

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Third Sunday of Lent (Year C)

20 March 2022

readings

Next Week

Joshua 5:9-12
Ps 33:2-7
2 Cor 5:17-21
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

in a nutshell

Unless you repent. When misfortune strikes people considered to be sinners, others might say: 'They had it coming! God is punishing them.' In today's Gospel Jesus criticises this attitude on two grounds. Firstly, it is wrong to see the wrath of God in every tragic event. Secondly, we need to recognise that we are all guilty of sin and in need of conversion. Instead of judging others, let us ask God to forgive our sins and help us as we undertake the difficult task of reform.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend, especially, Charlotte-Mae, Maureen O'Kane, Kaye Law, Bernie Reed.
For those who have died recently, especially and those whose anniversary occur at this time.

of special note

We are praying the Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent.

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

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

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

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

Email: 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.

Child Safety

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

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.

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

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

Parish Meetings: Tuesday May

Finance Committee 7:00pm

Parish Safeguarding 7:30pm

Parish Council 8:00pm

New Tabernacle

Thanks to the generosity of the Ripepi & Molluso families, the parish was able to buy a new tabernacle. It will be installed on Sunday 3rd April at 10:30 Mass with a BBQ to follow. Save the date.

St Vincent De Paul Mt Evelyn Conference

Do you have an hour or two in the morning or afternoon, in the week free? Have you thought about joining 'Vinnies' in Mt Evelyn?

We're looking for people who are fit and able to help our volunteers take food to people. Training of course would be given. If you're interested or would like more information email Alan Somers at: asom9346@bigpond.net.au or phone 0419 134 300 or John Bird 0407 848 192 We're desperate for more helpers. We will make you feel welcome and you'd become part of our Vinnies family!

Working Bee

Come and do your bit towards the upkeep of our Parish grounds. Friday March 25, 4pm—6pm and/or Saturday March 26, 9am-12pm.

Stations of the Cross During Lent

We are praying the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent. Please come and pray this traditional devotion following the path of our Lord to Calvary. Jesus said to St Faustina: There is more merit to one hour of meditation on My sorrowful Passion than there is to a whole year of flagellation that draws blood; the contemplation of My painful wounds is of great profit to you, and it brings Me great joy. Mount Evelyn: 7:30pm, Yarra Junction: 6:00pm

Project Compassion—Third Sunday of Lent

Janice 44, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, living in a remote community in the Northern Territory. As elders grow older and pass away, she knows she must share her knowledge with the younger generation. However, the community faces multiple challenges, including a lack of jobs, limited educational opportunities, and socio-economic which can lead to young people becoming disconnected from culture.

With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

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.

Eucharistic adoration is a great action to cultivate a personal relationship with the Lord. To adore is to share the life of Mary on earth when she adored the Word incarnate in her virginal womb, when she adored Him in the crib, on Calvary and in the divine Eucharist. (St. Peter Julian Eymard. Apostle of the Eucharist)

Tap and Go

Donations given using Tap and Go are considered the same as cash in the basket or “Presbytery Offering” through envelopes therefore contributes to the support of the Parish Priest. A percentage of the Presbytery collection is also required to be sent quarterly to support the Archdiocese. The machine is located in front of the kitchen window.

Stewardship Corner

“...He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” (LUKE 13:7)

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts, and return them with increase. Remember, we are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

February Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Weekly pledge amount:: \$834.31

Average weekly given: \$761

Total income: \$3045

Total Expenditure: \$4822

Thanksgiving/Stewardship - Support for your Parish.

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.**

Something to Make you Smile

It's Saint Patrick's Day and Paddy and Murphy are working on a building site.

Paddy says to Murphy, “I want to take the afternoon off to celebrate St Pat's Day, so I'm gonna' pretend I've gone mad!” So Paddy climbs up the rafters, hangs upside down, and shouts “I'm a light bulb, I'm a light bulb!” while Murphy watches in amazement.

The foreman shouts, “For God's sake Paddy, go home. You've gone mad.”

As Paddy leaves the site with a huge smile on his face, Murphy starts packing his kit up to leave as well.

“Where do you think you're going?” asks the foreman.

“Well, I can't work in the bloomin' dark!” said Murphy.

Appeals Commended by the Archdiocese

Flood Appeal— Society of St Vincent De Paul

https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/Flood_appeal/

Caritas Australia—Ukraine Emergency Appeal

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>

Readings Reflection

[Fruits of the Fig](#)

In the Church, we are made children of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God who makes known His name and His ways to Moses in today's First Reading.

Mindful of His covenant with Abraham (see Exodus 2:24), God came down to rescue His people from the slave drivers of Egypt. Faithful to that same covenant (see Luke 1:54–55, 72–73), He sent Jesus to redeem all lives from destruction, as today's Psalm tells us.

Paul says in today's Epistle that God's saving deeds in the Exodus were written down for the Church, intended as a prelude and foreshadowing of our own Baptism by water, our liberation from sin, our feeding with spiritual food and drink.

Yet the events of the Exodus were also given as a “warning”—that being children of Abraham is no guarantee that we will reach the promised land of our salvation.

At any moment, Jesus warns in today's Gospel, we could perish, not as God's punishment for being “greater sinners” but because, like the Israelites in the wilderness, we stumble into evil desires, fall into grumbling, forget all His benefits.

Jesus calls us today to “repentance”—not a one-time change of heart, but an ongoing, daily transformation of our lives. We're called to live the life we sing about in today's Psalm, blessing His holy name, giving thanks for His kindness and mercy.

The fig tree in His parable is a familiar Old Testament symbol for Israel (see Jeremiah 8:3; 24:1–10). As the fig tree is given one last season to produce fruit before it is cut down, so too Jesus is giving Israel one final opportunity to bear good fruits as evidence of its repentance (see Luke 3:8).

Lent should be for us like the season of reprieve given to the fig tree, a grace period in which we let “the gardener,” Christ, cultivate our hearts, uprooting what chokes the divine life in us, strengthening us to bear fruits that will last into eternity.

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)
stpaulcenter.com

Saying the Rosary is saying “I love You, I love You, I love you.”

From the earliest days, the Church asked its faithful to recite the one hundred and fifty Psalms of David. This custom still prevails among priests, who recite some of these Psalms every day. But it was not easy for anyone to memorize the one hundred and fifty Psalms. Then, too, before the invention of printing, it was difficult to procure a book. That is why certain important books like the Bible had to be chained like telephone books; otherwise people would have run off with them. Incidentally, this gave rise to the stupid lie that the Church would not allow anyone to read the Bible, because it was chained. The fact is, it was chained so people could read it. The telephone book is chained, too, but it is more consulted than any book in modern civilization!

The people who could not read the one hundred and fifty Psalms wanted to do something to make up for it. So they substituted one hundred and fifty Hail Marys. They broke up these one hundred and fifty, in the manner of the [Eastern] Acathist, into fifteen decades, or series of ten. Each part was to be said while meditating on a different aspect of the Life of Our Lord. To keep the decades separate, each one of them began with the Our Father and ended with the Doxology of Praise to the Trinity. St. Dominic, who died in 1221, received from the Blessed Mother the command to preach and to popularize this devotion for the good of souls, for conquest over evil, and for the prosperity of Holy Mother Church and thus gave us the Rosary in its present classical form.

Practically all the prayers of the Rosary, as well as the details of the Life of Our Saviour on which one meditates while saying it, are to be found in the Scriptures. The first part of the Hail Mary is nothing but the words of the Angel to Mary; the next part, the words of Elizabeth to Mary on the occasion of her visit. The only exception is the last part of the Hail Mary, namely, “Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.” This was not introduced until the latter part of the Middle Ages. Since it seizes upon the two decisive moments of life: “Now, and at the hour of our death,” it suggests the spontaneous outcry of people in a great calamity. The Black Death, which ravaged all Europe and wiped out one-third of its population, prompted the faithful to cry out to the Mother of Our Lord to protect them, at a time when the present moment and death were almost one.

In keeping with the spirit of adding something to this prayer when evil is intensified, I find it interesting that, when the Blessed Mother appeared at Fatima in 1917 because of the great decline in morals and the advent of godlessness, she asked that, after the “Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,” we add, “O my Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of Hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need of Thy mercy.”

It is objected that there is much repetition in the Rosary because the Lord’s Prayer and the Hail Mary are said so often; therefore it is monotonous. That reminds me of a woman who came to see me one evening after instructions. She said, “I would never become a Catholic. You say the same words in the Rosary over and over again, and anyone who repeats the same words is never sincere. I would never believe anyone who repeated his words, and neither would God.” I asked her who the man was with her. She said he was her fiancé. I asked: “Does he love you?” “Certainly, he does.” “But how do you know?” “He told me.” “What did he say?” “He said: ‘I love you.’” “When did he tell you last?” “About an hour ago.” “Did he tell you before?” “Yes, last night.” “What did he say?” “‘I love you.’” “But never before?” “He tells me every night.” I said: “Do not believe him. He is repeating; he is not sincere.”

The beautiful truth is that there is no repetition in, “I love you.” Because there is a new moment of time, another point in space, the words do not mean the same as they did at another time or space. A mother says to her son: “You are a good boy.” She may have said it ten thousand times before, but each time it means something different; the whole personality goes out to it anew, as a new historical circumstance summons forth a new outburst of affection. Love is never monotonous in the uniformity of its expression. The mind is infinitely variable in its language, but the heart is not. The heart of a man, in the face of the woman he loves, is too poor to translate the infinity of his affection into a different word. So the heart takes one expression, “I love you,” and in saying it over and over again, it never repeats. It is the only real news in the universe.

That is what we do when we say the Rosary, we are saying to God, the Trinity, to the Incarnate Saviour, to the Blessed Mother: “I love You, I love You, I love you.” Each time it means something different because, at each decade, our mind is moving to a new demonstration of the Saviour’s love: for example, from the mystery of His Love which willed to become one of us in His Incarnation, to the other mystery of love when He suffered for us, and on to the other mystery of His Love where He intercedes for us before the Heavenly Father. And who shall forget that Our Lord Himself in the moment of His greatest agony repeated, three times within an hour, the same prayer?

All the idle moments of one’s life can be sanctified, thanks to the Rosary. As we walk the streets, we pray with the Rosary hidden in our hand or in our pocket; driving an automobile, the little knobs under most steering wheels can serve as counters for the decades. While waiting to be served at a lunchroom, or waiting for a train, or in a store; or while playing dummy at bridge; or when conversation or a lecture lags — all these moments can be sanctified and made to serve inner peace, thanks to a prayer that enables one to pray at all times and under all circumstances. If you wish to convert anyone to the fullness of the knowledge of Our Lord and of His Mystical Body, then teach him the Rosary. One of two things will happen. Either he will stop saying the Rosary — or he will get the gift of faith.

Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, from the book The World’s First Love