

Saint Mary Mackillop Parish Western Border

Comprising the communities of Apsley, Balmoral, Casterton, Coleraine, Dunkeld, Edenhope, Glenthompson, Goroke, Hamilton, Harrow, Macarthur, Penshurst and Tarrayoukyan.

Second Sunday of Easter, Year C (Divine Mercy Sunday)

28 April 2019

First Reading Acts 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

**(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 1:9-13, 17-19

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said,

'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

**You believe in me, Thomas, because you
have seen me;**

**happy those who have not seen me, but
still believe!**

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'
After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen
and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This passage can be seen as the gospel writer's version of the Pentecost that was previously recorded by the writer of Luke-Acts. As the account of Pentecost in the book of Acts was already in existence, the gospel writer felt no concern about alluding to it in his version of the gospel story. The inclusion of this event in the gospel of John adds a 'completeness' to the gospel text – from the Word with God in chapter 1 through the ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus to this moment of charging his disciples with the task of carrying on his work and breathing on them the Holy Spirit. It seems that the gospel writer wanted to bring the story to its conclusion. The idea of Jesus 'breathing' the Holy Spirit onto the disciples is an interesting one. The Greek word *pneuma* carried two meanings: breath and spirit. So to deliberately breathe on someone was to share one's spirit with them. Jesus gives this act a greater meaning by declaring the spirit to be the Holy Spirit that will empower the disciples for the mission he is entrusting to them.

The disciple Thomas has received a pretty raw deal from history. The phrase, *doubting Thomas*, has found its way into our everyday language and condemns Thomas as the one who wouldn't take the word of his fellow disciples but wanted to see the Risen Lord himself. However, rather than remembering Thomas for his doubt, we should remember Thomas as the one who makes the extraordinary declaration of faith, 'My Lord and my God!' It is Thomas, alone amongst all those who recognise the greatness of Jesus across the four gospels, who acknowledges Jesus as not just the Messiah, but God.

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

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Website: www.westernborder.church
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 & after weekday Mass

We are a Child Safe Parish.

Child Safe Officer: John Hockey 0439 319 823

<http://westernborder.church/child-safe-policy-and-protocol/>

ST MARY'S PRIMARY, HAMILTON
Principal: Mrs Terrielynn Groves
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

Country Mass Schedule						St Joseph's Penshurst	
	1 st Sun	2 nd Sun	3 rd Sun	4 th Sun	5 th Sun		
Penshurst 8:30am	No Service (To Hamilton)	Mass	SAWC	Mass	Mass	12th May 2019	
Dunkeld 8:30am	Mass	No Service (Glen)	Mass	SAWC	SAWC	Lector	Catherine Loria
						Prayers	Margie Eales
Glenthompson 8:30am	SAWC	Mass	No Service (To Dunkeld)	Mass	SAWC	Gifts	Kelly Family
						Special Minister	Brendan Kelly
Macarthur 8:30am	Mass	No Service (To Ham)	No Service (To Ham)	No Service (To Ham)	No Service (To Ham)	Leader	
						Communion to Hospital	Brendan Kelly

Our Parish Collections

1st Collection: Priest Support: \$ 1,387

2nd Collection: Stewardship 2019 FY

Full Year Pledged: \$107,369 Given: \$61,431

Western Border Parish Mission Outreach

(10% of Stewardship) This Financial Year;

Sr Lourdes—Kenya Mission \$3,000

Sr Stella's—India Mission \$3,000

Ministry Roster If you are unavailable for your ministry please try to arrange swap & advise office of change.

27 & 28 April Ministers of Communion			4 & 5 May Minister of Communion					
6 pm	K Brewis, T Oliver & K Stevens.		M Byrne, Peter & Maureen Dunn.					
10.30am	S Byron, T Irving, F Soulsby, P Fitzgerald & R Fitzgerald.		D Dunn, M Bell, N McLeish, G Howell & P Fitzgerald.					
Date	Welcome	Computer	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Commentator	Gifts	Cuppa	Count Team
27/04	Sandra McCaskill	Pauline Murphy	Jacinta Ryan	John Duyvestyn	Annette Mason	B & T Shanahan	B & J Roache	M Cook & Kymhan
28/04	F & D Soulsby	Felicity Shaw	Charlotte Stanhope	Angelina Juby	Ursula Murphy	J & T Ozoani	S & J Hockey	
04/05	Kylie-Anne Shanahan	Jacinta Ryan	Maureen Dunn	Terrielynn Groves	Ray Corbett	Michael McGrath	Brian & Trish	Glen & Jo Howell
05/05	Richard & Ursula	Carolyn Stanhope	Tania Stevens	Jonathan Rowe	Val Lovell	Juby & Jisha	Anne & Des	

PROJECT COMPASSION

Thank you!

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2019. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please return them or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you are helping to empower communities with hope and helping those in great need shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%.

TOTAL \$ 2,556

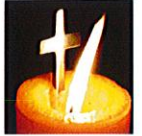


Wednesday Mass
St Mary's Day Chapel
5:15pm
All Welcome

Australian Christian Meditation Community.

Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm
Parish House Dinwoodie St.

All Welcome, especially newcomers.



www.facebook.com/westernbordercatholicparish
www.westernborder.church



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Deaths: Noreen Kenny, Kees Onderwater. Our prayers and deepest sympathies are with these families.

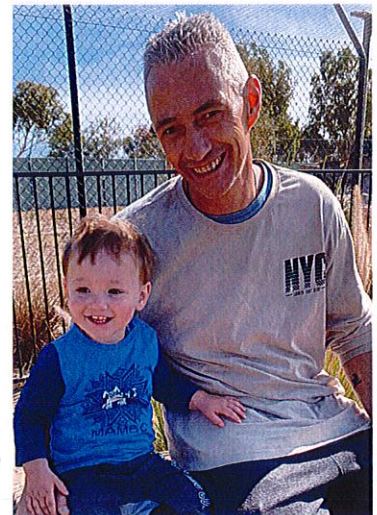
Anniversary:

Lesile Cordy, Vera McNeil, David Sharrock, Helen Boyle, Maureen Blake, Trevor Stevens, Harry Brownlee, Maisie Goldstraw, Ronald Priddle, Margaret Allan, Matilda Eales, Doug Scott, Kerrin Hurley, Patricia Pierce, Bernice Turner, Mary Tedesco.

SICK: Jack Handley, Naomi Phillips, Margaret Norris, Michael & Judy Bowden, John Healy.

We welcome into the family of God
through Baptism
at St Mary's
on Saturday 27th April.

Chantz
Daryl
Douglas
Ezard



Son of Brett Ezard.

New Ministry roster
available
from Information Table.



Our Diocesan Community

is available please take a copy home.

Prayer

On this Lord's Day
we come together, O God,
to proclaim the Living One,
the First and the Last,
who was dead
but now is forever alive.

Open our hearts to the Spirit Jesus breathers on us.

Help us, who have not seen, to believe;
send us, as you have sent Jesus,
to greet the world
with the Easter word of peace
and to share with all
the Spirit's new life of forgiveness.

AMEN.

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

Sunday:

Children's Liturgy of the Word 10.:30am.
Rosary, Prayer of the Church
& D.M Chaplet 6pm.

Tuesday: **Weekday Mass 10am Day Chapel.**

Wednesday :

Weekday Mass @ 5.15pm Day Chapel.
Men's day out Dunworth Centre 1.30-4.30pm
Meditation 7.30-8.30pm Parish House.
Faith & Life sharing - 7.30pm Parish House.

Thursday:

Weekday Mass 10am Day Chapel.
Craft group Dunworth Centre 10am -3pm
Station of The Cross 6pm followed by
Rosary & D.M Chaplet .

Friday: **Weekday Mass 10am Day Chapel.**

Faith & Life sharing 2pm @ Parish

Pope Francis at Easter appeals for peace in the world, prays for victims of “cruel violence” in Sri Lanka

Pope Francis issued a heartfelt appeal for peace in his Easter message to the city of Rome and the world (“Urbi et Orbi”), which he delivered after receiving the tragic news of the killings of almost 200 people and the wounding of at least 400 more in explosions in three churches and three luxury hotels in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, which he visited in 2015.

Speaking of the many dead and wounded in Sri Lanka, a predominantly Buddhist country of 21 million people, where Christians count for almost 8 percent of the population and where the Catholic Church has over 1.3 million members, Francis said: “I have learned with sadness the news of the grave attacks that, precisely today, the day of Easter, have brought mourning and suffering in some churches and other places of rest in Sri Lanka. I wish to manifest my affectionate closeness to the Christian community there, hit while they were gathered in prayer, and to the victims of such cruel violence. I entrust to the Lord all those who have tragically died, and I pray for the injured who are suffering because of this dramatic event.” He then paused for a moment in silent prayer.

He prayed that “before the many sufferings of our time” that Jesus “may not find us cold and indifferent” and would “make us builders of bridges, not walls.”

In his message to the world, Pope Francis called on the risen Jesus to “end the roar of arms, both in areas of conflict and in our cities, and inspire the leaders of nations to work for an end to the arms race and the troubling spread of weaponry, especially in the economically more advanced countries.”

Speaking from the central balcony of St. Peter’s Basilica by television, radio and the social media, to a global audience estimated at around 2 billion people, Pope Francis began by proclaiming to

“every person in the world” the central message of Christianity—“Jesus is risen” from the dead.



Drawing on his recent apostolic exhortation, directed to young people, Francis repeated that message saying: “Christ is alive! He is our hope” and said, “He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One.”

He reminded people everywhere that because Jesus has risen from the dead, “Easter is the beginning of the new world, set free from the slavery of sin and death: the world open at last to the Kingdom of God, a kingdom of love, peace and fraternity.” At the same time, recognizing that today’s world is rocked by much violence, conflict, poverty and natural disasters, Francis reminded everyone that “Christ is alive, and he remains with us ... he does not abandon all those experiencing hardship, pain and sorrow.”

Then Pope Francis went on to speak of the dramatic situations of conflict in 18 countries across the globe (including Sri Lanka), seven of them in the Middle East, another seven in Africa, two in the Americas, and one in Europe.

He concluded by praying that Christ “who flung open the doors of the tomb” may, this Easter time, “open our hearts to the needs of the disadvantaged, the vulnerable, the poor, the unemployed, the marginalized and all those who knock at our door in search of bread, refuge and the recognition of their dignity.”