Sacred Heart Catholic Parish

Yarra Junction & Warburton



Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

15 May 2022

readings

Next Week Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8 Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29

in a nutshell

Love on another. Today's Gospel comes from Jesus' Last Supper discourse. He is about to die. His final words to his disciples are: 'as I have loved you, you also must love one another'. In the end all that matters is love, a love that is expressed most purely when we sacrifice ourselves for the wellbeing of others. When we love in this way we show that we are disciples of Jesus who laid down his life for us.

we pray for

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

of special note

Catholic Mission Appeal next weekend

More information inside

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. (R.)

Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. (R.)

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: Iove one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

The Parish of Sacred Heart

Parish Priest REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

> Parish Secretary Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule

<u>Sunday Mass</u> Warburton: Saturday—4:30pm Yarra Junction: Sunday—8:30am

<u>Weekday Mass</u> Wednesday—9:00am Yarra Junction Friday –11:30am Warburton

> Reconciliation Thursday 6:00pm-6:45pm Thursdays at Yarra Junction First Thursday at Warburton

> Exposition Thursday at 6:00pm Thursdays at Yarra Junction First Thursday at Warburton

Weddings Please contact the office

Baptisms Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School Principal: Nick Boyhan

Website: <u>www.sjyarrajunction.catholic.edu.au</u>

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

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 to the toilets.

Bulletin notices by 12:00 noon Thursday please

mountevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies

Parish Meetings: Wednesday May 25

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

Parish Notices

Catholic Mission Appeal—May21/22

Many families in Emdibir are subsistence farmers, and distressingly, many are unable to put enough food on the table each day.

Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Church and community in Emdibir, Ethiopia, where your gift can help build a life changing program from the ground up to help address this urgent need.

We hope you will take this opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

Envelopes are available to take this week and return next week.

Adoration of the Eucharist

Adoration, spend time in the presence of the Eucharist Yarra Junction, Thursday nights at 6:00pm except first Thursday (Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration. Mount Evelyn: Friday mornings 8:00am.

Adoration: The Eucharistic Christ is He who was present on the mountains of Judea, in the supper-room, upon the Cross. It is the same Jesus who said to the Samaritan woman," If you only knew what God is offering". (Abbot Columba Marmion O.S.B.)

Confession: How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! God never tires of forgiving us. Time and again he bears us on his shoulders and makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and start anew. (Pope Francis)

Stewardship Corner

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (JOHN 13:34)

"As I have loved you," this is the hard part – Jesus's love is unconditional; our love usually comes with strings attached. It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes mercy and compassion to love someone when you feel unappreciated, feel used or feel like your opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage and the grace of God to "love my neighbour" when they may be someone you don't like, someone you don't know or someone that doesn't look like you.

April Thanksgiving/Stewardship Report

Weekly pledge amount: \$ 504.15 Average weekly given: \$390 Total income: \$1561 Total Expenditure: \$3616

Stewardship—Support Your Parish!

The Parish appreciates the ongoing support, by those parishioners who are formally engaged in the Stewardship Program either using the envelopes or via direct debit. It's not too late to decide to become a regular contributor to the finances of the Parish. Please notify the office if you would like to be part of the Stewardship.

First Communion Registrations 2022

Preparation classes for First Communion in 2022 will begin on July 19. Registrations are open now, please see Fr Michel or notify the parish office for a registration form.

Working With Children

There are a number of parishioners whose Working With Children Check has expired. Could you please check your cards and update if necessary.

Communion to the Sick and Elderly– Volunteer Required

Volunteers are needed to visit Estia in Yarra Junction and Advent Care in Warburton preferably on a Wednesday. See Fr Michel if you are able to assist.

Sanctity of Life Sunday

The national Sanctity of Life Sunday is to be celebrated this year on 29 May 2022. "Be part of leading the change in our culture to treasure life at every stage and in every circumstance" Explore the website:

https://sanctityoflifesunday.com.au/

Sign the petition to the Prime Minister: https://sanctityoflifesunday.com.au/petition/

Mass in Reparation for Abortion

St Patrick's Cathedral, held at 9 am on the last Saturday of each month.

Bringing a Smile to Your Face...

A father passing by his son's bedroom was astonished to see the bed was nicely made and the floor was spotless. Then he saw an envelope on the pillow. It was addressed, "Dad." With trembling hands the father opened the envelope and slowly read the letter.

"Dear Dad. It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing to you. I've eloped with my new girlfriend because I wanted to avoid a scene with Mum and you. I love my family but I've fallen in love with a girl called Monica. She is so nice but I knew you would not approve of her because of her body piercings, the many tattoos, motorcycle clothes, and because she is so much older than I am. But it's not only about the passion, dad. We're expecting a baby in the summer. Monica believes we will be very happy together. She owns a caravan in the bush and has plenty of firewood for the approaching winter. We share a dream of having many more children.

Don't worry, dad. I know I'm only 15 but I can take care of myself. Someday, I'm sure we'll come back to visit, so you can get to know your many grandchildren.

Much love, your son, Josh."

The father went white then saw the P.S. at the bottom of the letter.

"Dad, none of the above is true. I'm actually over at Pete's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the school report that's on the kitchen table.

Call me when it's safe to come home."

Readings Reflection

New For All Ages

By God's goodness and compassion, the doors of His kingdom have been opened to all who have faith, Jew or Gentile.

That's the good news Paul and Barnabas proclaim in today's First Reading. With the coming of the Church the new Jerusalem John sees in today's Second Reading—God is "making all things new."

In His Church, the "old order" of death is passing away and God for all time is making His dwelling with the human race, so that all peoples "will be His people and God Himself will always be with them." In this the promises made through His prophets are accomplished (see Ezekiel 37:27; Isaiah 25:8; 35:10).

The Church is "the kingdom for all ages" that we sing of in today's Psalm. That's why we see the Apostles, under the guidance of the Spirit, ordaining "presbyters" or priests (see 1 Timothy 4:14; Titus 1:5).

Anointed priests and bishops will be the Apostles' successors, ensuring that the Church's "dominion endures through all generations" (see Philippians 1:1, note that the New American Bible translates episcopois, the Greek word for bishops, as "overseers").

Until the end of time, the Church will declare to the world God's mighty deeds, blessing His holy name and giving Him thanks, singing of the glories of His kingdom.

In His Church, we know ourselves as His "faithful ones," as those Jesus calls "My little children" in today's Gospel. We live by the new law, the "new commandment" that He gave in His final hours.

The love He commands of us is no human love but a supernatural love. We love each other as Jesus loved us in suffering and dying for us. We love in imitation of His love.

This kind of love is only made possible by the Spirit poured into our hearts at Baptism (see Romans 5:5), renewed in the sacrifice His priests offer in every Mass. By our love we glorify the Father. And by our love all peoples will know that we are His people, that He is our God.

Now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified

We are in the Easter Season which is the time of Jesus' glorification. The Gospel we have just heard reminds us that this glorification is brought about in the Passion. In the Paschal Mystery, passion and glorification are closely bound together and form an indissoluble unity. When Judas leaves the Upper Room to carry out his scheme of betrayal that will lead to the Master's death, Jesus says: "now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified" (Jn 13:31): the glorification of Jesus begins at that very moment. The Evangelist John makes it quite clear: he does not in fact say that Jesus was glorified only after his Passion, through his Resurrection; rather he shows that precisely with the Passion his glorification began. In it Jesus manifests his glory, which is the glory of love, which gives itself totally. He loved the Father, doing his will to the very end, with a perfect gift of self; he loved humanity, giving his life for us. Thus he was already glorified in his Passion and God was glorified in him. But the Passion as a very real and profound expression of his love is only a beginning. This is why Jesus says that his glorification is also to come (cf. ibid., 13:32). Then, when he announces his departure from this world (cf. ibid., 13:33), the Lord gives his disciples a new commandment, as it were a testament, so that they might continue his presence among them in a new way: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (Jn 13:34). If we love each other, Jesus will continue to be present in our midst, to be glorified in this world.

Jesus speaks of a "new commandment". But what is new about it? In the Old Testament, God had already given the commandment of love; but this commandment has become new now because Jesus makes a very important addition to it: "As I have loved you, that you also love one another". What is new is precisely this "loving as Jesus loved". All our loving is preceded by his love and refers to this love, it fits into this love and is achieved precisely through this love. The Old Testament did not present any model of love; it only formulated the precept of love. Instead, Jesus gave himself to us as a model and source of love a boundless, universal love that could transform all negative circumstances and all obstacles into opportunities to progress in love. And in this City's Saints we see the fulfilment of this love, always from the source of Jesus' love.

In giving us the new commandment, Jesus asks us to live his own love and on his own love, which is the truly credible, eloquent and effective sign for proclaiming the coming of the Kingdom of God to the world. Clearly, with our own strength alone we are weak and limited. In us there is always a resistance to love and in our existence there are very many difficulties that cause division, resentment and ill will. However, the Lord promised us that he would be present in our lives, making us capable of this generous, total love that can overcome all obstacles, even those in our own hearts. If we are united to Christ, we can truly love in this way. Loving others as Jesus loved us is only possible with that power which is communicated to us in the relationship with him, especially in the Eucharist, in which his Sacrifice of love that generates love becomes really present: this is the true newness in the world and the power of a permanent glorification of God who is glorified in the continuity of the love of Jesus in our love.

The First Reading we have heard presents to us precisely a special way of glorifying Jesus: the apostolate and its fruits. Paul and Barnabas, at the end of their first apostolic voyage, return to the cities they have already visited and give fresh courage to the disciples, exhorting them to remain firm in the faith for, as they say, "through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22). Christian life, dear brothers and sisters, is not easy... Yes, life leads to confrontation with many difficulties, many problems, but it is precisely the certainty that comes from faith, the certainty that we are not alone, that God loves each one without distinction and is close to everyone with his love, that makes it possible to face, live through and surmount the effort of dealing with daily problems. It was the universal love of the Risen Christ that motivated the Apostles to come out of themselves, to disseminate the word of God, to spend themselves without reserve for others, with courage, joy and serenity. The Risen One has a power of love that overcomes every limit, that does not stop in front of any obstacle.... I wish to say to all, and especially to the young: never lose hope, the hope that comes from the Risen Christ, from God's victory over sin, hatred and death.

Today's Second Reading shows us precisely the final outcome of Jesus' Resurrection: it is the new Jerusalem, the Holy City that comes down from Heaven, from God, adorned as a bride for her husband (cf. Rev 21:2). The One who was crucified, who shared our suffering as the sacred Shroud also eloquently reminds us is the One who is Risen and who wants to reunite us all in his love. It is a marvellous, "strong" and solid hope, because, as Revelation says: "[God] will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away" (21:4). Does not the Holy Shroud communicate the same message? In it we see, as in a mirror, our suffering in the suffering of Christ: *Passio Christi. Passio hominis*. For this very reason the Shroud is a sign of hope: Christ faced the Cross to stem evil; to make us see, in his Pasch, the anticipation of that moment when, even for us, every tear will be wiped away, when there will no longer be death, mourning or lamentation.

The passage from Revelation ends with this assertion: "And he who sat upon the throne said: 'Behold, I make all things new' " (21:5). The first absolutely new thing made by God was Jesus' Resurrection, his heavenly glorification. This is the beginning of a whole series of "new things" in which we also have a share. "New things" are a world full of joy, in which there is no more suffering and oppression, there is no more rancour or hate, but only the love that comes from God and transforms all things.