



St Mary's Parish

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

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

27 July 2014

First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings
You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

- 1 My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
- 2 Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. (R.)
- 3 That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. (R.)
- 4 Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son. We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are

the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:44-52

or shorter form 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

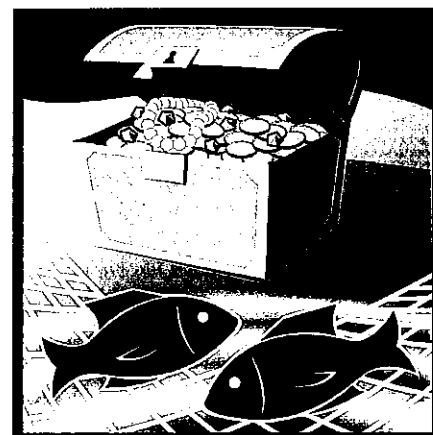
'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection

by Greg Sunter

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom



as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future.' This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.

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ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON

- Principal: **Jo Anne Bond**
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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 SUNDAY MASS TIMES

2nd & 3rd August
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

PENSURST	HAMILTON
Wednesday 10am Mass	Tuesday 10am Funeral Mass Wed. 10am Mass Thur. 10am Mass Fri. 10am Mass

**ST MARY'S ROSTER:
2nd & 3rd August 2014**

	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
Welcome	Irene Donne Alida Aylmer	John Schurmann
Commentator	Annette Mason	Ted Oliver
First Reader	Charlotte Stanhope	Margaret Meagher
Second Reader	Michael Stewart	Frank Waight
Offertory Procession	Stanhope Family	I&B Ferguson
PowerPoint and iPad	Glen Howell	Sr Marg
Ministers of Communion	Team: 3 M Bell, B Storer, A Wheaton G Goggin & T Irving	Team: 2 Z Celewich, T & F McMeel.
Ministers of Communion This Weekend		
6 pm	Team: 1 B Kaaye, P & M Dunn (3 Required)	
10:30 am	Team: V Lovell, P Stanhope, P Fitzgerald, T Daffey & F O'Brien (5 Required)	

**ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER
3rd August 2014**


Lector	St Joseph's
Prayers	School
Special Minister	Children
Leader	Mass


**St Mary's
Church
CLEANING
August**
St Mary's
Parents
& Friends.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Stewardship Starting Date 13/10/2013 (YTD) : \$79,541
Stewardship Pledged Full Year : \$120,150
Priest's Support: \$1,345

*This week's Count Team: 2 I&B Ferguson & L Stevens.
Next week's Count Team: 3 R Corbett, B Shanahan & T Oliver*



 **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

DEATHS: Peter Kelly
*Our deepest sympathy to Gina and family, Tom & Marie.
(Funeral Mass 10am Tuesday 29th July).*


ANNIVERSARIES: Rowena Finnegan, Harold 'Pete' Taylor,
Brian Storer, Ken Burton.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Vu Cuong, 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.

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.

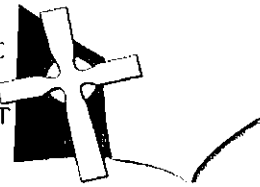
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
After Mass Wed. 10.30—12 noon.

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 3rd Tuesday or the 3rd Wednesday of each month please let us know.

Contact: Rita Taylor 55 723060 or Ted Oliver: 55722810

CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of
BALLARAT



Looking Forward Gathering



Tuesday, 12th
August

St Mary's Dunworth Centre
6.30pm Hot Soup & Bread Rolls



7.00pm – 9.00pm Looking Forward
Presenters are;

Fr Justin Driscoll – Vicar General

Amanda Smith – Pastoral Services Assistant
This gathering is for all who are interested
in the future of our Catholic Church
particularly in the Ballarat Diocese
and our own Parish.

Further reading is encouraged prior to the
gathering and can be found at
www.stmaryshamilton.org.au/news or in
the back of our churches.



St Vinnies Winter Appeal

so far \$3,768 Thank you

FEAST DAYS

26th July - Sts Joachim & Anne

29th July - St Martha

31st July - St Ignatius of Loyola

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:

Anne Marie & Phil Wheaton
47 Brown St Branxholme
Rosary 7pm All welcome.

Hamilton
catholic
youth group

10 Pin Bowling

@ Warrnambool

Sunday, 3rd August

Minimum Grade Five

Enquiries to John

& Sherrie Hockey 0419 823



Grandparents' Day!

Feel free to join us at the school for our
Grandparents and 'Senior' Friends Day
on Monday 28th July – celebrating the Feast of
St Ann and St Joachim.

You will be most welcome to come along and
join in – even if you don't have a grandchild at
the school.

9.30am Liturgy

10.00am Fun activities with children,
grandparents and 'senior' friends!

11.00am Morning tea

Parishioner who have offered to assist in the catering of
Peter Kelly's Funeral on Tue. 29th July, the Dunworth Centre
will be open for food to be dropped off from 9am. Thank you.

Enquires to: Anne Slattery 55708210



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

Lara Evie Johnstone

Daughter of Benita & Callum

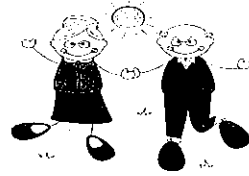
Prayer

Some discover your kingdom,
O God, by surprise,
the hidden treasure buried in a field;
to others your kingdom
is the pearl of great price,
the end of a long and arduous search.
Many the paths by which you lead us,
and wide the net that gathers us in.
Teach us to refrain from judging others,
that we may attend to our own commitment
and be trained by your Son
for the kingdom of heaven.

Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

The Second Half of Life

Falling into God



The second half of life is a certain kind of weight to carry because you now hold the pain of the larger world, but no other way of being makes sense or gives you the deep satisfaction your soul now demands and even enjoys. This new and deeper passion is what people mean when they say, "I must do this particular thing or my life will not make sense," or, "It is no longer a choice." Your life and your delivery system are now one, whereas before, your life and your occupation seemed like two different things.

Your concern is not so much *to have what you love* anymore, but *to love what you have*—right now. This is a monumental change from the first half of life, so much so that it is almost the litmus test of whether you are in the second half of life at all. Inner brightness, still holding life's sadness and joy, is its own reward, its own satisfaction, and your best and truest gift to the world.

Such elders are the "grand" parents of the world. Children and other adults feel so safe and loved around them, and they themselves feel so needed and helpful to children, teens, and midlife adults. And they are! They are in their natural flow.

Strangely, all of life's problems, dilemmas, and difficulties are now resolved not by negativity, attack, criticism, force, or logical resolution, but always by falling into a larger "brightness"—by falling into the good, the true, and the beautiful—by falling into God. All you have to do is meet one such shining person and you know that he or she is surely the goal of humanity and the delight of God.

Adapted from *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*



A prayer to Grandparents

I praise you dear Grandparents. I love you so much my love will never fade. You give me joy when I am down and I have you when I cry. I love my Grandparents.

God put a hedge of protection around them and care for them as they do to you

Wrap them in your love and hold them tight so they will never get a fright.

Amen.



Written by Lydia Rainey, St. Peter and Paul National School.

