



# St Mary's Parish

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

23 Dinwoodie Street  
HAMILTON VIC 3300

Ph: 03 5571 1161

E-mail: [hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
Web: [www.stmaryshamilton.org.au](http://www.stmaryshamilton.org.au)

**4th Sunday of Advent, Year C**

**20 December 2015**

## First Reading Mi 5:1-4

*A reading from the prophet Micah*

*Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.*

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
the least of the clans of Judah,  
out of you will be born for me  
the one who is to rule over Israel;  
his origin goes back to the distant past,  
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon  
them  
till the time when she who is to give birth  
gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will  
come back  
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock  
with the power of the Lord,  
with the majesty of the name of his God.  
They will live secure, for from then on he  
will extend his power  
to the ends of the land.  
He himself will be peace.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4**

*(R.) Lord, make us turn to you;  
let us see your face and we  
shall be saved.*

- O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted.  
(R.)
- May your hand be on the man you  
have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon  
your name. (R.)

## Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

*I am coming to do your will.*

This is what Christ said, on coming into  
the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,  
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or  
sacrifices for sin;

then I said,  
just as I was commanded in the scroll of  
the book,

'God, here I am! I am coming to obey  
your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want  
what the Law lays down as the things to be  
offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations,  
the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and  
you took no pleasure in them; and then he  
says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your  
will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace  
it with the second. And this will was for us  
to be made holy by the offering of his body  
made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Lk 1:39-45

*A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke*

*Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from  
the mother of my Lord?*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she  
could to a town in the hill country of Judah.  
She went into Zechariah's house and greeted  
Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard  
Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb  
and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.  
She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women  
you are the most blessed, and blessed is the  
fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured  
with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

For the moment your greeting reached my  
ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes,  
blessed is she who believed that the promise  
made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## Reflection

*by Greg Sunter*

The gospel passages of the second and  
third weeks of Advent this year featured  
John the Baptist in his role of preparing  
the way for the coming of Jesus; the one  
who announces the arrival of the Christ.  
In this week's passage, which goes back  
to an earlier point in the gospel of Luke,  
we might say that the as yet unborn John  
is already recognising the presence of the  
Christ. When Mary goes to visit her cousin,  
Elizabeth, the child within Elizabeth's womb  
- John - leaps for joy. At the time of the  
Annunciation, when Mary was told by the  
angel Gabriel that she was to give birth to  
a child, Mary is also told that Elizabeth and  
Zechariah, although very old, were to also  
give birth to a child. Mary rushes to visit  
Elizabeth, not to make sure that the angel  
was telling her the truth but because the  
fact that Elizabeth was also pregnant was  
a sign of confirmation to Mary that she had  
indeed made the right decision. Elizabeth's  
unlikely pregnancy confirms for Mary the  
even greater truth of her own pregnancy.  
These two women, separated by age and  
distance, share a common experience  
of God acting in their lives to bring about  
unlikely events. The lives of their two  
children will be inextricably linked such that  
the one who leapt for joy in his mother's  
womb will eventually baptise the other and  
announce the arrival of his ministry to the  
people of Israel.

*The joy expressed by Elizabeth and her  
child reflects the joy of all people of faith  
as we draw so close to the celebration of  
Christmas and the greatest expression of  
God's love - to enter into the world as one  
just like us and share our experience.*

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the  
Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on  
English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts,  
from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England  
and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations  
are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966,  
1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday  
& Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd  
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

**Parish Leadership Team**

Parish Priest: **Fr Patrick Mugavin:** patrick.mugavin@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Manager: **John Hockey:** manager@stmaryshamilton.org.au

Secretaries: **Carolyn Stanhope and Kymhan Watson:**  
hamilton@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Noreen McLeish:** faith@stmaryshamilton.org.au

Office Opening Hours: 9am—4pm Tues to Fri

Office Address: 23 Dinwoodie St, HAMILTON Phone: 03 5571 1161

*We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the Gunditjmara people.*

**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 McGinness**

Phone: (03) 5551 1200

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	4 <sup>th</sup> Sun	5 <sup>th</sup> Sun
<b>Penshurst 8:30am</b>	Mass	No Serv (To Ham)	Mass	SAWC	Mass
<b>Dunkeld</b>	SAWC 9am	No Serv (To Glen)	Mass 8.30 am	Mass 8.30am	SAWC 9am
<b>Glen 8:30am</b>	SAWC	Mass	Mass	No Serv (To Dunkeld)	SAWC
<b>Macarthur 8:30am</b>	Mass	SAWC	No Serv Ham or Orford 9am	Mass	Mass

<b>ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER</b> 27th December	
Lector	Catherine Loria
Leader	Brendan Kelly
Prayers	Don Adamson
Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti

**Weekday Mass or SAWC**  
Tue, Wed, Thurs. & Friday @ 10am St Mary's Parish Hamilton Day Chapel. All Welcome

<b>ST MARY'S ROSTER: Next W/end - 26th &amp; 27th Dec</b>		
	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
<b>Welcome</b>	Helen Watt John Schurmann	Alida Aylmer Rita Taylor
<b>Commentator</b>	Annette Mason	David Dunn
<b>1st Reader</b>	Margaret Meagher	Geraldine McDonald
<b>2nd Reader</b>	Ian Ferguson	C Schlaghecke
<b>Offertory</b>	T Tuppen & J Gustus	Rita Taylor
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Chris Jansen	Hockey Family
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	Z Celewych, T&F McMeel	M Bell, B Storer, G Goggin & T Irving
<b>Cuppa</b>		Noreen McLeish

**Church Cleaning January**  
Leonie Pullar

	This Weekend	Ministers of Communion
6 pm	Peter & Maureen Dunn	
10.30am	V Lovell, P Stanhope, P Fitzgerald & R Taylor	

**Parish Collections**  
Stewardship: \$45,258 Pledged: \$108,779  
Priest Support: \$1,809  
**Weekend counters :** V&F O'Brien, G McGrath,  
M Stewart & J Watt.  
Next w/end counters: I&B Ferguson & L Stevens

"The Joy of the Gospel" by Pope Francis  
28. A key part of this must be the local parish. The parish must be in real contact with the homes and lives of its people. The parish is a true community of communities.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**  
**DEATHS:**

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

John Randall, Edward Brown, Timothy Neeson,  
Terry Nunan, Nellie Landini, Melva Ackland  
Muriel Kinnealy.

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:**

Val Carter, Claire Kinnane, Marg Lane  
Connie McArthur, Heather Boyd,  
Kerryn McCluggage, Shirley McNamara,  
Bernadette Smith.



**Youth Group Christmas Picnic**  
When: Sun 20th Dec  
@ 12pm-3pm.

Where: Botanical Gardens (BBQ area).  
Bring along your family for a lovely  
picnic. Please bring lunch to share.  
RSVP: Charlotte to 0437 017 296.



**Feasts Days December**

Friday 25th – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
Saturday 26th - St Stephen The First Martyr  
Sunday 27th - The Holy Family of Jesus Mary & Joseph  
Monday 28th - The Holy Innocents

**Christmas Lunch**

Thank you to all who have so far kindly donated to our  
Parish Christmas Lunch, we still require Roast Pork, (Cooked  
& Sliced) to finalise our 2015 Christmas Lunch menu.  
Thank you!

**Christmas Offerings Envelopes**

It is a Catholic tradition to include in our Christmas gifts  
an offering that contributes to the support of our priests.  
Their annual stipend is drawn from the First Collec-  
tions which needs “topping up” with your  
generous Christmas Offerings.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

St Patrick’s Dunkeld - Vigil Mass 6pm  
**St Joseph’s Penshurst - Vigil Mass 7pm**  
St Thomas’ Glen - Vigil Mass 7.30pm  
**St Malachy’s Macarthur - Christmas Day 9am**

St Mary’s Hamilton -  
Vigil 6pm(Children focus)  
Vigil Mass 8pm  
& **Christmas Day 9am.**



*We welcome into the family of God  
through Baptism*

*at St Mary’s, Hamilton*

**Angus Beattie**

*Son of Rhett & Shauna Beattie*



**CHRISTMAS EVE  
VIGIL MASS 6PM**



Thank you to all the children who  
have volunteered for the Nativity  
scene during our 6pm Mass Christmas Eve,  
so the children feel comfortable in their role we will have a  
30 minute practise at **3 - 3.30pm on Wednesday 23rd**  
at St Mary’s Church.

**On the night all children are invited to come dressed as  
an Angels or Shepherds the more the better.**

Thank you Noreen

**PRAYER**

O God of hosts,  
O shepherd of your people,  
you chose Mary, the humble daughter of Israel,  
to become the earthly dwelling-place  
of your incarnate Word.  
Stir up within your church  
such wholehearted devotion to your saving purpose,  
that with Christ we may come into the world  
to do your will,  
and with Mary offer ourselves to you  
as an unceasing canticle of praise.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
*who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever. AMEN*

# CATHNEWS

Subscribe | and keep up | [cathnews.com.au](http://cathnews.com.au)

## **Pope Francis voted Newsmaker of the Year by religion writers**

American religion journalists voted Pope Francis their Newsmaker of the Year for the third year in a row, reports the Religion News Service.

## **Survey: Christians, atheists go to Church at Christmas for Jesus**

The main reason most US adults - Christians and many unbelievers, too - give for going to church at Christmas is to "honour Jesus," according to a new survey from the evangelical research agency LifeWay Research.

## **Sister Jane goes to Canberra to take a stand for refugees**

14-Dec-2015

Dressed in Advent's liturgical colour of purple, Sister Jane Keogh is "standing, sitting and walking in front of Parliament House" for the 26 days leading up to Christmas, reports The Canberra Times.

## "Have the courage to be truly happy!"

*Pope Francis*



## **Pope hails climate agreement, urges special care for the poor**

Pope Francis has commended world leaders for reaching an agreement in the recently-concluded Paris climate talks, urging the international community promptly put it into action, reports the Catholic News Agency.

## **Time for forgiveness begins, as holy doors open worldwide**

Pope Francis has opened the Holy Door at the Basilica of St John Lateran, declaring that the time for tenderness, joy and forgiveness has begun, reports the Catholic News Service.