



# St Mary's Parish

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

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**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**13 July 2014**

## First Reading Is 55:10-11

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

*The word of the Lord.*

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8**

*(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

- 1 You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)
- 2 And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)
- 3 You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
- 4 The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;*

*all who come to him will live for ever.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 13:1-23

*(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,  
see and see again, but not perceive.  
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,  
their ears are dull of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes,  
for fear they should see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their heart,  
and be converted  
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## Reflection

*by Greg Sunter*

*The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the Jewish world of the 1st Century. For most of his listeners, that world was an agricultural one and so the stories Jesus told were about the everyday realities of people's lives. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, building houses, planting seeds and reaping harvests. The imagery he used was drawn from the lived experience of those he taught. Jesus used a style of storytelling that was popular at the time: parable. A parable is a story with a moral or a lesson. A parable usually involves an extended metaphor and, at its heart, is teaching the listener about how to live or how to behave.*

*Another feature of parables is that they can be understood at different levels. At one level, there is the literal meaning of a parable – what it says is what it is about. In today's gospel, the parable of the sower can be read or heard as a literal story about sowing seed and the lesson one might take from it is to be careful where you throw the seed when sowing. At another level, parables have a metaphoric meaning. In this instance, Jesus actually explains the symbolism of the parable to his disciples. There is a further, interpretive level of a parable where a modern reader asks, 'What has that story got to say to me here and now?'*

*In his conversation with the disciples, Jesus makes clear that only some people are open to understanding the depth of the message contained within his parables. Some people will only ever hear the story and never hear the message. Mind you, he still has to explain the parable to the disciples! He has just chastised those who fail to understand and yet walks the disciples through the parable step by step!*

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ST MARY'S ROSTER: 19th 20th July 2014		
	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
<b>Welcome</b>	Helen Watt John Schurmann	Alida Aylmer
<b>Commentator</b>	<b>Karen Brewis</b>	<b>Annette Mason</b>
<b>First Reader</b>	Mary Walter	Janet Foster
<b>Second Reader</b>	<b>Ted Oliver</b>	<b>John Hockey</b>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>	volunteer	Sutherland Family
<b>PowerPoint and iPad</b>	Pauline Murphy	O'Brien Family
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	Team: 8 G Healy, T Groves & K Shanahan	Team: 1 R Taylor, G McDonald, S Pierce
<b>Ministers of Communion This Weekend</b>		
<b>6 pm</b>	Team: <b>7 J Ryan, M Byrne &amp; I McGrath.(3 Required)</b>	
<b>10:30 am</b>	Team : <b>4 F Soulsby, G Howell, D Dunn &amp; D Brody. (5 Required)</b>	

ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER 20th July 2014	
<b>Lector</b>	Bill Dunn
<b>Prayers</b>	Don Adamson
<b>Special Minister</b>	Margie Eales
<b>Gifts</b>	Aileen & Anita


**St Mary's Church CLEANING July**

S. McCaskill  
K Mulley  
J. Ross  
A. Onderwater


NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY MASS TIMES		
20th July 16th Sunday In Ordinary Time		
Hamilton	Mass Mass Mass	6:00pm 10:30am 5:00pm
Dunkeld	<b>Mass</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
Glenthompson	SAWC	9:00am
Macarthur	<b>Mass</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
Penshurst	Mass	9:00am

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Stewardship Starting Date 13/10/2013 (YTD) :\$76,394  
Stewardship Pledged Full Year : \$120,150



**Priest's Support:**  
*This week's Count Team: 5 A Milne & M Meagher*  
*Next week's Count Team: 1 V & F O'Brien, G McGrath, J Watt & M Stewart*


 **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

**DEATHS:**  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Anna Kozicki, Ursula Sosinski, Elizabeth Kranz, Kathleen Mumro, Ray Bullock, Alf Callaway.  
**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Gabrielle Mason, Marie Little, Gay Lee, Kerryn McCluggage, Dorothy Harrison, Frank Vogels, Val Carter, Dawn Anson, Joan Birrell.  
*Please note it is the relatives' responsibility to submit anniversary names to parish office.*

WEEKDAY MASS or (Prayer of the church with Holy Communion)		
PENSHURST	HAMILTON	
Wednesday 10am Mass	Tuesday Wed.	10am Mass 10am Mass
	Thur. Anointing Fri.	Mass 10am 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.

**Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament**  
The Church will be open daily till **7.00pm**. We are looking for **at least 2 volunteers** to fill vacant time spots on our roster caused by retirement. If you could spend some time between 5pm and 7pm on either the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month please let us know.  
Contact: Rita Taylor 55 723060 or Ted Oliver: 55722810

We welcome into the family of God through Baptism at St Mary's Parish

*Sofia Grace Gillies*  
Daughter of Sheldon & Emma



"The newsletter of Ballarat Diocesan Ecological Sustainability Group is available in the church foyer for those interested."

**Inter-church Ladies Social Planning Meeting**

St Andrew's Peace Memorial Hall  
Tuesday 15th July @ 1.30pm

We are needing representation at this meeting on behalf of St Mary's parish for more information please contact: Isabel Schulz 0458754609 or Mary Sherren 55722625. The social this year will be hosted by St Andrew's Presbyterian church on Monday 11th August.

**Diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal**

A day of Retreat; praying, listening and waiting upon the Holy Spirit to be held on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at St Michael & John's Church, Roberts Avenue, Horsham. Mass at 10.00am in the Church, then the Parish Centre until 3.30pm. Eileen McManus to lead the day. BYO lunch. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. All welcome.

**Fr Brendan Davey Farwell Mass - Ararat**

Fr Brendan Davey will retire on July 23, 2014 after 53 years of service. St Mary's Parish wishes to extend an invitation to all throughout the diocese to attend Fr Brendan Final Mass on **Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 10.30am** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 304 Barkly Street, Ararat.

*Thank You*

For the many cards, flowers, gifts and Birthday Wishes. Sr. Marg

**Bequest from Brian Rigney**

St Mary's Parish has received a generous bequest from the estate of Brian Rigney. The initial bequest is \$41,000 with maybe more to follow.

Brian had a strong sense of community and enjoyed very much being a part of the hospitality events within our parish. Our initial thoughts are that we would like to put this bequest towards enhancing the hospitality area in the foyer area of St Mary's Church in Hamilton. This may include other areas of the foyer, such as the crying room. If you would like to nominate someone to be part of a group to develop a concept plan for the foyer, please complete the nomination form below.

**We ask that you thank Brian with your prayers!**

..... I, ..... nominate

..... to be part of the planning team for the foyer refurbishment.  
place in 2<sup>nd</sup> collection bag.

**Looking Forward**

Everyone is invited to attend a pastoral planning Gathering. The Gathering at our Parish is on Tuesday 12th August 7pm-9pm. Each Gathering is to discuss issues arising from the *Looking Forward* Resource for Pastoral Planning document. Ideas will be shared, connections will be made, future possibilities will be looked at, particularly around the ideas of resource and task sharing.

**FEAST DAYS**

- 15th July - St Bonaventure
- 22nd July - St Mary Magdalene
- 25th July - St James, Apostle
- 26th July - Sts Joachim & Anne

**Adult "Getting Involved Globally"**

Immersion Experience Catholic Mission is offering opportunity for adults to participate in an immersion experience to both Timor Leste (21-30th July, 2014) and Ethiopia (20th September to 4th October, 2014). Details of both trips are available from the parish office. Further information can be obtained by contacting Catholic Mission Office, John Tweedie on 1800 267 296 or email [john.tweedie@gmail.com](mailto:john.tweedie@gmail.com)

**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:  
John & Margaret Duyvestyn      North Byaduk  
Rosary 7.30pm .                              All welcome.

**Parish Calender**

- 15th                      Penshurst Ecumenical Service 11am
- 28th                      Grandparents Day St Mary's Primary School Liturgy

**Prayer**

God, Sower of the seed,  
we marvel at how your word accomplishes  
the purpose for which you sent it forth:  
how few of the seeds you sow take root,  
yet how spectacular their abundant yield.  
Make us good soil,  
ready to receive what you sow,  
that we may hear the word and understand it,  
bear fruit and yield a hundredfold.

**Through Christ Our Lord.  
Amen.**

# Meeting the gaze of Christ betrayed

## Requesting the grace to weep and make reparation

*In his homily on Monday, Pope Francis described his anguish at priests and religious who betrayed their mission and abused innocent children. Six survivors of abuse were present at the mass, after which they met Pope Francis and spoke with him privately.*

The scene where Peter sees Jesus emerge after a terrible interrogation. Peter whose eyes meet the gaze of Jesus and weeps. This scene comes to my mind as I look at you, and think of so many men and women, boys and girls. I feel the gaze of Jesus and I ask for the grace to weep, the grace for the Church to weep and make reparation for her sons and daughters who betrayed their mission, who abused innocent persons. Today, I am very grateful to you for having travelled so far to be here.

Your pain was hidden for so long, camouflaged with an inexplicable complicity, until someone realized that Jesus was looking and others the same... and they met that gaze. And those few who began to weep have touched our conscience for this crime and grave sin.

What causes me distress and pain is that some priests and bishops, by sexually abusing minors, violated not only their own priestly vocation, but also the innocence of children. This is worse than despicable. It is like a sacrilegious cult, because these boys and girls had been entrusted to the priestly charism in order to be brought to God. And abusers sacrificed these children to the idol of their own concupiscence. They profane the very image of God in whose likeness we are created. Young hearts, as we all know, are so open and trusting; children have their own way of understanding the mysteries of God's love and are eager to grow in the faith. Today the Church looks into the eyes of Jesus in these boys and girls and wants to weep; she asks the grace to weep before the execrable acts of abuse which have left life long scars.

I know that these wounds are a source of deep and often unrelenting emotional and spiritual pain, and even despair. Many of those who have suffered in this way have sought relief in the path of addiction. Others have experienced difficulties in significant relationships, with parents, spouses and children. Suffering in families has been especially grave, since the damage provoked by abuse affects these vital family relationships. Some have even had to deal with the terrible tragedy of the death of a loved one by suicide. The deaths of these so beloved children of God weigh upon my heart and conscience, and that of the whole Church. To these families I express my heartfelt love

and sorrow. Jesus, tortured and interrogated with passionate hatred, is taken to another place and he looks out. He looks out upon one of his own, the one who denied him, and Peter weeps. Let us implore this grace for ourselves, together with the grace of making amends.

Sins of clerical sexual abuse against minors have a toxic effect on faith and hope in God. Some of you have held fast to faith, while for others the experience of betrayal and abandonment has weakened faith in God. Your presence here speaks of the miracle of hope, which prevails against the deepest darkness. Surely it is a sign of God's mercy that today we have this opportunity to encounter one another, to adore God, to look

foster the protection of minors, and they will be held accountable. What Jesus says about those who cause scandal applies to all of us: the millstone and the sea. (Mt 18:6.)

By the same token we will continue to exercise vigilance in priestly formation. I am counting on the members of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors — all minors, for whatever religion they belong to, they are little flowers which God looks upon lovingly.

I ask this support so as to help me ensure that we develop better policies and procedures in the universal Church for the protection of minors and for the training of church personnel in implementing those policies and procedures. We need to do everything in our power to ensure that these sins have no place in the Church.



in one another's eyes and seek the grace of reconciliation. Before God and his people I express my sorrow for the sins and grave crimes of clerical sexual abuse committed against you. And I humbly ask forgiveness.

I beg your forgiveness, too, for the sins of omission on the part of Church leaders who did not respond adequately to reports of abuse made by family members, as well as by abuse victims themselves. This led to even greater suffering on the part of those who were abused and it endangered other minors who were at risk.

On the other hand, the courage that you and others have shown by speaking up — by telling the truth — was a service of love, since for us it shed light on a terrible darkness in the life of the Church. There is no place in the Church's ministry for those who commit these abuses, and I commit myself to zero tolerance for harm done to a minor by any individual, whether a cleric or not. All bishops must carry out their pastoral ministry with the utmost care in order to help

Dear brothers and sisters, because we are all members of God's family, we are called to live lives shaped by mercy. The Lord Jesus, our Saviour, is the supreme example of this: though innocent, he took our sins upon himself on the cross. To be reconciled is the very essence of our shared identity as followers of Jesus Christ. By turning back to him, accompanied by our most holy Mother, who stood sorrowing at the foot of the cross, let us seek the grace of reconciliation with the entire people of God. The loving intercession of Our

Lady of Tender Mercy is an unfailing source of help in the process of our healing.

You and all those who were abused by clergy are loved by God. I pray that the remnants of the darkness which touched you may be healed by the embrace of Jesus and that the harm which was done to you will give way to renewed faith and joy.

I am grateful for this meeting. Please pray for me, so that the eyes of my heart will always see clearly the path of merciful love; that God will grant me the courage to persevere on this path for the good of all children and young people.

Jesus comes forth from an unjust trial, from a cruel interrogation and he looks into the eyes of Peter, and Peter weeps. We ask that he look at us and that we allow ourselves to be looked upon and to weep. And we ask that he give us the grace to be ashamed, so that, like Peter 40 days later we can reply: "You know that I love you"; and hear him say: "Feed my lambs." He says too, I would add, "Let no wolf enter the sheepfold."