



# St Mary's Parish

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

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## The Ascension of the Lord, Year B

13 May 2018

### First Reading Acts 1:1-11

*Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6**

*(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:*

*a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

or

*(R.) Alleluia.*

1. All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. (R.)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
3. God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

### Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope

his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

### Or Optional Reading for Year B

**Eph 4:1-7. 11-13 (or longer form Eph 4:1-13)**

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

### Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19. 20

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Go and teach all people my gospel.*

*I am with you always, until the end of the world.*

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel Mk 16:15-20

*The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they

will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

### Reflection by Greg Sunter

This passage makes up the concluding verses of the Gospel of Mark. Actually, literary criticism of the Mark gospel suggests that the original gospel ended at 16:8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb in fear. Verses 9-20 appear to be a later addition to the gospel. The community in which this gospel was written expected Jesus to return within their lifetime and so the dramatic and suspenseful conclusion of the gospel at the discovery of the empty tomb makes perfect sense. However, it soon became apparent that Jesus' return was not going to come as soon as the believers had hoped and so the post-resurrection appearances and the commissioning to continue on with Jesus' work became much more important.

If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. If this were literally true, I guess there wouldn't be too many Christians around today! Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry. It is the 'whole world' to which they are sent; not just their cosy little corner of the world but the whole world. It's what Christian people for the last 2,000 years have been called to do: continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world. It's what each and every one of us is called to do today: 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. That doesn't mean standing on street corners with a Bible in our hands but it means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

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**Child Safety Officer:** John Hockey 0439 319 823

## Parish Contact Details:

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**Website:** www.stmaryshamilton.org.au

**Office Address:** 23 Dinwoodie St, HAMILTON

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

**Weekday Mass Times @ Hamilton:** Tue, Thu, Fri. 10am & Wed 5.15pm

**Reconciliation (Confession):** Sat. 5.30pm

**ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON**  
Principal: Ms Jo-Anne Bond  
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 Gunditjmarra 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> 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)	No Service (To Ham)	Mass	No Service (To Ham)	No Service (To Ham)

## St Joseph's Penshurst

Tue. 15th—Penshurst monthly Ecumenical hospital service.

**20th May 2018**

Lector	Don Adamson
Prayers	Brendan Kelly
Gifts	
Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti
Leader	Margie Eales
Communion to Hospital	Terry Pezzutti

## Our Parish Collections

**1st Collection: Priest Support: \$835**

**2nd Collection: Stewardship (2017-2018 FY)**

**Pledged: \$107,369 Given: \$86,470**

## St Mary's Parish Mission Outreach

(10% of Stewardship) This Financial Year;  
**Sr Lourdes—Kenya Mission \$5,000**

## St Mary's Parish Ministry Roster

	12 & 13 May Ministers of Communion				19 & 20 May Minister of Communion			
6 pm	K Brewis, T Olive & K Stevens				Zina Celewych & Peter & Maureen Dunn			
10.30am	Priya, Angus C, Charlotte, P Fitzgerald, J Hockey				CONFIRMATION			
Date	Welcome	Computer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Commentator	Gifts	Cuppa	Count Team
12/05	S McCaskill J Schurmann	Pauline Murphy	Jacinta Ryan	John Duyvestyn	Annette Mason	M Walter & J Gustus	Bob & Julie Roache	Glenn & Jo Howell
13/05	F & D Soulsby	Felicity Shaw	Helen Tripovich	Patrica Blohm	Alida Aylmer	Noreen Doherty	Marie	
19/05	Gerald Healy J Schurmann	Jacinta Ryan	Ian Ferguson	Ray Corbett	John Duyvestyn	M McGrath & P Murphy	Helen & John Watt	Frances & Vince O'Brien
20/05	Richard & Ursula John Hockey	CONFIRMATION	CONFIRMATION	CONFIRMATION	CONFIRMATION	CONFIRMATION	S Hockey G Mather	



## Men's Gospel Reflection

3rd Thurs of  
each month



7:30pm—8:30pm

**Mary Mackillop Chapel**

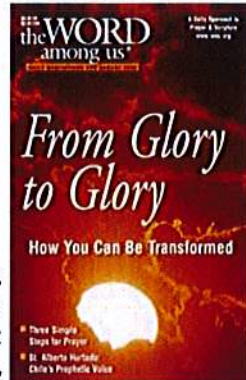
**All Welcome!**

**John Hockey 5571 1161**

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12 Month Subscription \$50

The Word Among Us includes daily meditations based on the Mass readings of the Catholic Church, inspirational essays, testimonies and stories of the saints and other Christian heroes! Please contact the parish office if you would like to take out an annual subscription to these daily reflections.



# St Mary's Parish

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Deaths:** Margaret Ely (Funeral Friday 18 May @ 2.30pm). Our prayers and sympathies are with Margaret's family.

**Anniversary:** Paul Coleman, Joan Newell, Judy Mibus, Sheila Roberts, Bill Bunney, Fr Mark McGuinness, Irene Pryor, Jack Murphy, Norma Soawyer.

**SICK:** Noreen Kenny, Br Dan Geary.

### 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:** **Craft group** Dunworth Centre 10am -3pm

Church Cleaning - MAY -

Sandra McCaskill & Kath Mulley.

### ANOINTING MASS

Thursday 17 May, St Mary's Church @ 10am

### FATIMA STATUE

Every year we circulate a 'pilgrim statue' of Our Lady of Fatima to interested parishioners who host the statue for a week and invite others to recite the Rosary with them.

If you would like to share in this prayer activity please contact Ted Oliver (5577810) or leave your name at the Parish office.

This week the Rosary will be held at

**Marg Callaway @ 2pm,  
29 Macpherson Street, Hamilton. All Welcome.**

### Confirmation – Pentecost Sunday

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated next Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, during the 10:30am Mass.

Please show your support for our sacramental children and their families by being part of the celebration.

Candidates and their Sponsors are asked to meet in the Gathering Space by 10:15 am, at the latest.

Families are reminded that all Confirmation Candidates will take part in a Confirmation Workshop on Friday morning, 18<sup>th</sup> May in the Dunworth Centre.



### *A Prayer for Mothers*

May they be blessed with patience  
and tenderness to care for their families  
and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and  
cared for us; may they continue to guide us in strong  
and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their  
children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they  
feel the loving embrace of God  
who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers, but still love  
and shape us with motherly care  
and compassion.

We remember mothers. Grandmothers  
and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us  
but who live forever in our memory  
and nourish us with their love.

*Amen.*



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





## Proposal for Western District Parishes

*"The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if it proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be 'the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters'. This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed cluster made up of a chosen few.*

**Pope Francis - Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel)**

### Our Changing Landscape

Over the last thirty years, there has been a major decline in our rural populations which has led to a major decline in attendance and participation in our local church communities. This is particularly evident in our smaller country centres to the point where many are now struggling both financially and with finding parishioners, willing to commit to the many ongoing tasks to keep these centres operating. Combined with this we have an ageing and reduced number of Priests to manage these Parishes. Across our own Western Border Catholic Communities, there are five separate Parishes which means we still have the requirement for five finance councils, five pastoral councils, five sets of accounts, five bank reconciliations, five charity returns etc. All of these require the Parish Priest to attend regular meetings and take responsibility for their management. Additionally, there is currently much duplication of administration process, which if centralised, could free up these communities **to provide even better spiritual and pastoral care to their parishioners.**

### Discerning the Way

Frs Paddy Mugavin and John Corrigan supported by the Ballarat Diocese would like to put forward a proposal that the existing Communities of Apsley, Balmoral, Casterton, Coleraine, Dunkeld, Edenhope, Glenthompson, Goroke, Hamilton, Harrow, Macarthur, Penshurst and Tarrayoukian be combined into one regional Parish with a new name, eg. Parish of Mary MacKillop

Each Community is asked to consider openly the benefits of such a change and put forward your thoughts on this proposal.



### Benefits of One Regional Parish!

- A single administrative centre will reduce the amount of duplication occurring across the communities.
- Cost savings through single software licences, etc.
- Bulk buying savings.
- Less for local communities to worry about and more time **to concentrate on pastoral and spiritual needs.**
- Better interaction with other communities who may have the same challenges.
- Belonging to a wider church.
- Professional management of Parish buildings and other assets.
- Stronger financial future for smaller centres.
- Having access to better trained/skilled individuals.

### What Changes Will Occur Pastorally?

There will be no changes pastorally to the existing arrangements with Fr Paddy Mugavin and Fr John Corrigan still overseeing their existing communities. The release from administrative and management duties will free up the assigned priests to provide more pastoral and spiritual care.

### Your chance to contribute to this decision!

You are invited to attend any of the meetings listed below to contribute to this discussion. You may also access the two discussion papers on our website, at the back of each Church or from the Parish office during the month of May.

<http://www.stmaryshamilton.org.au/news2/western-parishes-proposal/>

**Fr Paddy Mugavin, Fr John Corrigan & John Hockey**  
**10/05/18**

### Meeting Times

St Mary's Hamilton – Sun 13<sup>th</sup> May, 11:45am – Day Chapel  
St Mary's Hamilton – Sat 26<sup>th</sup> May, 7:00pm – Day Chapel