



# St Mary's Parish

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

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**Second Sunday of Lent, Year B**

**25 February 2018**

## First Reading Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9**

*(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

1. I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful. *(R.)*
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. *(R.)*
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. *(R.)*

## Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

*God did not spare his own Son.*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

## 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.**

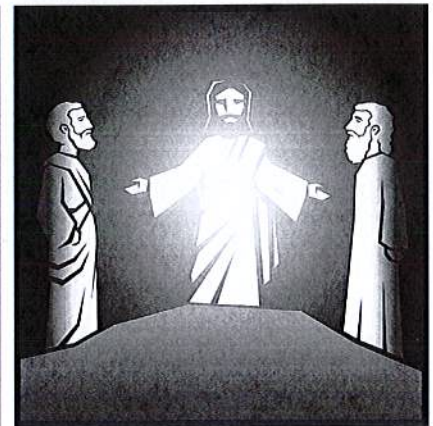
**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## Gospel Mk 9:2-10

*This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said '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 to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

Like so many other important events in the Bible, the events of this week's gospel occur on a high mountaintop. Mountaintops were places of special and dramatic encounter with God and the disciples' experience of the transfiguration is clearly no exception! In this instance, the disciples suddenly see Jesus' power fully revealed but they fail to fully understand what is going on. One might think how much more obvious could God be about trying to reveal Jesus' identity to the disciples, but still they don't really catch on. Peter thinks he has caught on to the message. When the great prophets Elijah and Moses appear beside Jesus, Peter understands Jesus to be part of the line of prophets in the Hebrew tradition. He believes he has had a great insight and is so impressed that he wants to remain on the mountaintop - setting up tents in honour of Jesus, Elijah and Moses. In essence, Peter has still only partially understood who Jesus is. He thinks he is the Messiah, but a Messiah in the same mould as the prophets of old, a prophet of the old tradition. He has not understood that Jesus is breaking that mould and creating a new vision, a new tradition - one that is endorsed by the voice of God on the mountaintop.

Rather than allowing the disciples to set up tents and remain in the 'high' of this experience, Jesus immediately leads the boys back down the mountain. This is perhaps the greatest message of this passage: that life is not lived on the mountaintop but back down in the valley. Although the mountaintop experience may have provided some new insight and new energy, it is back down in the valley that the world waits; that the real work needs to be done; that the sick and the poor are crying out for God's love and mercy.

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Weekend Mass Times @ Hamilton: 6pm (Sat) & 10:30am (Sun)

Weekday Mass Times @ Hamilton Tue, Thur, Frid. 10am  
& Wed 5.15pm

**ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON**

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Phone: (03) 5551 9000

**ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY, PENSURST**

Principal: Mr Matthew Uzkuraitis  
Phone: (03) 5576 5438

**MONIVAE COLLEGE, HAMILTON**

Principal: Mr Mark McGinnity  
Phone: (03) 5551 1200

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

**Country Mass Schedule**

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

**St Joseph's Penshurst**

Wed 28 - Opening School Mass 11:30am.

**11th March 2018**

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

**Our Parish Collections**

1st Collection: Priest Support: \$1127.

2nd Collection: Stewardship (2017-2018 FY)

Pledged: \$118,820 Given: \$65,138

**St Mary's Parish Mission Outreach**

(10% of Stewardship) This Financial Year;

Sr Lorudes—Kenya Mission \$5,000

**St Mary's Parish Ministry Roster**

|         | 24 & 25 February Ministers of Communion        | 3 & 4 February Minister of Communion             |
|---------|--|--|
| 6 pm    | P & M Dunn & Z Celewych                        | R Roache, P Fallon & K Brewis                    |
| 10.30am | T Hurley, K Barker, S Byron, V Lovell, Nola J. | A Campbell, Nicola, Charlotte, J Bond & J Hockey |

| Date  | Welcome                               | Computer          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading | Commentator           | Gifts                 | Cuppa                     | Count Team                               |
|-------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 24/02 | G Healy<br>J Schurmann                | Pauline<br>Kelly  | Margaret<br>Meagher     | Ray<br>Corbett          | John<br>Duyvestyn     | M McGrath<br>P Murphy | Helen & John<br>Watt      | F&D<br>Soulsby<br>&<br>G Howell          |
| 25/02 | A Slattery<br>F & D Soulsby           | O'Brien<br>Family | Carmel<br>Schlaghecke   | Charlotte<br>Stanhope   | Rohan<br>Fitzgerald   | J Daffey<br>N McLeish | Kim & Rohan<br>Fitzgerald |  |
| 03/03 | Helen Watt<br>J Schurmann             | Bev<br>Kaaye      | Ted<br>Oliver           | Ian<br>Ferguson         | Ray<br>Corbett        | B & T<br>Shanahan     |                           | R Corbett<br>B Shanahan<br>&<br>T Oliver |
| 04/03 | Richard &<br>Ursula<br>O'Brien Family | Glenn<br>Howell   | Chelsea<br>Storer       | Rohan<br>Fitzgerald     | Charlotte<br>Stanhope | Patricia<br>Blohm     | Sherrie &<br>Bridget      |  |

World Day of Prayer Friday 2nd March

*It is the celebration of the coming together of people of faith in the same God.*

Parishioners of St Mary's are warmly invited to Uniting Church Hamilton @ 1.30pm

Contact : Karen Brewis on

0429 413 780 or

Margaret Roberts on 55 722 562



**DUNKELD - St Patrick's**

**11am Prayer service**

**followed by light lunch**

**Pls bring a plate to share.**

## PLENARY COUNCIL

AUSTRALIA 2020

Why is this important?

Sunday 4 March

Day Chapel @ 11:45am

(All Welcome)

# Rebuild

## St Mary's Parish

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Deaths:** Margaret Nailon,  
Margaret Hardingham (Funeral Wed.28 @ 2.30pm)

**Anniversary:**

Ernest Harris, Patricia Edge, Daniel Lyons,  
Elizabeth Davis, Kevin Mugavin, Evelyn Presser,  
Bernadette Ferguson, Catherine Winnell.

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Noreen Kenny.

### **Sacramental Program 2018**

Anyone that couldn't attend the **Parents meeting** on Sunday 25 there will be an opportunity to receive the sacramental kit on **Wed. 28, St Mary's School@ 3pm.**

Noreen

St Mary's Book Club will meet at  
The Blue Malt on **Thursday, 1st March, at 2.00 pm**  
to review

*H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald.

Church Cleaning MARCH  
Jan Wilson & Helen Watt.

### What's happening this week in St Mary's Parish?

**Sunday:** Children's Liturgy of the Word  
: **Rosary** 7pm St Mary's Church.

**Wednesday :**

**Meditation** 7.30-8.30pm Parish House.

**Men's day out** Dunworth Centre 1.30-4.30pm.

**Thursday: Stations of The Cross** 7pm during Lent.

### **Celebration of St Patrick's Day**

**Saturday 17th March**

**ALL WELCOME**

**St Patrick's Church Dunkeld**

Mass at 6pm followed by An "Irish" meal.

Cost \$10per head. BYO DRINKS.

Raffle tickets available on the night

for Wood & Photographic

Voucher

(donated by Greg G).

Bookings essential

by Tuesday 13 March

Helen 55772375 OR Keryn

55772364

**Dunkeld Catholic Women's League**



### PRAYER

Merciful God, during this Lenten season,  
may we listen compassionately  
to the cries of those who are wandering.....  
especially the poor, the homeless, the rejected,  
the refugee, the lonely and the excluded,  
May we be a listening presence  
to our family and our community.

May we listen attentively  
to the call of creation  
to care for, honour and treasure  
our common home.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

[www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchhamilton](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchhamilton)



# PROJECT COMPASSION

## FOR A JUST FUTURE

*"I was so frustrated that I thought that my life was a waste...now I'm proud, I'm confident of myself and I'm sure I can expand my business to a new level." Janaki*

**Janaki is a young entrepreneur from Nepal who has turned her life around.**

**Growing up in a world of poverty and disadvantage, coupled with a forced marriage at an early age, she was in a very vulnerable position. She's now running her own successful sewing business while training others to do the same and has become an inspirational community leader.**

**A just future for Janaki has begun....**

Janaki grew up in the Surkhet district of Mid-Western Nepal. Around one-quarter of Nepal's population lives below the poverty line – it's even higher in the Mid and Far Western regions, at around 45 percent. Youth unemployment is also high, with low levels of education.

One of five children, living with her extended family, including her parents, uncle, aunt and grandparents, it was hard for Janaki to make ends meet. Belonging to a lower caste, her family often experienced discrimination.

Janaki's grandparents forced her into an early marriage at the age of twelve while her parents were in India seeking medical treatment for her brother. She went to live with her new husband and in-laws – until her husband died unexpectedly two years later.

The family's fragile financial status meant that they could not afford the proper treatment for Janaki's husband when he fell ill - and Janaki was unable to accompany him to a distant hospital for treatment. She was trying to raise the money to go and see him when he died.

"I was so helpless and worried that I couldn't be with him in all those painful moments. I used to cry every day and night. If we were able to manage money for his treatment at the right time, he would have been alive now," Janaki says.

Her husband's parents blamed Janaki for his death and she was thought to have brought ill fortune to his family.

She returned to live with her own family and in 2015 joined youth club formed by Caritas Australia's partners, Caritas Nepal and the Ekata Foundation Surkhet, as part of the Children and Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP).

CYEP empowers 14,160 children and young people annually. It increases the knowledge and leadership qualities of children and youth from disadvantaged and conflict-affected families, through the formation of clubs, information centres, networks and libraries. It provides jobs skills and helps them to create income-generating projects.

Janaki took part in the training and was encouraged to follow her dream of having her own business. She took a loan from the youth club to purchase her first sewing machine.

"I was so frustrated that I thought that my life was a waste. Slowly I realised that I need to move on and have some skills. Everybody used to doubt about my skills. But I stand

on my determination and stand firm to learn tailoring skills."

Nine years on, Janaki's life is a world away from her childhood days. She has 11 sewing machines and is running her own business, as well as teaching others. Now a youth club leader, Janaki is considered a role model in the community.

"Before, I was shy and was not able to speak confidently," Janaki says. "My confidence level has raised and through the motivation and guidance from Caritas, we are doing several awareness programs on community cleanliness, child marriage and the importance of self-dependence."

Janaki's mother says her daughter's future prospects have been transformed.

"I am very much motivated by the work done by my daughter.

She is providing us with all the basic needs like clothes, food, oil, and education for her brothers and sisters", Khima says. "Due to her, we are able to live a happy life. Villagers are telling me that my daughter has become a bigger personality. Before people used to insult her but now people have started praising her."

Janaki's young trainees are also grateful.

"Now we can earn our living by ourselves," Kishimi says. "We also want to be like Janaki so that we could help all those women who are living a hard life and those who are much

more vulnerable than us. She is our idol."

Although Janaki is paying back her loan, her growing business means that she needs to hire more sewing machines, which often break down, need repairs and take away from her income.

"Through my heart I felt that I need to be the leader and serve the community," says Janaki. "Now I'm proud, I'm confident of myself and I'm sure I can expand my business to a new level. I'm happy that I'm motivating and teaching other people as well."

"I appreciate all those respected peoples of Australia who are supporting this wise cause," Janaki says.

"With your help, women who experience domestic violence and who are financially vulnerable are getting new hope in their life which I think is very generous and kind. I thank you from bottom of my heart."

Janaki would like to encourage Caritas to continue the good work all over the world where there is a need – providing a just future for others like her.

**Janaki was able to create her sewing business with the support of people like you.**

**Her just future has started with empowerment.**

**A just future starts with you.**

*"Cultivate with love the seeds of goodness, beauty and truth that God sows in every new generation" –*

*Pope Francis*

