

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Mount Evelyn



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

29 January 2023

readings

Next Week

Is 58:7-10
Ps 111:4-9
1 Cor 2:1-5
Mt 5:13-16

in a nutshell

Blessed are you. The Beatitudes are among the best known verses of the Gospel of Matthew. They offer an assurance of God's care for those who mourn or suffer persecution. They contain promises that God will bless the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemakers and those who work for justice. Ultimately, all who put their trust in God and do what is right will rejoice in God's kingdom.

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

Holy is His Name: a new bible study streaming for FREE this lent.

More Information Inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

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

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

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

Email: 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: muntevelyn@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

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.

'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

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 5:3

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

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.

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

Adoration of the Eucharist

Adoration: Nothing in the world can set hearts ablaze with the love of God like the Blessed Sacrament. (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

Confession: The risen Jesus typically did two things: he showed his wounds and he pronounced a word of peace. The wounds of Jesus are a continual and salutary reminder of our sin. The author of life appeared in our midst and we killed him, and this gives the lie to any attempt at self-justification or exoneration. But the risen Lord never leaves us in our guilt; instead, he speaks the word “ Shalom”. We killed God, and God returned in forgiving love. (Bishop Robert Barron)

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.

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

Need to Dispose of a Vehicle? - Support Lifeboat

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process - getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even garaging it until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!).

If you need to dispose of a vehicle either from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, please consider gifting it to the “Lifeboat Geelong Foundation”, a registered charity with tax deductible status which for nine years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors of church-related sexual abuse. Many of these suffer post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and have limited or no employment. A donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life. If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to “Lifeboat”, contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360, or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605, or adam-kaali@hotmail.com).

Something to Make You Smile

Peter said, “I want to follow in my father’s footsteps and be a policeman.”

Said the teacher, “I didn’t know your father was a policeman.”

Peter replied, “He isn’t. He’s a burglar.”

The teacher says, “I hope I didn’t see you just then looking at Jenny’s test results.”

Oliver replies, “I really hope you didn’t see me either.”

In a Catholic school cafeteria, a nun places a note in front of a pile of apples, “Only take one. God is watching.”

Further down the line is a plate of biscuits. A little boy makes his own note, “Take all you want. God is watching the apples.”

Readings Reflection

[The Blessed Path](#)

In the readings since Christmas, Jesus has been revealed as the new royal son of David and Son of God. He is sent to lead a new exodus that brings Israel out of captivity to the nations and brings all the nations to God.

As Moses led Israel from Egypt through the sea to give them God’s law on Mount Sinai, Jesus too has passed through the waters in baptism. Now, in today’s Gospel, He goes to the mountain to proclaim a new law—the law of His Kingdom.

The Beatitudes mark the fulfillment of God’s covenant promise to Abraham—that through his descendants all the nations of the world would receive God’s blessings (see Genesis 12:3; 22:18).

Jesus is the son of Abraham (see Matthew 1:1). And through the wisdom He speaks today, He bestows the Father’s blessings upon “the poor in spirit.”

God has chosen to bless the weak and lowly, those foolish and despised in the eyes of the world, Paul says in today’s Epistle. The poor in spirit are those who know that nothing they do can merit God’s mercy and grace. These are the humble remnant in today’s First Reading, taught to seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

The Beatitudes reveal the divine path and purpose for our lives. All our striving should be for these virtues—to be poor in spirit; meek and clean of heart; merciful and makers of peace; seekers of the righteousness that comes from living by the law of Kingdom.

The path the Lord sets before us today is one of trials and persecution. But He promises comfort in our mourning and a great reward.

The Kingdom we have inherited is no earthly territory but the promised land of heaven. It is Zion where the Lord reigns forever. And, as we sing in today’s Psalm, its blessings are for those whose hope is in the Lord.

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

The New Law of Love

How does the New Law in Christ differ from the Old Law of Moses?

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them.” (Mt 5:17)

[Christ] is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred which redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant. (Heb 9:15)

The Old Law prepared for the New Law, which in turn perfects the Old Law.

After the Fall of Adam and Eve, God unfolded his plan of redemption gradually. An early part of this Revelation was the Old Law, the moral and liturgical precepts given to Moses and the Israelites. The Old Law is aptly summarised in the Ten Commandments, which encourage dispositions that guide humanity to live according to this love and proscribe behaviours that contravene love for God and neighbour. In this way, the Ten Commandments and the Old Law served to illuminate the consciences of humankind.

In this way the Old Law prepared the way for the coming of Christ and the establishment of the New Law embodied in the Gospel message of Christ. The images and prophecies within the Old Law prefigure elements in the New Law; where the Old Law underscored the dangers of sin and its consequences, the New Law freed us from the burden of sin by showing us the way of forgiveness, love, grace, and salvation. Where once God’s people were motivated more by fear of punishment under the Law of Moses, they could live now with their eyes on eternal happiness in the Kingdom of Heaven under the Law of Christ.

The New Law perfects the Old Law. It completes the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament and fulfils its Commandments by revealing the very root of all its moral prescriptions - the Law of Love - and seeking to convert the human heart by teaching the human person to seek perfection according to the example of Christ. All that the Old Law had done in preparation is now directed toward the ultimate goal of the Kingdom of Heaven. Without negating the Old Law in any way, the New Law summarised its moral prescriptions in a single New Commandment: that we love one another as Christ loves us.

Not only is the New Law a Law of Love but also it is a Law of Grace because of the divine gifts available to us through faith and the Sacraments of the Church; it is also a Law of Freedom because we can fulfil the letter and spirit of Divine Law by acting always out of Christian love in keeping with our identity as adopted sons and daughters of God.

From the Didache Bible

1950 The moral law is the work of divine Wisdom. Its biblical meaning can be defined as fatherly instruction, God’s pedagogy. It prescribes for man the ways, the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude; it proscribes the ways of evil which turn him away from God and his love. It is at once firm in its precepts and, in its promises, worthy of love.

1952 There are different expressions of the moral law, all of them interrelated: eternal law—the source, in God, of all law; natural law; revealed law, comprising the Old Law and the New Law, or Law of the Gospel; finally, civil and ecclesiastical laws.

1953 The moral law finds its fullness and its unity in Christ. Jesus Christ is in person the way of perfection. He is the end of the law, for only he teaches and bestows the justice of God: “For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified” (Rom 10:4)

1965 The New Law or the Law of the Gospel is the perfection here on earth of the divine law, natural and revealed. It is the work of Christ and is expressed particularly in the Sermon on the Mount. It is also the work of the Holy Spirit and through him it becomes the interior law of charity: “I will establish a New Covenant with the house of Israel.... I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Heb 8:8, 10; cf Jer 31.31-34)

1966 The New Law is the *grace of the Holy Spirit* given to the faithful through faith in Christ. It works through charity; it uses the Sermon on the Mount to teach us what must be done and makes use of the sacraments to give us the grace to do it:

If anyone should meditate with devotion and perspicacity on the sermon our Lord gave on the mount, as we read in the Gospel of Saint Matthew, he will doubtless find there ... the perfect way of the Christian life.... This sermon contains ... all the precepts needed to shape one’s life. (St Augustine)

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church