# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn

readings

Next Week

in a nutshell

*Bearing witness to the truth.* With the wooden cross for a throne, at the

place where thieves were crucified,

the king of the Jews meted out a

judgement to a common thief: 'this

day you will be with me in paradise'.

This king can still be found among

criminals and outcasts of our society, in the worst parts of our cities and

towns. Worshipping him in the least

of our brothers and sisters, we too

will experience his compassionate

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and

those parishioners unable to be

among us this weekend: Dorothy Heering, Maureen O'Kane, Helen

For those who have died recently,

especially Mary Nolet and those

whose anniversary occurs at this

of special note

New Advent daily devotional series

More Information Inside!

ls 2:1-5

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

Rom 13:11-14

Mt 24:37-44

judgement.

O'Kane.

time



# Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year C)

20 November 2022

# **Raise Your Voices**

#### Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. (R.)

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

#### **Communion Antiphon**

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

# 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—6:30pm (EST) 5:00pm (EDST) 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: <u>smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au</u>

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

## **Child Safety**

# **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.

Remember children should be accompanied by an adult family member to the toilet.

#### **Safeguarding Committee**

Fr Michel Janine Meades Alan Somers Karen Somers Sue Van der Linden Karla Zmegac

#### 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.

#### **Car Parking – WEEKDAY Masses**

Please use available car parks for Mass rather than the front of the church. Please Leave the front for the truly disabled.

#### 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 Alan Somers 0419 134 300

Bulletin notices: by 12:00 noon Thursday please: <u>mountevelyn@cam.org.au</u>

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

#### Parish Meetings: Tuesday, 22 November

Finance Committee	7:00pm
Parish Safeguarding	7:30pm
Parish Council	8:00pm

#### **Regular Gardening/Working Bee**

You are invited to put some time aside between 4-6pm to assist with maintaining the gardens etc. at one of our regular working bees. BYO PPE, gloves, tools/equipment etc. <u>Next one:</u> November 18

#### **Funeral Notice**

The Funeral for Mary Nolet will be held on Thursday 24 November at 12:00.

#### Lifting of General Dispensation

This week, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli released a pastoral letter to the Church in Melbourne called 'Welcome Home'. Reflecting on the sadness of being unable to gather physically in our communities during the pandemic, he pointed us towards Jesus Christ, 'the Word who became flesh' and who 'left for us his sacramental presence'. This bodily reality at the centre of our communities draws us in and binds us together. In light of this, the Archbishop announced that the time has come for us to return home. As of the 1st Sunday of Advent, 27 November 2022, the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations will be lifted. A link to the full letter can be found on the website under Parish News.

#### **First Eucharist**

Children of our Parish are making their First Holy Communion during Parish Masses this weekend. We pray for them and their families.

#### Parish BBQ/sausage sizzles Sunday 20 November after 10:30 Mass

We welcome all parishioners to plan to stay and chat with fellow parishioners, perhaps meet someone new over a simple meal.

#### **Car Parking – WEEKDAY Masses**

Please use available car parks for Mass rather than the front of the church. Please Leave the front for the truly disabled.

#### **November Masses**

Names of deceased loved ones can be written in the Prayer Book which will be placed on the Sanctuary for the month of November. Names can be added throughout the month. Masses throughout November will be offered for the repose of their souls. Envelopes are available to make an offering.

#### Sunday Morning Cuppa!

Stay after 10:30 Mass, have a cuppa and a chat to fellow parishioners.

#### The Saint Vincent de Paul

The Piety Stall now has in stock the 2023 Columban Art Calendar which includes beautiful artwork, liturgical information and feast days at \$10.00 each. Also in stock Christmas Cards in packs of 8 at \$4.80 or packs of 5 for \$3.00 each.

Time to Plant Tomatoes! St Vincent de Paul are again selling tomato plants at \$3 each. There are 8 varieties. To order please contact Alan on 97355436 or e-mail asom9346@bigpond.net.au

#### Stewardship Corner

"....giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light." Colossians 1:12

God wants us to be happy! Instead of looking at the Ten Commandments as being restrictive and telling us what we can't do, look at them as guides for living a joy-filled and peaceful life. Most of our problems arise when we put our own needs first or we spend most of our time trying to acquire more stuff. Instead, try putting God first in all things. We were made for God. Open your heart and let Him in!

Consider contributing to assist in the upkeep of the Parish through a stewardship pledge. Contact the office to become part of this either by direct debit or envelopes.

The Tap and Go machine can be used to make donations to the presbytery rather than using cash.

#### Adoration of the Eucharist

Adoration: Why did Jesus not limit His Eucharistic Presence to the solemn moments of Holy Mass? Why does He remain also during the nights? Jesus loves with a love that knows no measure and does not shrink from excess. (Jose Guadalupe Trevino) Confession: When a potter is making a vessel and it breaks, he shapes it again; but once he places it in the oven, it is beyond repair. Now the clay is an image of ourselves. We must wholeheartedly repent of sins committed and make it possible for the Lord to save us while there is time. When we have left this world, we shall no longer be able to repent and confess our sins. (A sermon of the second century)

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.

#### Election Guide - Bishops of Victoria

The Bishops of Victoria have written to the Catholic community in Victoria to provide an election guide designed to help Catholics consider and navigate key issues of significance, particularly those related to the common good. You are invited to read the guide and to prayerfully discern how your vote can contribute to the common good. The guide can be found at: www.melbournecatholic.org/stateelection2022.

#### Advent 2022 – Preparing for Christmas

"You don't become who you hope to become, you only become what you do!" You are invited to Prepare for Christmas this Advent (starting November 27th) with a new Daily Devotional series. Each day, you will receive a short inspirational video from Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, full of inspiration, real-life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: https://BruceDownes.org/Advent or Email: info@brucedownes.org

#### **Red Wednesday**

This is an initiative of the papal charity, *Aid to the Church in Need* dedicated to providing material and spiritual support to the persecuted Church. Two-thirds of the world's population live in countries where there are serious violations of religious freedom. We hear more stories of people bearing witness to their faith in horrific circumstances. Many of those families have found refuge and a new home in our city and surrounds. For further information: <u>www.aidtochurch.org/RedWednesday</u>

All are welcome to St Patrick's Cathedral for a Prayer Vigil with Exposition: RED WEDNESDAY PRAYER VIGIL 7.30pm, Wednesday 23 November 2022 at St. Patrick's Cathedral

#### Something to Make You Smile

Little Emily came home from religious education class one Sunday morning and proudly announced that she had learned the Lord's Prayer. But she had a question.

"Mummy," she asked sweetly, "if we get our daily bread from God, why do we need bakeries?"

In the same RE class the sacrament of Reconciliation was being discussed.

The teacher asked the class, "So, what must we do before our sins can be forgiven?"

Peter sitting at the back of the room proudly shouted, "That's easy. First we have to sin."

# **Readings Reflection**

#### Kingdom of the Son

Week by week, the Liturgy has been preparing us for the revelation to be made on this, the last Sunday of the Church year.

Jesus, we have been shown, is truly the Chosen One, the Messiah of God, the King of the Jews. Ironically, in today's Gospel we hear these names on the lips of those who don't believe in Him—Israel's rulers, the soldiers, a criminal dying alongside Him.

They can only see the scandal of a bloodied figure nailed to a cross. They scorn Him in words and gestures foretold in Israel's Scriptures (see Psalm 22:7–9; 69:21– 22; Wisdom 2:18–20). If He is truly King, God will rescue Him, they taunt. But He did not come to save Himself, but to save them—and us.

The good thief shows us how we are to accept the salvation He offers us. He confesses his sins and acknowledges he deserves to die for them. And he calls on the name of Jesus, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

By his faith he is saved. Jesus "remembers" him—as God has always remembered His people, visiting them with His saving deeds, numbering them among His chosen heirs (see Psalm 106:4–5).

By the blood of His cross, Jesus reveals His Kingship—not in saving His own life, but in offering it as a ransom for ours. He transfers us to "the kingdom of His beloved Son," as today's Epistle tells us.

His kingdom is the Church, the new Jerusalem and House of David that we sing of in today's Psalm.

By their covenant with David in today's First Reading, Israel's tribes are made one "bone and flesh" with their king. By the New Covenant made in His blood, Christ becomes one flesh with the people of His kingdom—the head of His body, the Church (see Ephesians 5:23–32).

We celebrate and renew this covenant in every Eucharist, giving thanks for our redemption, hoping for the day when we too will be with Him in Paradise.

# The Cross is the Paradoxical Sign of His Kingship

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we are celebrating the Solemnity of Christ the King, a Feast established relatively recently but which has deep biblical and theological roots. The title "King", designating Jesus, is very important in the Gospels and makes possible a complete interpretation of the figure of Jesus and of his mission of salvation. In this regard a progression can be noted: it starts with the expression "King of Israel" and extends to that of universal King, Lord of the cosmos and of history, thus exceeding by far the expectations of the Jewish people. It is yet again the mystery of Jesus Christ's death and Resurrection that lies at the heart of this process of the revelation of his kingship. When Jesus is hung on the Cross, the priests, scribes and elders mock him saying: "He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him" (Mt 27:42). In fact, it is precisely as the Son of God that Jesus freely gives himself up to his Passion. The Cross is the paradoxical sign of his kingship, which consists in the loving will of God the Father in response to the disobedience of sin. It is in the very offering of himself in the sacrifice of expiation that Jesus becomes King of the universe, as he himself was to declare when he appeared to the Apostles after the Resurrection: "All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Mt 28:18).

But in what does this "power" of Jesus Christ the King consist? It is not the power of the kings or the great people of this world; it is the divine power to give eternal life, to liberate from evil, to defeat the dominion of death. It is the power of Love that can draw good from evil, that can melt a hardened heart, bring peace amid the harshest conflict and kindle hope in the thickest darkness. This Kingdom of Grace is never imposed and always respects our freedom. Christ came "to bear witness to the truth" (Jn 18:37), as he declared to Pilate: whoever accepts his witness serves beneath his "banner", according to the image dear to St Ignatius of Loyola. Every conscience, therefore, must make a choice. Who do I want to follow? God or the Evil One? The truth or falsehood? Choosing Christ does not guarantee success according to the world's criteria but assures the peace and joy that he alone can give us. This is demonstrated, in every epoch, by the experience of numerous men and women who, in Christ's name, in the name of truth and justice, were able to oppose the enticements of earthly powers with their different masks, to the point that they sealed their fidelity with martyrdom.

Dear brothers and sisters, when the Angel Gabriel brought the announcement to Mary, he predicted that her Son would inherit the throne of David and reign forever (cf. Lk 1:32–33). And even before she gave him to the world, the Blessed Virgin believed. Thus she must certainly have wondered what new kind of kingship Jesus' would be; she came to understand by listening to his words, and especially by closely participating in the mystery of his death on the Cross and in his Resurrection. Let us ask Mary to help us too to follow Jesus, our King, as she did, and to bear witness to him with our entire existence.

Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus, 22 November 2009