

# Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

22 January 2023

### readings

#### Next Week

Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13

Ps 145:7-10

1 Cor 1:26-31

Mt 5:1-12

### in a nutshell

*Jesus, Our light.* At times we find ourselves 'walking in darkness.' We get caught up in difficulties and cannot see a way out. Today's liturgy reminds us that Jesus is our light and salvation. As with the first disciples, he calls us to follow him. In the Gospels we have the Good News that brings light into the dark moments of 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

St. Mary's is organizing an Alpha Youth Group! Interested?

*More Information Inside!*

### Raise Your Voices

#### Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendour,  
strength and honour in his holy place.

#### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
Before whom shall I shrink? (R.)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. (R.)

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

#### Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

#### Communion Antiphon

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of 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: [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, February

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

## Parish Notices

### St. Mary's Alpha Youth Group

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)

### 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)

### 'Month's Mind' Mass - Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

A memorial Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI will be celebrated by Archbishop Comensoli at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 29 January, 6.30pm - approximately one month after his death. More details will follow.

### Stewardship Corner

"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him. "Matthew 4:22

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

### New Thanksgiving/stewardship Envelopes

**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. 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.

### Memorial Wall

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

### Christmas Raffle

Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Raffle and congratulations to the many winners. \$337.20 was raised for the parish.

### Morning Cuppa—Sunday and Tuesday

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

There is a morning tea every first Tuesday of the month after the 9am Mass. Next: 7 February

### Adoration of the Eucharist resumes January 26

Adoration: The deepest meaning of Christian discipleship is not to work for Jesus but to be with Jesus. (Fr. Simeon, Trappist monk)

Confession: Sin is grounded in an illusion concerning my own alleged greatness and worth in my own eyes. Repentance is grounded, not in a desire to abase myself, but in a clear understanding and a profound conviction of my great worth in the eyes of God. (Fr. Simeon, Trappist monk)

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.

**Made for More: Visions of the Promised Land** creatively blends **live music, media and sacred art** for an **evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love and human destiny**. Join Christopher West and team as they offer a vision of the Gospel through the lens of St John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*.

Choose from:

**Tuesday 24 January 2023, St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 290 Childs Rd, Mill Park**

**Wednesday 25 January 2023, St Mary's Community Centre, 26 New Street, Dandenong**

Schedule: **6pm - food for purchase, 7pm start, 9.30pm**

**finish** Open to all. *All children under 18 years must be supervised by an adult*. Tickets: \$25 general, \$10 concession/student, free for children 10 and under.

Register: [www.trybooking.com/CETXQ](http://www.trybooking.com/CETXQ)

### Something to Make You Smile

What is a New Year's resolution?

Something that goes in one year and out the other.

How can you keep a New Year's resolution to read more while never opening a book?

Watch TV with subtitles.

What happened to the man who shoplifted a calendar?

He got 12 months!

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in, A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

## Readings Reflection

### [History Redeemed](#)

Today's Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history.

Isaiah's prophecy in today's First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today's Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David (see 2 Samuel 7:12–13; Psalm 89; Psalm 132:11–12).

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26).

It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14).

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall.

His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolized by the "Galilee of the Nations." Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be "fishers of men," gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose—in a worldwide kingdom of God.

By their preaching, Isaiah's promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in today's Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

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

# Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand

*What do we mean by the "Kingdom of God"?*

Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mk 1:14-15)

The Kingdom of God refers not only to Heaven but also to the era of peace, joy, and justice ushered in by Christ and carried on as a "work in progress" by the members of his faithful, the Church. In a very real way, the Kingdom of God is the Church herself.

The proclamation of the Kingdom of God was the central theme of Christ's teaching. Through parables, he gave his disciples images of various aspects of the kingdom and how his followers were to live in it. His teaching makes it clear the kingdom he established is not an earthly kingdom but rather an intimate communion between God and his people. "In the word, in the works, and in the presence of Christ, this kingdom was clearly open to the view of men" (Lumen Gentium 5). This intimate communion is realised through Baptism and membership in his body, the Church.

When describing how his kingdom would affect the world, Christ stressed that his faithful must act as a leaven in the world, transforming it and sanctifying it from within as a tiny amount of yeast leavens a large measure of flour. Like a mustard seed, the Church began small but grew to be the largest of trees, spreading throughout the entire world. Christ established the kingdom, but it will never be completely fulfilled here on earth. Thus, it remains our sacred obligation to help build the Kingdom of God in our world.

The Church continues the mission of Christ by calling people to repentance and proclaiming the kingdom's existence. Just as Christ's divinity was veiled under his humanity while on earth, the Kingdom of God stands veiled under the appearance of a merely human institution, the Church. Only by faith are the faithful able to see the divine nature of the Church, which will be veiled until the glory of Christ is made manifest to the entire world at the end of time.

In the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come" makes two requests of Christ: to assist us in building the Kingdom of God on earth and hastening his Second Coming at the end of time.

*From the Didache Bible*

**541** "Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying: 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.' " "To carry out the will of the Father Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth." Now the Father's will is "to raise up men to share in his own divine life." He does this by gathering men around his Son Jesus Christ. This gathering is the Church, "on earth the seed and beginning of that kingdom."

**542** Christ stands at the heart of this gathering of men into the "family of God." By his word, through signs that manifest the reign of God, and by sending out his disciples, Jesus calls all people to come together around him. But above all in the great Paschal mystery—his death on the cross and his Resurrection—he would accomplish the coming of his kingdom. "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." Into this union with Christ all men are called.

**543** Everyone is called to enter the kingdom. First announced to the children of Israel, this messianic kingdom is intended to accept men of all nations. To enter it, one must first accept Jesus' word...

**545** Jesus invites sinners to the table of the kingdom: "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." He invites them to that conversion without which one cannot enter the kingdom, but shows them in word and deed his Father's boundless mercy for them and the vast "joy in heaven over one sinner who repents." The supreme proof of his love will be the sacrifice of his own life "for the forgiveness of sins."

**546** Jesus' invitation to enter his kingdom comes in the form of parables, a characteristic feature of his teaching. Through his parables he invites people to the feast of the kingdom, but he also asks for a radical choice: to gain the kingdom, one must give everything. Words are not enough; deeds are required. The parables are like mirrors for man: will he be hard soil or good earth for the word? What use has he made of the talents he has received? Jesus and the presence of the kingdom in this world are secretly at the heart of the parables. One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to "know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven." For those who stay "outside," everything remains enigmatic.

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church*