



St Mary's Parish

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

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First Sunday of Advent, Year B

3 December 2017

First Reading **Is 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8**

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens
open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains
would melt.

No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy
clothing.

We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the
wind.

No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our
sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

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.**

1. 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.)

2. 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.)

3. 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 **1 Cor 1:3-9**

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the
graces you have received through Jesus
Christ. I thank him that you have been
enriched in so many ways, especially
in your teachers and preachers; the
witness to Christ has indeed been
strong among you so that you will not
be without any of the gifts of the Spirit
while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus
Christ to be revealed; and he will keep
you steady and without blame until
the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ, because God by calling you has
joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and
God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation **Ps 84:8**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mk 13:33-37**

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your
guard, stay awake, because you never
know when the time will come. It is like
a man travelling abroad: he has gone
from home, and left his servants in
charge, each with his own task; and he
has told the doorkeeper to stay awake.
So stay awake, because you do not
know when the master of the house is
coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow,
dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he
must not find you asleep. And what I say
to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Stay awake! With these words, Jesus
cautions his disciples to be constantly
vigilant and to be alert to the return of
the Lord. It is a very fitting way to begin
the season of Advent. Advent has
traditionally been observed as a time of
preparation and waiting. It culminates in
the Christmas season and so the waiting
and preparation is related to the
celebration of the coming of Christ into
the world.

Perhaps the time of preparation this
Advent is also a call to stay awake and
stay alert in faith. One of the great
challenges to faith today is the
complacency that has taken hold of
many in our society. When life is
comfortable, the perceived need for faith
appears to diminish. Many young people
in our society cannot see the value of
religious belief or religious practice. In a
world of instant communication and
instant 'satisfaction', the reflective and
slow work of faith can seem too much
effort for some people. The gospel call to
stay awake in preparation for the coming
of the Lord is a call to continue the work
of bringing about the Kingdom of God.

Over the last three weeks, the gospel
passages from Matthew 25 were
reminders about continuing to prepare
for the coming of the Kingdom. This
week, with the beginning of Advent, it is
the gospel of Mark that also reminds us
that we cannot take the Kingdom for
granted and must remain vigilant in
working to realise the Kingdom. This
vigilance needs to be applied to nurturing
our own faith life as well as making a
difference in the lives of those around us
and the needy in society. Rather than
'Stay awake!' maybe some of us need to
be told, 'Wake up!' It is never too late to
pay closer attention to faith and perhaps
this Advent is an ideal time to do that.

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

Country Mass Schedule

	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 Penshurst

Penshurst Combined Churches Christmas

Carols : Sun.3rd Dec.@ 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall.

10th December 2017

Lector	Coleen Page
Prayers	St Joseph's School
Gifts	St Joseph's School
Special Minister	Brendan Kelly
Leader	
Communion to Hospital	Coleen Page

Our Parish Collections

1st Collection: Priest Support:\$816
2nd Collection: Stewardship (2017-2018 FY)
Pledged: \$118,820 Given: \$38,032

St Mary's Parish Mission Outreach

(10% of Stewardship) Given last Financial Year;
Sr Lorudes—Kenya Mission \$6,000
Children of Phoenix \$3,000

St Mary's Parish Ministry Roster

	2 & 3 December Ministers of Communion	9 & 10 December Minister of Communion
6 pm	J Ryan, P Murphy & K Stevens	J Gustus, P Kelly, R Roache.
10.30am	A Campbell, C Stanhope, S Fitzgerald, G Howell, J O'Donnell	Necola J, G McDonald, Priya, J Bond & F Soulsby.

Date	Welcome	Computer	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Commentator	Gifts	Cuppa	Count Team
2/12	J Schurmann	P Murphy	P Kelly	M Dunn	K Brewis	M Walter J Gustus	B & T Shanahan	R Corbett B Shanahan T Oliver
3/12	Campbell family	J Bond	Charlotte Stanhope	M Bell	A Aylmer	N Doherty	N McLeish & M Bell	I Ferguson & L Stevens
9/12	Helen & John Watt	Jo-Anne Bond	Maureen Dunn	Ian Ferguson	John Duyvestyn	Brian & Trish Shannahan		
10/12	Anne & Des Ricard & Ursula	Carolyn Stanhope	Helen Tripovich	Geraldine McDonald	Ilma Underwood	D Fitzgerald	John & Sherrie	

COMMUNITY TREE

You will once again have the opportunity to donate Christmas Hamper goods during Advent, from 3rd to 17th Dec.

St Vincent de Paul members will make up and deliver the Hampers prior to Christmas to families in need. Thank You.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

- ♦ **Hamilton Christmas Carols** Friday 8th Dec from 6pm. **Botanic Gardens B.B.Q.** available. 8pm Carols Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.
- ♦ **Glenthompson St Thomas' Combined Carols:**
Sat 9th Dec. @ 6pm . Dinner to follow at football ground. Please BYO DRINKS.

www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchhamilton



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Deaths:

Anniversary:

Leo Taylor, Sheila Hehir, Kevin Munro, Veronica Hockey, Terry McMeel, Muriel Macklin, Robert Pierce.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Graeme Sewell, Andrea Andre, Carissa Watt, Mary Guy, Jan Merrett, Kate Kuiper, Peter McCluskey, Edna Scullion, Margaret Hardingham, Gladys Ryan.

Christmas Eve Nativity

Children are again invited to join in the Christmas Nativity **at the 6pm**

Christmas Eve Mass. Come dressed as Shepherds or Angels and join the First Communion class of 2017 to help act out the Nativity story at the Gospel. All the more the merrier. Noreen



ANOINTING MASS

Wednesday 7th @ 9.30am Eventide

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2017

Is on again, and we are seeking your assistance please. A list of required items is up on the noticeboard in the

gathering space of church, if you would kindly add your name to any item(s) you may be able to provide. Alternatively please phone

Bridget Campbell on 0409 492 943

to let her know how you can help.

Help Needed

The Liturgy Group will be preparing the church for the Christmas celebrations

on **Tuesday 19th Dec at 10:30am**

and we would love some assistance.

If you have an hour or so to spare we would be most grateful.

Thank you

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Hamilton - 6pm (family focus) & 8pm Vigil
*Carols - 1/2 hr before Christmas eve Masses.

Dunkeld - 6pm Vigil
Penshurst - 7.30pm Vigil
Glenthompson - 9.15pm Vigil

CHRISTMAS DAY - 25 December
Hamilton - 9am

PRAYER

God our maker,

**Tear open the heavens and come down!
Keep us faithful to building your kingdom,
alert to your presence in those around us,
and blameless in our witness
until the dawning of the day
of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

hope

3rd December - 1st Sunday ADVENT

The Challenge of Hope.

Blessing on the Newly Baptized

10th December - 2nd Sunday ADVENT

The Challenge of Prophecy

Blessing on Expectant Parents.

Prophecy



Wednesday 13 December

Reconciliation

St Mary's Hamilton @ 7pm.

17th December - 3rd Sunday ADVENT

The Challenge of Witness.

Witness

St Mary's End of Year School Mass

23rd/24th December - 4th Sunday ADVENT

The Challenge of Disciples

Hamilton

Saturday 23rd @ 6pm

Sunday @ 10.30AM

Disciples

NO MORNING MASSES IN OUR COUNTRY COMMUNITIES.

I give you a new commandment: love one another; you must love one another just as I have loved you. It is by your love for one another, that everyone will recognise you as my disciples. *John 13: 34-35*

Please stay for a cuppa after Mass to live this Commandment!