



St Mary's Parish

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

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HAMILTON VIC 3300

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2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C

21 February 2016

First Reading Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading Phil 3:17-4:1 or Phil 3:20 – 4:1 (shorter form)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you

used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:**

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Lk 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord



Reflection

by Greg Sunter

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demon.

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're half asleep and we're told Peter doesn't know what he's saying when he starts talking about building tents. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is. What a great reading for the season of Lent!

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Parish Leadership Team

Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Mugavin: patrick.mugavin@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Manager: John Hockey: manager@stmaryshamilton.org.au
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Noreen McLeish: faith@stmaryshamilton.org.au
Office Opening Hours: 9am—4pm Tues to Fri
Office Address: 23 Dinwoodie St, HAMILTON Phone: 03 5571 1161
Weekend Mass Times at Hamilton: 6pm (Sat) & 10:30am (Sun)

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

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

Country Mass Schedule (New from Feb.7th)

	1 st Sun	2 nd Sun	3 rd Sun	4 th Sun	5 th Sun
Penshurst 8:30am	No Service (To Ham)	Mass	SAWC	Mass	Mass
Dunkeld 8:30am	Mass	No Service (To Glen)	Mass	SAWC	SAWC
Glenthompson 8:30am	SAWC	Mass	No Service (To Dunkeld)	Mass	SAWC
Macarthur 8:30am	No Service (To Ham)	SAWC	Mass	SAWC	Mass

ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER
 28th February 2016

Lector	Margie Eales
Leader	
Prayers	Brendan Kelly
Special Minister	Catherine Loria
Gifts	

Parish Collections

Pledged: \$108,779
 Stewardship: \$62,934
 Priest Support: \$687

Weekend counters :

R Corbett, B Shanahan & T Oliver

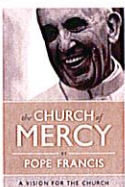
Next w/end counters:

A Milne & M Meagher

	Hamilton: Saturday 27th @ 6pm	Hamilton Sun 28th @ 10.30am
welcome	Gerald Healy & John Schurmann	Terry Hurley & Alida Aylmer
Commentator	Ted Oliver	Maree Bell
1st Reader	Margaret Meagher	Geraldine McDonald
2nd Reader	Mary Walter	Richard Murphy
Power Point	Chris Jansen	O'Brien Family
Offertory	M McGrath & P Murphy	Rita Taylor
Eucharist	Z Celewych, Peter & Maureen Dunn	T Hurley, G McDonald, N McLeish, J Hockey, R Fitzgerald

This Weekend Ministers of Communion	
6 pm	K Brewis, M Walter & T Groves
10.30am	M Bell, D Brody, R Taylor, G Howell & T Oliver

Church Cleaning March
 Helen Watt, Marie Grinham & Jan Wilson.



The Church of Mercy by Pope Francis

“And here the first word that I wish to say to you”: you! Do not be men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born of having many possessions, but of having encountered a Person: Jesus, in our midst.”

Weekday Mass or SAWC

Tue, Wed, Thurs. & Friday @ 10am
 St Mary's Parish Hamilton Day Chapel.

All Welcome!

Wednesday Meet Up

A Casual Cuppa & Chat, All Welcome!



Every Wednesday during school Terms
 Dunworth Centre @ 9:30-11.30am
 \$2 per family Great kids





St Mary's Parish

Hamilton

July 30th & 31st 2016

Celebrating 150 Years of Church Life
at St Mary's Hamilton

Celebration Dinner, Ceremonial Mass, History, Tours.

Aug 13th & 14th, 2016

St Mary's Parish, Reaching Out In Faith!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS DEATHS:

Wilhelmus Bekker

ANNIVERSARIES:

Cath Madin, Ernest Harris,
Patricia Edge, George Wishart.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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



Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

BULLETIN NOTES

- **Stations Of The Cross**
Every Thursday @ 7pm during Lent followed by Rosary.
- **Rosary every Sunday night @ 7pm**
- **St Gregory's Heywood 150th Anniversary**
Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Bird on Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 5.00pm. Dinner at 6.30pm at the Heywood Hotel, pay as you go for meals and drinks. Bookings for dinner by February 22 to Bev Keane, ph. 5527 1559, email itisi5@bigpond.com or Kaye Sullivan ,ph. 5527 1817.

Feasts Days

Sun. 21st - 2nd Sunday of Lent

Mon. 22nd - The Chair of St Peter the Apostle



St Mary's Primary School
Hamilton

Applications are invited for a part-time Secretarial position.

Applications and enquiries should be forwarded to: The Principal, Miss Jo-Anne Bond

St Mary's Primary School

E-mail: principal@smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

E-mail applications preferred

PO Box 788

Hamilton 3300

Phone: 03 5551 9000

For full details see website:

www.smhamilton.catholic.edu.au

Closing date: Friday 4th March, 2016

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Cath News - www.cathnews.com.au

Fr John McKinnon www.johnmckinnon.org

Fr John Corrigan blog - www.acountrypriest.com

www.youngcatholicmums.com

The Australian Christian Meditation Community...

- is an ecumenical community committed to Christian Contemplative prayer
- promotes an ancient practice of stillness and silence
- is rooted in the teaching of Jesus on prayer
- leads to a personal encounter with the sacred
- loosens the grip of anxieties and addictions
- assists meditators to live more fully in the presence of divine love

Our parish group meets each Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm at the parish house. All welcome, especially newcomers.

PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
compassionate and merciful
in all your ways.

Light the path before us that we may walk
in the way of justice and mercy.
May each step lead us closer to your glorious
reign, where the radiance of your peace and
goodness will shine upon all people.

With gratitude for your eternal light
we walk together to glorify your name.

We ask this
through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.



ROYAL COMMISSION SITTING IN BALLARAT.



The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will return to Ballarat next week to hold a public hearing that will examine:

- 1. The response of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat and other Catholic Church authorities in Ballarat to allegations of child sexual abuse against clergy or religious.*
- 2. The response of the Congregation of the Christian Brothers in St Patrick's Province, Australia, to allegations of child sexual abuse against Christian Brothers.*
- 3. Any related matters.*

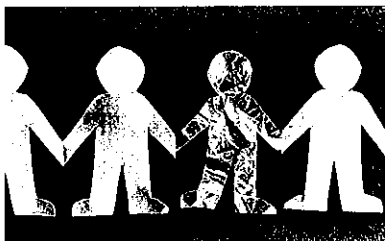
This is an important albeit painful process for victims and survivors of abuse, for their supporters and for our Church. We pray for all those involved.

We do wish to reassure you that the safety of every student is important for our whole school communities and we do not take this responsibility lightly.

If your child seems concerned by the proceedings or the news coverage, please contact the relevant school principal which contact details are listed at the heading of this bulletin.

If you wish to raise a concern about child sexual abuse or to seek personal support, the following contacts may be helpful:

- For any criminal matter, contact Victoria Police directly - 131 444*
- The Royal Commission Support Line - 1800 099 340*
- For queries about child protection matters, Catholic Education Office Ballarat's Child Protection Officer is Susan Renn - 5337 7139*
- Relationships Australia, an external government funded counselling service - 1800 052 674*



Hum Noy's story - Knowledge helps our children grow

'Education is an important mission, which draws young people to what is good, beautiful and true' Pope Francis. Duangmala wished for a bright future for her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, who has Down Syndrome. However, she feared he would remain isolated and never reach his full potential due to a lack of support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos.

Thankfully, everything changed when Duangmala and Hum Noy were introduced to the Intellectual Disabilities Unit, which was set up by the Lao Disabled People's Association with the support of Caritas Australia. This specialised school provides learning support and nurturing care to 50 children with intellectual disabilities in the Laos capital, Vientiane.

Since starting school, Hum Noy's behaviour and abilities have changed remarkably. He is no longer isolated, lonely or frustrated, and his communication skills have advanced quickly. "Hum Noy is learning how to follow instructions and say the names of his teachers and friends," says Duangmala proudly. "He likes to draw, play instruments, and when they do aerobics he joins in!"

The program has also opened new opportunities for Duangmala, who received training to become a teacher at Hum Noy's school. Now, she is hopeful that her son and his classmates can lead more prosperous, fulfilling lives. "It's important to use our knowledge to help our children grow and develop," she says. "We are lucky to have this program."