



# St Mary's Parish

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

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**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**29 January 2017**

## First Reading Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

*A reading from the prophet Zephaniah*

*In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.*

Seek the Lord  
all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity,  
seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will seek  
refuge in the name of the Lord.  
They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3**

*(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*  
or

*(R.) Alleluia!*

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,  
who is just to those who  
are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to  
the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. *(R.)*
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to  
the blind,  
who raises up those who are  
bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan.  
*(R.)*
3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. *(R.)*

## Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul  
to the Corinthians*

*God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.*

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time  
when you were called: how many of you  
were wise in the ordinary sense of the  
word, how many were influential people,

or came from noble families? No, it was  
to shame the wise that God chose what is  
foolish by human reckoning, and to shame  
what is strong that he chose what is weak  
by human reckoning; those whom the  
world thinks common and contemptible  
are the ones that God has chosen – those  
who are nothing at all to show up those  
who are everything. The human race has  
nothing to boast about to God, but you,  
God has made members of Christ Jesus  
and by God's doing he has become our  
wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness,  
and our freedom. As scripture says: if  
anyone wants to boast, let him boast  
about the Lord.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:12

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Rejoice and be glad;*

*Your reward will be great in heaven.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 5:1-12

*A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Matthew*

*Happy are the poor in spirit.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill.  
There he sat down and was joined by his  
disciples. Then he began to speak. This is  
what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their  
heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for  
what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the  
cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you  
and persecute you and speak all kinds  
of calumny against you on my account.  
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be  
great in heaven.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## Reflection

*by Greg Sunter*

*The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast  
Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses'.  
Moses was revered in Jewish history not  
only as the one who led the people out of  
Egypt, but even more importantly as the  
one who received the Ten Commandments  
from God. The first five books of the Bible,  
known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law,  
were accredited to Moses for a very  
long time. So Moses was seen as the  
one who received the Commandments  
from God and who also wrote down the  
Law of the people, the Torah. He was the  
Law-Giver for the Jewish people. When  
the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as  
the new Moses it emphasises the way  
in which Jesus sought to bring the Law  
of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a  
new understanding and appreciation of  
both the Law and God. Jesus introduced  
a new way of perceiving God; as a God  
of compassion and mercy, rather than  
the jealous, vengeful God that is often  
expressed in the Old Testament.*

*The Sermon on the Mount that begins with  
the Beatitudes comes out of this historical  
context. Jesus is trying to present a new  
interpretation of the right way to be in  
relationship with God; one that is not  
dominated by rules and regulations.  
The text is so familiar to us today that it  
is almost bland. However, at the time it  
must have been incredibly confronting.  
The attitudes and states of being that  
Jesus blesses were not the characteristics  
that were valued in the society of his  
time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning  
were not considered strong, desirable  
qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of  
how to be in right relationship with God  
and others was confronting the standards  
and expectations of the time.*

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**ANNIVERSARIES DURING JANUARY**

Margaret Skinner, Anthony Gordon, Helen Foster, Nora Priddle, Valerie Kearney, John Donkers, Barry Rigby, Gladys Flowers, Louise Toleman, Tony Hurley, Bill Wilson, Bonnie Olle, Betty Finnegan, Peter Gee, Herbert Olowoniyi, Kathleen Forsyth, Rose Marie Attleir, Elizabeth Hatherall, Brian Egan, Marie Bendow, Lance Norris, Esmond Munro.

Deaths :

**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**

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	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</b> 8:30am	No Service (To Ham)	Mass	SAWC	Mass	Mass
<b>Dunkeld</b> 8:30am	Mass	No Service (To Glen)	Mass	SAWC	SAWC
<b>Glenthompson</b> 8:30am	SAWC	Mass	No Service (To Dunkeld)	Mass	SAWC
<b>Macarthur</b> 8:30am	No Service (To Ham)	SAWC	Mass	SAWC	Mass

**PRAYER**

Not to the wise and powerful of this world,  
O God of all blessedness,  
but to those who are poor in spirit  
do you reveal in Jesus  
the righteousness of your kingdom.  
Gathered here,  
like the disciples on the mountain,  
we long to listen as Jesus, the teacher, speaks.  
By the power of his word  
refashion our lives  
in the pattern of the beatitudes.  
Through Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER 12th February**

<b>Lector</b>	Coleen Page
<b>Gifts</b>	St Joseph's School
<b>Prayers</b>	St Joseph's School
<b>Special Minister</b>	Brendan Kelly
<b>Leader</b>	

**Parish Collections**

**PRIEST SUPPORT:**

**Stewardship:**

**St Mary's School** resumes for Term 1 on Monday 30th for teachers and Friday 3rd Feb for Students. There will be a **9am Mass Monday morning, 30th Jan, in the church.** All parishioners welcome.

Date	Welcome	Computer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Commentator	Cuppa	Count Team
28/01	J Schurmann	P. Oliver-Snell	John Duyvestyn	I Ferguson	Annette Mason		M Cook, J Watt & M Stewart
29/01	Alida Aylmer N McLeish	Carolyn S	Maree Bell	V Lovell	Patricia Blohm	J&S Hockey	
04/02	Helen Watt J Schurmann	Bev Kaaye	Karen Brewis	John Duyvestyn	Annette Mason	Jacinta Ryan	F&D Soulsby Glenn Howell F&D Soulsby
05/02	Irene Donne & Terry Hurley	Felicity Shaw John Hockey	C Schlaghecke	Patricia Blohm	I. Underwood	A Slattery	
11/02	I Underwood J Schurmann	P Oliver-Snell	Ian Ferguson	Chris Jansen	Margaret Meagher		Ray Corbett B Shanahan Ted Oliver
12/02	Kerry Stevens Irene Donne	St Mary's School	Terrielynn Groves	John Houlihan	Jo-Anne Bond	O'Brien Family	
18/02	Gerald Healy J Schurmann	Chris Jansen	Kerry Stevens	Ted Oliver	John Duyvestyn	B & T Shanahan	
19/02	A Slattery F & D Soulsby	O'Brien Family	G McDonald	Helen Tripovich	Maree Bell	Sonia Shaw	