Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 January 2022

readings

Next Week

Is 6:1-8 Ps 137:1-5, 7-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11

in a nutshell

The rejection of Jesus. At the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, some people of his hometown try unsuccessfully to do away with him. Later, other people will try to destroy him on the cross. Again their efforts fail when he rises from the dead. The forces of evil continue to oppose the Body of Christ, but we can be sure that nothing can ever destroy the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus.

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 especially Faye Grant, and those whose anniversary occur at this time.

of special note

The baptism program Godstart is in need of volunteers. Can you help?

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Psalm Response (R.) I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me. (R.)

Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked. (R.)

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from my mother's womb you have been my help. (R.)

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

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

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

<u>Weekday Mass & Rosary</u> 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: <u>smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au</u>

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

mountevelyn@cam.org.au

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

Parish	Meetings:	Tuesday	/ February	/ 15
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- Finance Committee 7:00pm
- Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm
- Parish Council 8:00pm

Parish Notices

Fay Grant's Funeral, 3 Feb at 10:30am

Fay Grant passed away Friday, 14 January at Holmwood Aged Care Facility in Healesville.. Her funeral will be at St Mary's at 10:30am on Thursday, 3 February.

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.

Through adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the gospel. Anyone who prays to the Saviour draws the whole world with him and raises it to God. (Pope St. John Paul II)

Stewardship Corner

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous..." (1 CORINTHIANS 13:4)

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Humility helps us become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered" for the sake of others.

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.

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: <u>somml@bigpond.com</u> (preferred for contact) Website: www.mercyworks.org.au Mercy Connect Melbourne Tel: 9326 1895

Covid Safe Environment

It is expected that Covid regulations are followed by each person therefore make sure you are signed in (preferably using QR code), sanitize, maintain socially distancing, and follow Covid guidelines as directed by the CHO.

World Day of Peace 2022—Part 3

The first of January each year is the World Day of Peace. On this day, the Pope delivers a message to the World. Pope Francis' Message on the 55th World Day of Peace can be found here: https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20211208-messaggio55giornatamondiale-pace2022.html

It focuses on dialogue between generations, teaching and education, and work as tools for building a sustainable peace.

Labour: the foundation of justice and solidarity

For Pope Francis, "the workplace enables us to learn to make our contribution towards a more habitable and beautiful world" (n 4). Labour, the third path of peace, is a way of expressing ourselves, our interests, our gifts, our commitment, and cooperation with others. It provides for us and our families, it is a necessity in our lives. Yet only one third of the world's workers benefit from a system of social protection while others, due to the pandemic, economic exploitation, or their social situation, especially migrant workers - are in conditions akin to slavery or forced into organised crime. Pope Francis believes, "The only answer to this is an expansion of dignified employment opportunities ...'work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfilment'. We need to combine our ideas and efforts in order to create the solutions and conditions that can provide everyone of working age with the opportunity, through their work, to contribute to the lives of their families and of society as a whole" (n 4).

Be artisans of peace

Finally, Pope Francis entreats politicians, people in business, social enterprises, and companies to respect the human rights of all who work for them or are affected by their practices. He says they have a key role in building peace. He also says that all of us have a role to play and thanks those who already work in the fields of care, education, human rights, medical care, social and familial care, and support for those would have lost their jobs. Pope Francis believes all of us can strive to be "artisans of peace".

Pope Francis finishes by saying:

To government leaders and to all those

charged with political and social responsibilities,

to priests and pastoral workers,

and to all men and women of good will, I make this appeal: let us walk together with courage and creativity on the path of intergenerational dialogue, education, and work. May more and more men and women strive daily, with quiet humility and courage, to be artisans of peace. And may they be ever inspired and accompanied by the blessings of the God of peace! (n 4).

Something to make you Smile!

Macca and his wife were sitting in the living room when he said to her, "Just so you know, I never want to live like a vegetable, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife got up, unplugged the TV and threw out all of his beer!

Readings Reflection

Prophet to the Nations

Jesus was consecrated in the womb and sent as a "prophet to the nations" (see Luke 1:31–33).

Like the prophets before Him, Jesus too faces hostility. In today's Gospel, the crowd in His hometown synagogue quickly turns on Him, apparently demanding a sign, some proof of divine origins—that He's more than just "the son of Joseph."

The sign He gives them is that of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. From their colorful careers Jesus draws two stories. In each, the prophets bypass "many . . . in Israel" to bestow God's blessings on non-Israelites who had faith that the prophets were men of God (see 1 Kings 17:1–16; 2 Kings 5:1–14). "None . . . not one" in Israel was found deserving, Jesus emphasizes.

His point isn't lost on His audience. They know He's likening them to the "many . . . in Israel" in the days of the prophets. That's why they try to shove Him off the cliff. As He promised to protect Jeremiah, the Lord delivers Jesus from those who would crush Him.

And as were Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is sent to proclaim God's gift of salvation—not exclusively to one nation or people, but to all who realize in faith that from the womb God alone is their hope, their rescuer, their "rock of refuge," as we sing in today's Psalm.

Prophecies, Paul tells us in today's Epistle, are partial and pass away "when the perfect comes." In Jesus, the word of the prophets has been brought to perfection, fulfilled in those who have ears to hear, as He declares in today's Gospel.

Greater than the gifts of faith and hope, Jesus shows us how to love as He loved—to love God as our Father, as the one who formed us in the womb and destined us to hear His saving Word.

This is the salvation, the "mighty works of the Lord," that we, like the psalmist, are thankful to proclaim daily in the Eucharist

Dr. Scott Hahn stpaulcenter.com

Love & Truth: two names of God

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's Gospel—taken from chapter four of St Luke—is the continuation of last Sunday's Gospel. Once again we find ourselves in the Synagogue of Nazareth, the village where Jesus grew up, where every knew him and his family. Then, after a period of absence, he returned there in a new way: during the Sabbath liturgy he read a prophecy on the Messiah by Isaiah and announced its fulfilment, making it clear that this word referred to him, that Isaiah had spoken about him. The event puzzled the Nazarenes: on the one hand they "all spoke well of him and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth" (Lk 4:22).

St Mark reported what many were saying: "Where did this man get all this? What is the wisdom given to him?" (6:2). On the other hand, however, his fellow villagers knew him too well: "He is one like us", they say, "His claim can only be a presumption (cf. The Infancy Narratives, English edition, p. 3). "Is not this Joseph's son?" (Lk 4:22), as if to say "what can a carpenter from Nazareth aspire to?".

Well-acquainted with this imperviousness which confirms the proverb: "no prophet is acceptable in his own country", to the people in the synagogue Jesus addressed words that resonate like a provocation. He cited two miracles wrought by the great prophets Elijah and Elisha for men who were not Israelites in order to demonstrate that faith is sometimes stronger outside Israel. At this point there was a unanimous reaction. All the people got to their feet and drove him away; and they even tried to push him off a precipice. However, passing through the midst of the angry mob with supreme calmness he went away. At this point it comes naturally to wonder: why ever did Jesus want to stir up this antagonism? At the outset the people admired him and he might perhaps have been able to obtain a certain consensus.... But this is exactly the point: Jesus did not come to seek the agreement of men and women but rather—as he was to say to Pilate in the end—"to bear witness to the truth" (Jn 18:37). The true prophet does not obey others as he does God, and puts himself at the service of the truth, ready to pay in person. It is true that Jesus was a prophet of love, but love has a truth of its own. Indeed, love and truth are two names of the same reality, two names of God.

In today's liturgy these words of St Paul also ring out: "Love is not ... boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right" (1 Cor 13:4–6). Believing in God means giving up our own prejudices and accepting the actual face in which he revealed himself: Jesus of Nazareth the man. And this process also leads to recognizing him and to serving him in others.

On this path Mary's attitude is enlightening. Who could be more closely acquainted than her with the humanity of Jesus? Yet she was never shocked by him as were his fellow Nazarenes. She cherished this mystery in her heart and was always and ever better able to accept it on the journey of faith, even to the night of the Cross and the full brilliance of the Resurrection. May Mary also always help us to continue faithfully and joyfully on this journey.

Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus, 3 February 2013