Finance Committee** 7:00pm

**Parish Safeguarding** 7:30pm

**Parish Council** 8:00pm

### First Communicant

This week at the Saturday night Mass, Ashlyn Keech will be making her First Communion. Remember Ashlyn and her family in your prayers.

### Car Parking –Weekend Masses

In the interests of safety please park in the official carparks rather than on the grassy areas around the picnic tables. Keep this area for people to gather and chat after mass. It has come to our attention that a child was almost hit by a reversing car.

### Ash Wednesday, 2 March

Masses will be:

Mount Evelyn, 11:00am & 7:30pm

Yarra Junction, 9:00am, Warburton, 6:00pm

### Personal Lenten Preparation

There are a number of ways to prepare during Lent for the Easter Season. Here are some options to consider.

- ◆ The Parish has available the Lenten Program— 'Remember' published by the Wollongong Diocese. It contains short daily reflections and longer-form Sunday reflections, questions and prayer. Please take a copy for your family. (1 per family) More resources are available on their website: <https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/lenten-program/>
- ◆ Register for the FREE Lenten streaming series, led by Scott Hahn, featuring faith-inspiring talks on Confession, prayer, the Eucharist, and knowing the Gospel. Watch for free beginning Ash Wednesday, March 2. Get to the roots of our faith this Lent—sign up now! Go to <https://stpaulcenter.com> or [click here](#)

### CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal Thank you!

Last weekend, we conducted the annual Chaplaincy Appeal in our parish. The presence of Catholic chaplains is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. Thank you to those who have supported this Appeal.

If you still wish to donate or if you would like to have more information about the Chaplaincy Services, please visit [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.

**Parish Donations: \$189.60**

### 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.

How wonderful and strange that Christianity is not a set of ideas, not a philosophy and not an ideology. It's a relationship with Someone who has a voice. The first disciples were privileged to hear the voice of Jesus. They heard its very particular tone and texture. But we hear his voice, too in our own way, especially when we hear the Scriptures proclaimed at Mass. We listen to the voice of Jesus because he is leading us to a renewed and transformed life with God. (Bishop Robert Barron)

### 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

### Stewardship Corner

*"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back..." (LUKE 6:35)*

Easier said than done, right? But, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Praying for our enemies doesn't change them, it changes us. Mercy and compassion will keep us on the path to holiness.

### 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.

### 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!

Who was the most astute financial adviser in the Old Testament?

Noah. He floated all his assets when everything else went into liquidation.

Courtesy of Father Michael Grace and Majellan Media

## Readings Reflection

### [Davids and Sauls](#)

The story of David and Saul in today's First Reading functions almost like a parable. Showing mercy to his deadly foe, David gives a concrete example of what Jesus expects to become a way of life for His disciples.

The new law Jesus gives in today's Gospel would have us all become "Davids"—loving our enemies, doing good to those who would harm us, extending a line of credit to those who won't ever repay us.

The Old Law required only that the Israelites love their fellow countrymen (see Leviticus 19:18). The new law Jesus brings makes us kin to every man and woman (see also Luke 10:29–36). His kingdom isn't one of tribe or nationality. It's a family. As followers of Jesus, we're to live as He lived among us—as "children of the Most High" (see Luke 6:35; 1:35).

As sons and daughters, we want to walk in the ways of our heavenly Father, to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Grateful for His mercy, we're called to forgive others their trespasses because God has forgiven ours.

In the context of today's liturgy, we're all "Sauls"—by our sinfulness and pride we make ourselves enemies of God. But we've been spared a death we surely deserved to die because God has loved and shown mercy to His enemies, "the ungrateful and the wicked," as Jesus says.

Jesus showed us this love in His Passion, forgiving His enemies as they stripped Him of cloak and tunic, cursed Him and struck Him on the cheek, condemned Him to death on a cross (see Luke 22:63–65; 23:34). "He redeems your life from destruction," David reminds us in today's Psalm.

That's the promise, too, of today's Epistle: that we who believe in the "last Adam," Jesus, will rise from the dead in His image, as today we bear the image of the "first Adam," who by his sin made God an enemy and brought death into the world (see 1 Corinthians 15:21–22).

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

# The New Law of Love

*How does the New Law in Christ differ from the Old Law of Moses?*

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them.” (Mt 5:17)

[Christ] is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred which redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant. (Heb 9:15)

The Old Law prepared for the New Law, which in turn perfects the Old Law.

After the Fall of Adam and Eve, God unfolded his plan of redemption gradually. An early part of this Revelation was the Old Law, the moral and liturgical precepts given to Moses and the Israelites. The Old Law is aptly summarised in the Ten Commandments, which encourage dispositions that guide humanity to live according to this love and proscribe behaviours that contravene love for God and neighbour. In this way, the Ten Commandments and the Old Law served to illuminate the consciences of humankind.

In this way the Old Law prepared the way for the coming of Christ and the establishment of the New Law embodied in the Gospel message of Christ. The images and prophecies within the Old Law prefigure elements in the New Law; where the Old Law underscored the dangers of sin and its consequences, the New Law freed us from the burden of sin by showing us the way of forgiveness, love, grace, and salvation. Where once God’s people were motivated more by fear of punishment under the Law of Moses, they could live now with their eyes on eternal happiness in the Kingdom of Heaven under the Law of Christ.

The New Law perfects the Old Law. It completes the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament and fulfils its Commandments by revealing the very root of all its moral prescriptions - the Law of Love - and seeking to convert the human heart by teaching the human person to seek perfection according to the example of Christ. All that the Old Law had done in preparation is now directed toward the ultimate goal of the Kingdom of Heaven. Without negating the Old Law in any way, the New Law summarised its moral prescriptions in a single New Commandment: that we love one another as Christ loves us.

Not only is the New Law a Law of Love but also it is a Law of Grace because of the divine gifts available to us through faith and the Sacraments of the Church; it is also a Law of Freedom because we can fulfil the letter and spirit of Divine Law by acting always out of Christian love in keeping with our identity as adopted sons and daughters of God.

*From the Didache Bible*

**1950** The moral law is the work of divine Wisdom. Its biblical meaning can be defined as fatherly instruction, God’s pedagogy. It prescribes for man the ways, the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude; it proscribes the ways of evil which turn him away from God and his love. It is at once firm in its precepts and, in its promises, worthy of love.

**1952** There are different expressions of the moral law, all of them interrelated: eternal law—the source, in God, of all law; natural law; revealed law, comprising the Old Law and the New Law, or Law of the Gospel; finally, civil and ecclesiastical laws.

**1953** The moral law finds its fullness and its unity in Christ. Jesus Christ is in person the way of perfection. He is the end of the law, for only he teaches and bestows the justice of God: “For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified” (Rom 10:4)

**1965** The New Law or the Law of the Gospel is the perfection here on earth of the divine law, natural and revealed. It is the work of Christ and is expressed particularly in the Sermon on the Mount. It is also the work of the Holy Spirit and through him it becomes the interior law of charity: “I will establish a New Covenant with the house of Israel.... I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Heb 8:8, 10; cf Jer 31.31-34)

**1966** The New Law is the *grace of the Holy Spirit* given to the faithful through faith in Christ. It works through charity; it uses the Sermon on the Mount to teach us what must be done and makes use of the sacraments to give us the grace to do it:

*If anyone should meditate with devotion and perspicacity on the sermon our Lord gave on the mount, as we read in the Gospel of Saint Matthew, he will doubtless find there ... the perfect way of the Christian life.... This sermon contains ... all the precepts needed to shape one’s life.* (St Augustine)

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church*