



St Mary's Parish

Incorporating the Catholic communities of Hamilton, Dunkeld, Macarthur, Glenthompson and Penshurst.

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2nd Sunday of Easter, Year A

27 April 2014

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.
or

(R.) Alleluia

- Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
- I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
- The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoiled or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus

Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!*

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Reflection

by Greg Sunter

Because the focus of this week's gospel passage is usually placed on poor old doubting Thomas, we sometimes overlook the way the passage begins. The disciples are huddled in a room, 'for fear of the Jews'. Just a couple of weeks earlier they had been on top of the world. Jesus was enormously popular with the people, and the disciples, by association, were caught up in that affection. Their man, the one they had chosen to follow, was making waves and stirring the authorities – thumbing his nose at the rules. This, of course, made the disciples feel good to be around Jesus. However, in the space of just a few short days, their world had turned upside down. They'd gone from riding the crest of a wave to being utterly dumped! They were cowering in a closed up room, afraid for their lives in case those who handed Jesus over for death came for them as well. They'd already had an experience of the resurrected Jesus yet they were still hiding and afraid. Into this fear and uncertainty steps Jesus who says, 'Peace be with you'. It is a reminder of Jesus calming the storm out on the lake – in the midst of turmoil and anxiety he brings peace and calm.

Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God.

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ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON

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- Principal: Ben van de Camp
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MONIVAE COLLEGE, HAMILTON

- Principal: Mark McGinnity
Phone: (03) 5551 1200

ST MARY'S ROSTER: 3rd & 4th May 2014		
	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
Welcome	John Schurmann	Rita Taylor Alida Aylmer
Commentator	Ted Oliver	Annette Mason
First Reader	Margaret Meagher	Charlotte Stanhope
Second Reader	Frank Waight	Michael Stewart
Offertory Procession	I & B Ferguson	Stanhope Family
PowerPoint and iPad	Sr Marg	Wheaton Family
Ministers of Communion	Team: 5 F Rhook, P Oliver-Snell, P Fallon	Team: 2 V Lovell, P Stanhope, P Fitzgerald, T Daffey & F O'Brien.

Ministers of Communion This Weekend	
6 pm	Team:: 4 J Gustus, G Bourke & R Roach (3 Required)
10:30 am	Team : 1 R Taylor, G McDonald & S Pierce (5 Required)

ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER 4th May 2014	
Lector	Brendon Kelly
Prayers	Coleen Page
Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti
Gifts	Helen & Judy D

St Mary's Church CLEANING May

**S McCashill,
K Mulley
A Onderwater
M Callaway**

NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY MASS TIMES

3rd & 4th May
3rd Sunday of Easter

Hamilton	Mass Mass Mass	6:00pm 10:30am 5:00pm
Dunkeld	Mass	9:00am
Gienthompson	SAWC	9:00am
Macarthur	Mass	9:00am
Penshurst	Mass	9:00am

PARISH COLLECTIONS


Stewardship Starting Date 13/10/2013 (YTD) : \$57,380

Stewardship Pledged Full Year : \$120,150

Priest's Support: \$2,007


This week's Count Team: 4 F & D Soulsby, B & J Roache & G Howell

Next week's Count Team: 5 A Milne & M Meagher.



**WEEKDAY MASS or
(Prayer of the church with Holy Communion)**

PENSHURST	HAMILTON
Wednesday 10am Mass	Tuesday 10am Mass
	Wednesday 10 am Mass
	Thursday 10am Mass
	Friday 10am Mass

 **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

DEATHS:
ANNIVERSARIES: Leslie Cordy, Veronica McNeil, David Sharrock, Helen Boyle, Mauree Blake, Trevor Stevens, Harry Brownlee, Maisie Goldstraw, Troy Wareham, Sr Margaret Underwood, Leo Mugavin, Ronald Priddle, Margaret Allan, Patricia Pierce, Doug Scott.


THOSE WHO ARE SICK: *Carmel Scott, Sharyn Aron, Judy Mibus, Gay Lee, Kerry McCluggage, Dorothy Harrison, Brian Joyce, Frank Vogels, Val Carter, Dawn Anson, Joan Birrell,*

Please note it is the relatives' responsibility to submit anniversary names to parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Hamilton
Fri After 10am Mass
Sat 5.30m before Mass

Other Mass Centres
Sunday



PRAYER TIME IN OUR PARISH

Christian Meditation
Parish House Wednesday 7.30pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary
9.30 am before weekday Mass or C.S

7 pm Thursday & Sunday.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
After Mass Wed. 10.30-12 noon.

Prayer before The Blessed Sacrament

The Church is open daily till 8pm .

If you are prepared to spend time between 6pm & 8pm on a roster .

Contact: Rita Taylor.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 27th April



"My Heart rejoices in this feast - on that day all the Divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened" (Diary 998, 699)

- 10.30am Mass & Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- 12.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 2.00pm Rosary
- 2.30pm Litany of the Divine Mercy
- 3.00pm The 3 o'clock Prayer and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 3.15pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



CONFIRMATION

Parents/Guardian Meeting
Wednesday 30th April @
7pm Dunworth Centre.

FEAST DAYS

- 27th April - Divine Mercy Sunday
- 28th April - St Peter Chanel
- 29th April - St Catherine of Siena

- 2nd May - St Athanasius
- 3rd May - Sts Philip & James Apostles

St Vincent De Paul

Maryknoll Front Office, Clarendon St, Hamilton.
Welfare, Assistance, Support Centre
Open Monday to Friday 1-3pm
55719859 or 0408923181



Interested volunteers please enquire on above Mobile No.

Parish Calender

- 3rd May Orana High Tea @ 2pm
- 11th May Mother's Day
- 1st June Confirmation workshop 9.15 am
- 8th June Confirmation Mass (Bishop Paul Bird)
- 19h June Eventide Anointing Mass @ 9.30



Sunday Catch Up

Sunday, 4th of May

All young people are invited to join us for lunch in the Dunworth Centre - 11.30 to 12.30.

St Mary's Orana Ladies Group
Inviting All Parish Women to
Afternoon High Tea
Saturday 3rd May at 2.00pm
St Mary's Dunworth Centre



Bring your favourite Aprons. Help us fill the clothesline with lots of colour and tell us the special memories they hold

\$20 includes Champagne & High Tea.
Funds raised will go to a parish cause.
Tickets at St Mary's Parish Office
Prizes to be won / Bookings Essential for catering .
Anne Slattery: 5570 8210 or 0418 370 539
Marie Cook: 5572 1336 or 0417 321 378
RSVP: 27th April

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

- Cath News - www.cathnews.com.au
- Fr John McKinnon www.johnmckinnon.org
- Fr John Corrigan blog - www.acountrypriest.com

Prayer

In your great mercy, O God,
you have given us a new birth
to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
who gathers us into community,
stands among us and gives us peace.
Day by day, increase in us this Easter faith,
and day by day add to our number,
that, believing in Jesus,
whom we have never seen,
we may confess him as
our Lord and our God

**Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.**

The Image of Divine Mercy

On 22nd February, 1931, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ appeared to this humble religious,



bringing with Him a wonderful message of Mercy for all mankind. Saint Faustina tells us in her diary, under this date: *“In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at*

the breast. From the opening in the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red, and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me:

Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You”. *(Diary 47)* **I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish.** *(Diary 48)*

Some time later, Our Lord again spoke to her: **The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous; the red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls . . . These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonised Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross . . . Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him.** *(Diary 299)* **My gaze from this image is like My gaze from the cross.** *(Diary 326)*

On 23rd April 2006, Pope Benedict XVI stated: “Those sacred wounds in His hands, in His feet and in His side, are an inexhaustible source of faith, hope and love from which each one can draw, especially the souls who thirst the most for Divine Mercy.”

Divine Mercy Sunday (The Feast of Mercy)

As a further sign of His forgiving love, Jesus called for a Feast of the Divine Mercy to be celebrated in the whole Church. He said to Saint Faustina: **I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy.** *(Diary 299)* **I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter.** *(Diary 341)* **I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners.** *(Diary 699)*

On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open . . . The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. *(Diary 699)*

MY HEART REJOICES IN THIS FEAST. *(Diary 998)*

On Sunday 30th April, 2000 (the canonisation of Saint Faustina), Pope John Paul II announced to the world: “It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter (first Sunday after Easter), which from now on throughout the Church will be called ‘Divine Mercy Sunday’.”



On 23rd April 2006, Pope Benedict XVI stated, “... The Servant of God, John Paul II ... desired that the Sunday after Easter be dedicated in a special way to Divine Mercy; and Providence disposed that he would die precisely on the eve of this day [2nd April, 2005] in the hands of Divine Mercy.”