

# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



## First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

26 February 2023

### readings

#### Next Week

Gen 12:1-4  
Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22  
2 Tim 1:8-10  
Mt 17:1-9

### in a nutshell

*A time of preparation.* The forty days spent by Jesus in the wilderness can be likened to the season of Lent. Jesus' time in the wilderness was a time of preparation for his ministry, a time in which he confronted the temptation to choose self and not the Father. For us Lent is a time of preparation for the feast of Easter. It is a time in which we are invited to examine whether the will of God is central to our lives.

### 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

We pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent.  
Come and join us!

*More Information Inside!*

### Raise Your Voices

#### Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.

#### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth  
of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

#### Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the  
mouth of God.

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

[moutevelyn@cam.org.au](mailto:moutevelyn@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

### Parish council report

- Front porch – almost completed.
- Gardening group – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday 4 - 6pm. Looking for new volunteers.
- Alpha youth group – every second Friday night 6 – 8 pm.
- BBQ went well, planning more. Hoping to welcome school families as well as parishioners.
- Painting – hoping to paint side chapels to match the rest of the church. Quote is too expensive, will need to wait for additional funds.
- Thanksgiving – giving is down significantly and Parish is running at a loss each week. Suggestions welcome for improving the situation.

### 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.

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

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

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

### Project Compassion –First Week of Lent

After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Boxes and envelopes are available.

### 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—March 3

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.

### Morning Tea after 10.30am Sunday Mass

If you would like to help serve morning tea, please put your name down on the roster in the kitchen. If you are unable to serve but would like to contribute, donations of packaged biscuits would be appreciated. Contact Rachael 0437123802

### Morning tea after 9:00am Mass Tuesday March 1

### Godstart Girls

The Godstart Girls write birthday cards for the children who have been baptised in our Parish. It's a wonderful way to not only keep families connected to our Church but also to remind children that they are precious sons and daughters of God. We meet on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm, all teenage girls are welcome to join us. Contact Rachael 0437123802

### Save the Date

Karla and Andrew Zmegac will be reaffirming their marriage vows for their 25th Anniversary on Saturday March 11 at the 5:00pm Mass. You are welcome to attend.

## World Youth Day 2023

Find out more at [udisciple.melbournecatholic.org/wyd](http://udisciple.melbournecatholic.org/wyd)

### Stewardship Corner

“It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.’” Matthew 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the centre of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other “gods” we have put before God.

### Adoration of the Eucharist

The importance of Eucharist Adoration is shown in the fact that the Church has a ritual that regulates it: the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. This is an extension of the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which occurs in every Mass, and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.

Adoration: Friday morning 8:00am. Yarra Junction Thursday 6:00pm (first Thursday Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration.

### Lenten Requirements

On all Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

**(a) Prayer** - e.g. Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary;

**(b) Self-Denial** - e.g. not eating meat, sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.

**(c) Helping Others** - e.g., special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.

- All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252).
- The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During this season the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.
- Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 22 February 2023 and Trinity Sunday, 4 June 2023 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.
- The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

## Readings Reflection

### Tale of Two Adams

In today's Liturgy, the destiny of the human race is told as the tale of two “types” of men—the first man, Adam, and the new Adam, Jesus (see 1 Corinthians 15:21–22; 45–59).

Paul's argument in the Epistle is built on a series of contrasts between “one” or “one person” and “the many” or “all.” By one person's disobedience, sin and condemnation entered the world, and death came to reign over all. By the obedience of another one, grace abounded, all were justified, and life came to reign for all.

This is the drama that unfolds in today's First Reading and Gospel.

Formed from the clay of the ground and filled with the breath of God's own Spirit, Adam was a son of God (see Luke 3:38), created in His image (see Genesis 5:1–3). Crowned with glory, he was given dominion over the world and the protection of His angels (see Psalms 8:6–8; 91:11–13). He was made to worship God—to live not by bread alone but in obedience to every word that comes from the mouth of the Father.

Adam, however, put the Lord his God to the test. He gave in to the serpent's temptation, trying to seize for himself all that God had already promised him. But in His hour of temptation, Jesus prevailed where Adam failed—and drove the devil away.

Still, we sin after the pattern of Adam's transgression. Like Adam, we let sin in the door (see Genesis 4:7) when we entertain doubts about God's promises, when we forget to call on Him in our hours of temptation.

But the grace won for us by Christ's obedience means that sin is no longer our master.

As we begin this season of repentance, we can be confident in His compassion, that He will create in us a new heart (see Romans 5:5; Hebrews 8:10). As we do in today's Psalm, we can sing joyfully of our salvation, renewed in His presence.

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

# I Absolve You From Your Sins

[Jesus] breathed on [the disciples], and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (Jn 20.23)

“Unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” (Lk 13.3)

The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, or simply Confession, was instituted by Christ to forgive those sins committed after Baptism; for this reason, Tertullian (c.155 – c. 240 AD) called it “the second plank [of salvation] after the shipwreck which is the loss of grace”. Bishops and priests are empowered to give solution in the name of Christ.

Baptism cleanses us from all sin, but the inclination to sin, or concupiscence, remains part of the human condition. Christ established the Sacrament of Penance as a means to receive God’s forgiveness and healing for sins committed after Baptism.

Christ entrusted this ministry to the Apostles, and this power is handed on through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Through the Sacrament of Penance, God reconciles the penitent with himself and his Church and restores his friendship after it has been either broken through mortal sin or wounded by venial sin.

To receive God’s forgiveness the penitent must have contrition for his or her sins. When a person is sorry for sins out of love for God, it is called perfect contrition; when sorrow arises from fear of Hell or punishment, it is called imperfect contrition. Either perfect or imperfect contrition is sufficient for divine forgiveness.

The form of the Sacrament has changed over the centuries, but its essential elements - admission of guilt, contrition, absolution, and penance - have remained. In the Rite of Penance, the penitent confesses aloud to a bishop or priest, who grants absolution and prescribes a penance or restitution.

In addition to forgiving sins, the Sacrament of Penance restores sanctifying grace lost by mortal sin, remits eternal punishment and part of the temporal punishment due to sin, imparts actual graces to avoid sin in the future, reconciles the penitent with the Church, and gives peace of conscience and spiritual consolation.

While the Church requires Catholics to confess all mortal sins at least once yearly, it is best to confess any mortal sin as soon as possible. The Church recommends frequent confession even of venial sins as a way to help combat sinful tendencies.

*From the Didache Bible*

**1449** The formula of absolution used in the Latin Church expresses the essential elements of this sacrament: the Father of mercies is the source of all forgiveness. He effects the reconciliation of sinners through the Passover of his Son and the gift of his Spirit, through the prayer and ministry of the Church:

God, the Father of mercies,  
through the death and the resurrection of his Son  
has reconciled the world to himself  
and sent the Holy Spirit among us  
for the forgiveness of sins;  
through the ministry of the Church  
may God give you pardon and peace,  
and I absolve you from your sins  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**1451** Among the penitent’s acts contrition occupies first place. Contrition is “sorrow of the soul and detestation for the sin committed, together with the resolution not to sin again.” (Council of Trent 1551)

**1454** The reception of this sacrament ought to be prepared for by an examination of conscience made in the light of the Word of God. The passages best suited to this can be found in the Ten Commandments, the moral catechesis of the Gospels and the apostolic Letters, such as the Sermon on the Mount and the apostolic teachings.

**1455** The confession (or disclosure) of sins, even from a simply human point of view, frees us and facilitates our reconciliation with others. Through such an admission man looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and to the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible.

**1462** Forgiveness of sins brings reconciliation with God, but also with the Church. Since ancient times the bishop, visible head of a particular Church, has thus rightfully been considered to be the one who principally has the power and ministry of reconciliation: he is the moderator of the penitential discipline. Priests, his collaborators, exercise it to the extent that they have received the commission either from their bishop (or religious superior) or the Pope, according to the law of the Church.

**1467** Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to persons, **the Church declares that every priest who hears confessions is bound under very severe penalties to keep absolute secrecy regarding the sins that his penitents have confessed to him. He can make no use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitents’ lives. This secret, which admits of no exceptions, is called the “sacramental seal,” because what the penitent has made known to the priest remains “sealed” by the sacrament.**

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church*