

# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

12 February 2023

### readings

#### Next Week

Lev 18:1-2, 17-18  
Ps 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
1 Cor 3:16-23  
Mt 5:38-48

### in a nutshell

*Follow God's Law.* The vast wisdom of God is revealed in the law God has given to us, a law designed to lead us to the fullness of life and happiness. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that law is not only about external behaviour. Our inner attitudes are also important. It is within, from the attitudes of our hearts, that good or evil actions flow.

### we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Dorothy Heering,  
For those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

### of special note

Parish BBQ next week after the 10:30am Mass!

*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.

#### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!

They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.

May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.

Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

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—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:

[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)

## Child Safety

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: [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 7

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

## Parish Notices

### St. Mary's Alpha Youth Group—Starting 10 February

Join us for fun, food and faith. Inviting all high school aged youth from 13-18yrs. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore life, faith and meaning in a relaxed and fun environment. The first Alpha will be held on Friday 10th February from 6:00pm - 8:00pm in the portable. Dinner will be provided. Any questions message Zelig on 0491 758 074 or Karla 0427 884 837 For more information see [alpha.org.au](http://alpha.org.au)

### Ash Wednesday Masses—22 February

Mount Evelyn, 11:40am (Whole School Mass) & 7:30pm  
Yarra Junction, 9:00am (Whole School Mass), Warburton, 6:00pm

### Sacramental Program 2023

If you have a child/ren, not attending the Parish School, and wish for them to do any of the sacraments, now is the time to contact the parish office so they can begin their preparation.

### Regular Gardening/Working Bee

Do you have a love of gardening, working outside? The parish needs your expertise and enthusiasm to maintain our grounds. You are invited to put some time aside between 4-6pm on the first and/or third Fridays of the month at one of our regular working bees. BYO PPE, gloves, tools/equipment etc. Next one: February 17

### Morning Cuppa—Sunday

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

### Memorial Wall

Some may not know that a Memorial Wall exists between the church and the presbytery. You may want to consider interring the ashes of your beloved one there. Close to the church and God. Contact the office for more information.

### Stewardship Corner

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 5:20  
The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern day Pharisee.

### Thanksgiving/stewardship

Not part of the Stewardship program? Considered contributing to assist in the upkeep of the Parish through a formal stewardship pledge? Contact the office to become part of this either by direct debit or envelopes. **Only money in envelopes goes towards the support of the parish**, loose cash supports the Parish Priest. The Tap and Go machine is treated as loose cash.

### Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

#### December

Total income: \$3094.27      Total Expenditure: \$9329.49  
Shortfall: -\$6235

#### January

Total income: \$3474.20      Total Expenditure: \$4747.75  
Shortfall: -\$1273.55

### Upcoming Parish BBQ/sausage sizzles Sunday 19 February

Building community through engagement! We welcome all parishioners to stay and chat with fellow parishioners after 10:30 Mass. Come to our “shrove Sunday” BBQ. Lent begins the following Wednesday.

### Holy is His Name: FREE video streaming Bible Study

Streaming FREE this Lent, a new bible study by Dr Scott Hahn.

In 1 Peter 1:16, we’re reminded of our call to holiness. *You shall be holy, for I am holy.* But what is holiness? Join us in this new Bible study as Scott Hahn traces the meaning of holiness from its origins in Scripture to its appearance in our own lives today. Together, let’s experience the transformative power of God’s holiness. In twelve beautifully produced lessons, this study explores the Scriptural encounters with the Divine – the burning bush, the ark of the covenant, the burning coal, and more! As our fear and trembling turns to awe and wonder, you’ll come to a new appreciation of our sharing in the divine life.

Register: [stpaulcenter.com/holystudy](http://stpaulcenter.com/holystudy)

### Adoration of the Eucharist

The Lord is present in the tabernacle in his divinity and in his humanity. He is not present for his own sake but for ours: it is his delight to be with the children of men. He knows, that being what we are, we need his personal nearness. In consequence, the Church has instituted Eucharistic Adoration. Members of the faithful can spend time adoring the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. (St. Edith Stein)

Confession is an act of honesty and courage—an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God. (Pope St. John Paul II)

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.

### Pastoral Care Appeal 2023—February 11/12

This weekend is the Pastoral Care 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, illness, pain, loneliness, 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.

### Something to Make You Smile

A cowboy called Geoff appeared before St Peter at the Pearly Gates. “Have you ever done anything of particular merit?” St Peter asked. “Well, I can think of one thing,” said the cowboy. “On a trip to the Black Hills I came upon a gang of bikies who were threatening a young woman. I told them to leave her alone but they wouldn’t listen ... I then approached the largest and most tattooed bokie and smacked him in the face, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring and threw it on the ground. I yelled, ‘Now back off or I’ll kick all of you!’” St Peter was very impressed. “When did this happen?” “Couple of minutes ago.”

## Readings Reflection

### [Affair of the Heart](#)

Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week that He has come not to abolish but to “fulfill” the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets.

His Gospel reveals the deeper meaning and purpose of the Ten Commandments and the moral Law of the Old Testament. But His Gospel also transcends the Law. He demands a morality far greater than that accomplished by the most pious of Jews, the scribes and Pharisees.

Outward observance of the Law is not enough. It is not enough that we do not murder, commit adultery, divorce, or lie.

The law of the New Covenant is a law that God writes on the heart (see Jeremiah 31:31–34). The heart is the seat of our motivations, the place from which our words and actions proceed (see Matthew 6:21; 15:18–20).

Jesus this week calls us to train our hearts, to master our passions and emotions. And Jesus demands the full obedience of our hearts (see Romans 6:17). He calls us to love God with all our hearts and to do His will from the heart (see Matthew 22:37; Ephesians 6:6).

God never demands more than what we are capable of doing. That is the message of this week’s First Reading. It is up to us to choose life over death, to choose the waters of eternal life over the fires of ungodliness and sin.

By His life, death, and Resurrection, Jesus has shown us that it is possible to keep His commandments. In Baptism, He has given us His Spirit, that His Law might be fulfilled in us (Romans 8:4).

The wisdom of the Gospel surpasses all the wisdom of this age that is passing away, St. Paul tells us in the Epistle. The revelation of this wisdom fulfills God’s plan from before all ages. Let us trust in this wisdom and live by His kingdom law.

As we do in this week’s Psalm, let us pray that we grow in being better able to live His Gospel and to seek the Father with all our heart.

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

## The Spirit Is the Source of Holiness

The Second Vatican Council stressed the close relationship which exists in the Church between the gift of the Holy Spirit and the faithful's call and aspiration to holiness: *"Christ, the Son of God, who with the Father and the Spirit is praised as 'uniquely holy,' loved the Church as his bride, delivering himself up for her. He did this that he might sanctify her. He united her to himself as his own body and brought it to perfection by the gift of the Holy Spirit for God's glory. Therefore in the Church everyone ... is called to holiness.... This holiness of the Church is unceasingly manifested, and must be manifested, in the fruits of grace which the Spirit produces in the faithful; it is expressed in many ways in individuals, who in their walk of life, tend toward the perfection of charity, thus causing the edification others ..."* (Lumen Gentium 39). Being the source of holiness is another basic aspect of the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

As seen in the conciliar text just cited, the holiness of the Church begins in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who became man by the work of the Holy Spirit and was born of the most holy Virgin Mary. The holiness of Jesus in his conception and birth by the power of the Holy Spirit is in deep communion with the holiness of her whom God chose as his mother. As the Council again notes, *"It is no wonder therefore that the usage prevailed among the Fathers whereby they called the Mother of God entirely holy and free from all stain of sin, as though fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature"* (LG 56). Hers is the first and the highest realization of holiness in the Church, through the power of the Holy Spirit who is the Holy One and the Sanctifier. Mary's holiness is entirely directed toward the supreme holiness of the humanity of Christ, whom the Holy Spirit consecrated and filled with grace from the start of his earthly life until its glorious conclusion when Jesus revealed himself as the "established Son of God in power according to the spirit of holiness through the resurrection of the dead" (Rom 1:4).

On the day of Pentecost this ecclesial holiness shone forth not only in Mary but also in the apostles and in the disciples who with her "were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4). From that time until the end of time, that holiness, the fullness of which is always Christ from whom we receive all grace is bestowed on all those who open themselves to the power of the Holy Spirit through the apostles' teaching, as the Apostle Peter said in his Pentecost discourse: "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

That day was the beginning of the history of Christian holiness to which both the Israelites and the pagans are called. As St. Paul writes, both can "have access through Christ in one Spirit to the Father" (Eph 2:18). All are called to become, according to the text already referred to in the previous catechesis, "fellow citizens with the holy ones and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord ... to become God's dwelling place in the Spirit" (Eph 2:19–22). This concept of the temple is dear to the Apostle, who asks in another passage: "Are you not aware that you are God's temple and that the Holy Spirit dwells in you?" (1 Cor 3:16). And in another place: "Your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor 6:19).

It is clear that in the context of the Letters to the Corinthians and to the Ephesians the temple is not just an architectural space. It is the representative image of holiness which is brought about by the Holy Spirit in people alive in Christ and united to the Church. And the Church is the "place" for this holiness.

The Apostle Peter too in his first letter uses the same vocabulary and gives us the same teaching. Speaking to the "faithful dispersed" (among the pagans), he reminds them that they have been "chosen in the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification by the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling with the blood of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 1:1–2). By strength of this sanctification in the Holy Spirit all are "like living stones built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 2:5).

This is a significant special link which the Apostle drew between sanctification and the offering of "spiritual sacrifices," which is really a sharing in the very sacrifice of Christ and in his priesthood. It is one of the basic themes of the Letter to the Hebrews. But also in the Letter to the Romans the Apostle Paul speaks of the "oblation acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit"; people (pagans) become that offering through the Gospel (cf. Rom 15:16). And in the Second Letter to the Thessalonians he urges readers to give thanks to God because "he has chosen you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in truth" (cf. 2 Thess 2:13). All these are signs of the first Christians' common awareness of the action of the Holy Spirit as the author of holiness within themselves and in the Church. They knew that the Spirit which had been granted to them made them temples of God.

*Pope St. John Paul II, Wednesday Audience, 12 December 1990*