



St Mary's Parish

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

23 Dinwoodie Street
HAMILTON VIC 3300

Ph: 03 5571 1161

E-mail: hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Web: www.stmaryshamilton.org.au

5th Sunday of Easter, Year A

18 May 2014

First Reading Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread; the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

*(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a

rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the way, the truth, and the life,
says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father,
except through me.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 14:1-12

*A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John*

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am now going to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a
place,
I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am
you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am
going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where
you are going, so how can we know the way?'
Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except
through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have
seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and
then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with
you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and
you still do not know me?

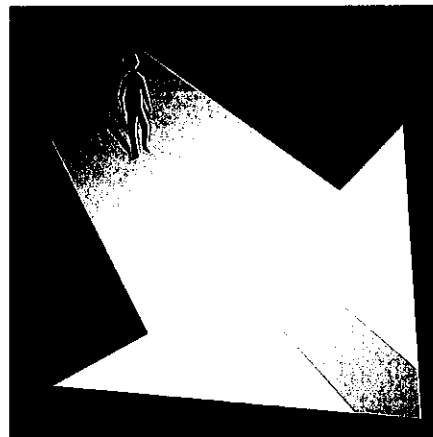
'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?
Do you not believe
that I am in the Father and the Father is in
me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from
myself:
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this
work.

You must believe me when I say
that I am in the Father and the Father is in
me;
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for
no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,
whoever believes in me
will perform the same works as I do myself,
he will perform even greater works,
because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Reflection

by Greg Sunter

The gospel readings for this week and next week shift the focus away from the resurrection and begin to set us up for the departure of Jesus from the earth - the Ascension - and the sending of the Holy Spirit - the Pentecost event.

Today's gospel passage comes from the very long Last Supper discourse in the gospel of John. When Jesus speaks about 'going away' for a time it could be interpreted as the period of his death and rising that are about to occur in the chronology of the story. However, the gospel of John is written a very long time after the death of Jesus; perhaps as much as 70 years after Jesus. Given this period of time between the events and the writing, we know that the writer was also referring to this longer time of Jesus 'going away'. By the time of the writing of this gospel the early Christians were starting to come to terms with the fact that Jesus probably wasn't going to return in their lifetime. They had seen the devastating destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by the Romans in 70CE which they thought had signalled the end of all time. However, here they were, still alive and still no sign of Jesus' return.

The theme of being present and being absent is very strong in this gospel. The discussion about Jesus and the Father being one is part of this theme. Jesus is God present in the world. God has come to dwell among the people. When Jesus speaks of preparing rooms in the Father's house, it is a reference to preparing the disciples to 'live' in God; to dwell in God just as God has dwelt in the people.

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PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

- **Fr Patrick Mugavin**
patrick.mugavin@ballarat.catholic.org.au
- **Sr Margaret Carmody**
margaret.carmody@ballarat.catholic.org.au
- **Fr John Corrigan**
john.corrigan@ballarat.catholic.org.au
- Business Manager: **John Hockey**
manager@stmaryshamilton.org.au
- Parish Secretaries:
Carolyn Stanhope and **Kymhan Watson**
hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au

ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON

- Principal: **Jo Anne Bond**
Phone: (03) 5551 9000

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY, PENSURST

- Principal: **Ben van de Camp**
Phone: (03) 5576 5438

MONIVAE COLLEGE, HAMILTON

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

NEXT WEEK'S MASS TIMES

25th May 2014
6th Sunday of Easter

Hamilton	Mass	6:00pm
	Mass	10:30am
	Mass	5:00pm
Dunkeld	SAWC	9.00am
Glenthompson	Mass	9:00am
Macarthur	SAWC	9:00am
Penshurst	SAWC	9.00am

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

Wednesday	Tuesday	10am Mass
10am Mass	Wednesday	10 am Mass
	Thursday	10am Anointing
	Friday	10am Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**Hamilton**

Fri After 10am Mass
Sat 5.30m before Mass

Other**Mass Centres**

Sundays
Before Mass

**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.

ST MARY'S ROSTER:

24th & 25th May 2014

	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
Welcome	John Schurmann	Alida Aylmer
Commentator	Ron Smith	Siobhan Wheaton
First Reader	Margaret Meagher	Geraldine McDonald
Second Reader	Terry McMeel	Pat Healy
Offertory Procession	Frances McMeel	Sutherland Family
PowerPoint and iPad	Bev Kaaye	O'Brien Family
Ministers of Communion	Team: 8 G Healy, T Groves & K Shanahan.	Team: 1 R Taylor, G McDonald & S Pierce.

Ministers of Communion This Weekend

6 pm	Team: 7 J Ryan, M Byrne	(3 Required)
10:30 am	Team : 4 F Soulsby, G Howell, D Dunn & D Brody	(5 Required)

ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER

25th May 2014

Lector	Brendon Kelly
Prayers	Brooke Kelly
Special Minister	Brendon Kelly
Leader	Margie Eales

**St Mary's
Church
CLEANING
May**

**J McCaskill,
K Mulley
A Onderwater
M Callaway**

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Stewardship Starting Date 13/10/2013 (YTD) : \$62,206

Stewardship Pledged Full Year : \$120,150

Priest's Support: \$ 936

This week's Count Team: 2 I&B Ferguson, C McArthur & L Stevens

Next week's Count Team: 3 R Corbett, B Shanahan, T Oliver



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.

DEATHS: *Carmel Scott, Joan Newell, Judy Mibus.*

ANNIVERSARIES: Iren Pryor, Norma Soawyer, Jack Murphy, Nellie Rees, Trish Jeffreys, Arthur Turner, Dulcie Lovett, Margaret Quinn, Pearl Rowe

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: *Edward & Frank Carmody, Sharyn Aron, Gay Lee, Kerryn 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.

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.

Community Gathering on Child Sexual Abuse

Professor Caroline Taylor AM will lead a public gathering in St Mary's Parish, Dunworth Centre, on Tuesday, 20 May at 7.00pm, addressing issues surrounding child sexual abuse. All from our Hamilton extended community are welcome. The gathering is designed to help create community awareness around the prevalence of child sexual abuse and its impact on victims.

She will also conduct a similar workshop in the afternoon with teachers from our schools. Caroline recently led similar workshops in Warrnambool and Ballarat where the participants were deeply touched by her presentation and appreciative of her wisdom and courage in addressing this field.

Caroline is recognised as one of Australia's leading experts in the field of child and adult sexual violence and domestic violence and the criminal justice response to victim/survivors and social models of trauma and recovery. She has also worked extensively internationally. Her work has been cited to support law reform in a number of Australian jurisdictions and her work, advocacy and influence in the area of sexual violence, child abuse and domestic violence has helped many people.

Baptisms in St Mary's Parish Hamilton we welcome:

Ruby Kate Cleaver & Annie Rose Cleaver
Daughters of Paul & Lisa Cleaver

And

Chase Reginald Dean
Son of Peter & Wendy Dean



Fatima Statue

If you would like to share in this prayer activity please contact Ted Oliver (5577810) or leave your name at the presbytery.

This week the statue will be with:

Zina Celewych 40 Kitchener St.
2 pm Rosary . All welcome.

Parish Calender

20th May	Caroline Taylor 7pm Dunworth Centre
22nd May	Anointing Mass St Mary's 10am.
30th May	Confirmation workshop Dunworth Centre 9.15 am.
8th June	Confirmation Mass (Bishop Paul Bird)
13th June	Seminarians Dinner hosted by Sacramental Families.
15th June	Confirmation Mass Dunkeld.



Fr Paddy Congratulations on your

40th

Anniversary of Ordination
May 19,1974 — May 19,2014

Everyone is invited after Mass to stay and enjoy a Cuppa to celebrate with Fr Paddy or a cup of Soup to support the Vinnie's Sleep out appeal Saturday night. The celebrations will continue after mass Sunday with a Cuppa & Slices.



Tonight!! Saturday 17th
stay and enjoy soup with us!

After 6pm Mass.

Donations Requested For

**VINNIE'S
COMMON SLEEP-OUT**

Funds Raised

Good Friday Holy Land \$773
Easter Offerings \$1,593
Project Compassion Caritas \$7,724

Prayer

In your house, O God,
there are many dwelling places,
and your Son has gone
to prepare a place for us
that where Christ is, there we may be also.
Do not let our hearts be troubled
but fill our lives in deeds of service.
Make us follow this Jesus with joy,
the way, the truth, and the life.
Then shall we come to you through the One
who is our Passover and our peace.

**We ask this
Through Christ Our Lord.**

Amen.

Catholic Church Agencies react to Budget

Catholic Leader Article By Paul Dobbyn

THE 2014-15 Federal Budget's widespread cuts to welfare, health, education and foreign aid have drawn sharp criticism from key national and state Catholic agencies.

The cuts include changes to family benefits, resuming fuel excise increases, a \$7 health-care co-payment for GP visits and an estimated \$7.6 billion decrease in foreign aid funding over the next five years.

Federal Treasurer Joe Hockey, announcing his first budget, told parliament the Government's economic action strategy was about "spending less on consumption and more on investment so we can keep making decent, compassionate choices in the future".

Australian business particularly welcomed the proposed 1.5 percentage point cut to the company tax rate. The Business Council of Australia said the budget would "lay the foundations for a stronger future".

St Vincent de Paul Society chief executive Dr John Falzon said the budget contained measures "that rip the guts out of what remains of a fair and egalitarian Australia".

"These measures will not help people into jobs but they will force people into deeper poverty," he said.

National Catholic Education Commission executive director Ross Fox welcomed funding certainty contained in the budget through to the end of the 2017 school year.

"However, based on recent experience, the school funding assumptions contained in the Federal Budget for 2018 and beyond will not meet the needs of schools and students," he said.

"In the last decade the CPI has averaged less than 3 per cent.

"This contrasts with school funding increases reflecting real costs in schools of almost 5.5 per cent."

Catholic Health Australia chief executive officer Martin Laverty said ongoing monitoring of the new \$7 health-care co-payments for GP visits,

pathology and diagnostic imaging would be needed to avoid a drop in health-care outcomes.

"Those with capacity to contribute to their health-care costs should do so," he said.

"Those less able to contribute must be guaranteed high-quality access to health care when needed, with the support of a robust, publicly funded social safety net."

Reforms to the pension have been delayed until the next parliamentary term, to keep Tony Abbott's election promise of no change to pensions.

Caritas Australia is disappointed to see the Government abandon its responsibilities as a global leader and further damage Australia's reputation as a generous nation. Cutting almost \$8 billion from Australia's Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) in Tuesday's budget, the Australian Government is backing further away from its pre-election promises and our nation's commitments to the international community. Though Australia is one of the wealthiest countries in the world our aid budget is currently ranked 13th out of the world's 24 richest nations. In a sidestep away from the world's leading countries, Australia has dropped the internationally recognized measurement of aid commitments in proportion to a country's income, and capped aid spending at \$5 billion for the next two years, and CPI thereafter.

Caritas is pleased that the government ANCP partnership program is set to continue and looks forward to receiving the government's aid policy framework and performance benchmarks in the coming weeks. This long-term government partnership, in 2012-13 alone, allowed Caritas Australia to reach more than 2.1 million people. Caritas looks forward to partnering with government to ensure that Australian investments in economic growth and trade relations enable the world's poorest access to improved security and prosperity.

The Government will index pensions, including the age pension and the disability support pension, to inflation rather than wages, which is the higher measure, from September 2017.