



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 Lent, Year B

28 February 2021

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!*

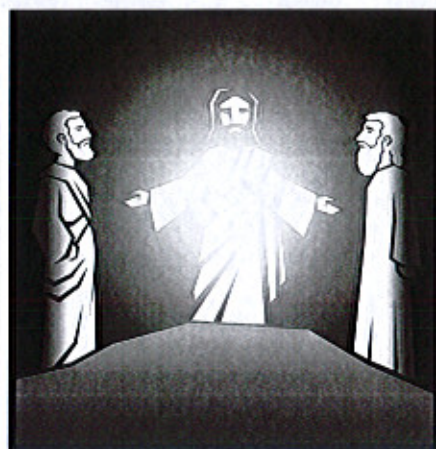
Gospel Mk 9:2-10

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.

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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.

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

Co-Pastor : Fr Patrick Mugavin

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Co-Pastor: Fr George Kuruvila

george.kuruvila@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Manager: John Hockey

manager@westernborder.church

Parish Secretaries: Carolyn Stanhope & Kymhan Watson

admin@westernborder.church

Priest in residence: John Mckinnon

john.mckinnon@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Contact Details:

Phone: 03 5571 1161 SMS to Email: 0437 194 523

Office Open Hours: 9am—4pm Tues to Fri

Email: admin@westernborder.church

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 Terri Lynn Groves

Phone: (03) 5551 9000

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY, PENSHURST

Principal: Stephen Hogan

Phone: (03) 5576 5438

MONIVAE COLLEGE, HAMILTON

Principal: Jonathan Rowe

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	28th February	
Penshurst 8:30am	No Service (To Hamilton)	Mass	SAWC	Mass	Mass	Lector	Catherine Loria
						Prayers	Andrea Page
Dunkeld 8:30am	Mass	No Service (Glen)	Mass	SAWC	SAWC	Gifts	Page Family
						Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti
Glenthompson 8:30am	SAWC	Mass	No Service (To Dunkeld)	Mass	SAWC	Leader	
						Communion to Hospital	Terry Pezzutti

Saint Mary MacKillop Parish

Our Parish Collections

1st Collection: Priest Support: \$867

2nd Collection: Stewardship 2020 FY

Full Year Pledged: Given YTD: \$69,824

Western Border Parish Mission Outreach

Mission Donations made financial year to date.

Sr Lourdes—Kenya Mission \$5,020

Sr Stella's—India Mission \$2,510

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

	27 & 28 Ministers of Communion	6 & 7 March Ministers of Communion
6 pm	P Kelly & K Stevens.	2x Volunteers
10.30am	R Fitzgerald, P Fitzgerald & K Barker.	Nicola J, G McDonald & D Brody.

Date	Welcome	Computer	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Commentator	Gifts
27/02	Sandra McCaskill	Jacinta Ryan	John Duyvestyn	Karen Brewis	Chris Jansen	Michael McGrath
28/02	Sherrie Hockey	Richard Murphy	Angelina Juby	Sara Phillip	Felicity Shaw	Baptism Family
06/03	Trish Soawyer	Pauline Kelly	Jacinta Ryan	Fiona Marie	Annette Mason	Francis & Rosemary.
07/03	Richard & Ursula.	Carolyn Stanhope	Carmel Schlaghecke	Helen Tripovich	Sherrie Hockey	Uebergang Family.

WEDNESDAY MEET UP

St Mary's Parish extends an invitation to all,
to our Wednesday Meet Up,
each Wednesday during school term.
Bring along your toddlers or come on your
own. We aim to provide a welcoming
atmosphere where your presence will be valued!

9.30am—11.30am

MacKillop Centre, 23 Dinwoodie Street.

Cost \$2 per family

More info on 5571 1161 (Carolyn or Kymhan)

First Collection - Priests Support



Tap n Go Card
Facility
Now Available
\$5 Set Amount

(At the rear of St Mary's Church)

Last weeks
donate giving
total. \$55

Saint Mary MacKillop Parish

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Deaths: Mon Murphy (Hamilton).
Jack Handley (Father of Jo Howell).
Our prayers & deepest sympathy to these families.

Anniversary:

Daniel Lyons, Elizabeth Davis, Evelyn Presser,
Bernadette Ferguson, Catherine Winnell,
Ted McGuane, Graeme Page, Elizabeth
McArthur, Iris Matuschka, John Wishart.

SICK: Please notify Parish Office of Names to be
added to List. Thank you.

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.

We welcome into the family of God
through Baptism
at St Mary's Parish, Hamilton.



Harvi -Rose
Gleeson



Daughter of Joel & Megan.

Rite of Adult Christian Initiation at Easter

Let us pray for our sisters in faith who are
preparing for Christian Initiation at Easter:

Nima Carswell here at St Mary's,
and Suzie McManus at Sacred Heart, Casterton.

Stations of The Cross, St Mary's Hamilton
Thurs, 7pm during Lent.

PROJECT COMPASSION **BE MORE**

Project Compassion
Sunday 28th February



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Be More"**.

Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.



Thank you for being more!

LENTEN PROGRAM

Comfort — 2021

LENTEN GROUP

Chris Jansen
Mondays @ 7 pm,
12 Skene Street.
More Info contact
Chris on 0407 719 530.

Noreen McLeish
St Mary's Church Day Chapel.
Thursdays
after 10am Mass.
More info contact
Noreen on 0438 531 651

John Hockey
Wednesdays @ 7 pm,
St Mary's Church Day Chapel.
More Info contact John on 0439 319 823

ALL WELCOME.

