



St Mary's Parish

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

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5th Sunday of Lent, Year C

13 March 2016

First Reading Is 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done
before.

See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see
it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the
wilderness

(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

*(R.) The Lord has done
great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion
from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back,
full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 3:8-14

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

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in
order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will
outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted

the loss of everything, and I look on everything
as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and
be given a place in him. I am no longer trying
for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection
that comes from the Law, but I want only the
perfection that comes through faith in Christ,
and is from God and based on faith. All I want is
to know Christ and the power of his resurrection
and to share his sufferings by reproducing the
pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope
to take my place in the resurrection of the dead.
Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not
yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture
the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me.
I can assure you my brothers, I am far from
thinking that I have already won. All I can say is
that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what
is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the
prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in
Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 2:12-13

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

Gospel Jn 8:1-11

*A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John*

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak
he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the
people came to him, he sat down and began to
teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman
along who had been caught committing
adultery; and making her stand there in full view
of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this
woman was caught in the very act of committing
adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to
condemn women like this to death by stoning.
What have you to say?' They asked him this as
a test, looking for something to use against him.
But Jesus bent down and started writing on the
ground with his finger. As they persisted with
their question, he looked up and said, 'If there
is one of you who has not sinned, let him be
the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent
down and wrote on the ground again. When they
heard this they went away one by one, beginning
with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with
the woman, who remained standing there. He
looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they?
Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she
replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus
'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Reflection

by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

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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
 20th March 2016

Lector	Don Adamson
Leader	Brendan Kelly
Prayers	Celie Peach
Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti
Gifts	

Parish Collections

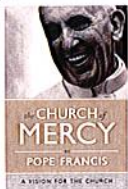
Pledged: \$108,779
 Stewardship: \$68,947
 Priest Support: \$775

Weekend counters :
V & F O'Brien & G McGrath
Next w/end counters:
 F&D Soulsby & G Howell

	Hamilton: Saturday 19th @ 6pm	Hamilton Sun 20th @ 10.30am
welcome	Sandra McCaskill, J Schurmann	Felicity Shaw & Alida Aylmer
Commentator	Margaret Meagher	Margaret Roberts
1st Reader	Kerry Stevens	Richard Beks
2nd Reader	Terrielynn Groves	Michael Stewart
Power Point	Chris Jansen	Noreen McLeish
Offertory	Brian & Trish	Noreen Doherty
Eucharist	B Kaaye, J Bond & P Murphy	V Lovell, P Stanhope, P Fitzgerald, B Storer & R Taylor

This Weekend Ministers of Communion	
6 pm	G Goggin, D Brody & T Oliver
10.30am	F Soulsby, D Dunn, M Bell, G Howell & P Fitzgerald

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



The Church of Mercy by Pope Francis

“Our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society’s most neglected members.”

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 playroom





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:

DEATHS: Kevin Barber

ANNIVERSARIES:

John Baumer, (Vincent) Baden Merrett, John Kinnealy,
Patricia Kempton, Joan Brownlee, Jim Reed,
Aimie Callaway, Ellen Malcolm, Kathleen Franklin.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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

Youth Group St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Come along for an Irish themed
dinner

and then to watch an Irish movie.

Into the West (97 minutes)

Hope you can attend!



Saturday 19th March at 7pm.
Dunworth Centre.

Gr. 5 to Yr. 12.

RSVP: John Hockey 0439 319 823.



St Mary's Parish
&
Primary School
MEET, MIX & MINGLE



Come along for a social afternoon
in the Gardens

When: Sunday 20th March 2016

Where: Hamilton Botanic Garden

Time: 12- 2pm

BYO Picnic and Drinks

EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE KIDS!

All Welcome

PRAYER

O Lord, we ask

that we be completely transformed
into your mercy

and to be your living reflection.

Help us, O Lord, that our eyes may be merciful
so that we may look and see with compassion.

Help us, O Lord, that our ears may be merciful
so that we may hear the cries of the oppressed.

Help us, Lord, that our tongues may be merciful,
so that our words may bring care and justice.

Help us, O Lord, that our hands may be merciful
for deeds of kindness and generosity.

May your mercy, O Lord, rest upon us.

Amen.

Feasts Days

Thur. 17th - St Patrick.

Fri. 19th - St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed
Virgin Mary.

Sun. 20th - Palm Sunday

BULLETIN NOTES

- **Reconciliation** Tue. 22nd March
St Mary's Hamilton @ 7pm.
- **Stations Of The Cross**
Every Thursday @ 7pm during Lent
followed by Rosary.
- **Rosary** every Sunday night @ 7pm.
- **Meditation** meets each Wednesday 7.30-
8.30pm at parish house. All Welcome

MASS OF THE OILS: MONDAY 21 March 2016

The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30 p.m. on Monday, March 21. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2016, the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All members of the Diocese are invited to this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church.

www.stmaryshamilton.org.au





Fifth
Sunday
of Lent

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION



Sreymom's story - Learning more, helping many

'Everyone...should be able to make a personal contribution to putting an end to so many injustices' Pope Francis.

Sreymom, now 26, lives in the remote Mondulkiri province of Northeast Cambodia, where extreme poverty has led to many health issues for the region's indigenous population.

When she started work at the local Health Centre, Sreymom was eager to use her three years of midwife training to help care for indigenous mothers and children in the surrounding villages. But soon she realised she lacked the practical experience she needed to safely assist in childbirth. "When I had to assist a delivery," Sreymom recalls, "my body and knees were trembling. I was sweating and losing confidence."

Seeing Sreymom's difficulties – and her true potential – a local healthcare worker helped Sreymom to enrol in the Mondulkiri Community Health Program. Established by Caritas Cambodia and supported by Caritas Australia, the program empowers and trains local health centre staff in pre- and post-natal care, safe delivery practices and children's health.

The course not only improved Sreymom's skills as a midwife, but also gave her information on broader health issues, which she could take back to the indigenous women in her community.

These days, Sreymom delivers one or two babies each month and is trusted by the indigenous community. "If we did not have the program, more pregnant women would face death," Sreymom says. "I hope Australian people will support my communities more in building awareness in healthcare, hygiene, nutrition and sanitation."

Reconciliation 2016

St Mary's Parish congratulates the following children as they celebrate the sacrament of

Reconciliation this week
Wed.16th ,Thur.17th & Fri 18th 6-7pm.

Our prayerful blessings are with them as they continue on their Sacramental Journey:

Hannah Bradbury, Grace Cleaver, Phoebe Dunn, Hugh Fitzgerald, Charlie Fitzpatrick, Isabella Holmes, Olivia Houlihan, Bridget Mailes, Isabelle Schaap, Koby Slattery-Fisher, Ava Sobey, Lachlan McArthur, Archie Page, Heath Givvs, Maddison Cotton, Isaac Shaw, Harrison Purcell, Justin Hawker & Anika McArthur.



Penola SA: Celebrating the Sesquicentenary

The Sisters of St Joseph, in conjunction with the Mary MacKillop Penola Centre and St Joseph's Catholic Parish Penola invite you to the celebration of 150 years since the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph by St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Wood in Penola on the 19 March 1866.



On **Saturday, 19 March**, at 10.30 an open air Mass will be celebrated at the Mary MacKillop Stable School Park in Bowden Street Penola. On **Sunday, 20 March** at 10.30am Palm Sunday Mass, St Joseph's Church Portland Street, followed by the Opening and Blessing of the new Church Porch at 11.30am.

Rebuild

Open Meeting

Sunday 20th March
11.45am Day Chapel

Please come along and contribute to the future of our parish.