



Saint Mary MacKillop Parish Western Border

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

26 October 2025

First Reading Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the
detriment of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's
supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves
God will be accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the
clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable
nor will he desist until the Most High takes
notice of him,
acquits the virtuous and delivers
judgement.
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v.7

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *(R.)*
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the
earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. *(R.)*
3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his
servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be
condemned. *(R.)*

Second Reading 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.

My life is already being poured away as a
libation, and the time has come for me to
be gone. I have fought the good fight to
the end; I have run the race to the finish;
I have kept the faith; all there is to come
now is the crown of righteousness reserved
for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge,

will give to me on that Day; and not only to
me but to all those who have longed for his
Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence,
there was not a single witness to support
me. Every one of them deserted me – may
they not be held accountable for it. But
the Lord stood by me and gave me power,
so that through me the whole message
might be proclaimed for all the pagans to
hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's
mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil
attempts on me, and bring me safely to his
heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever
and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

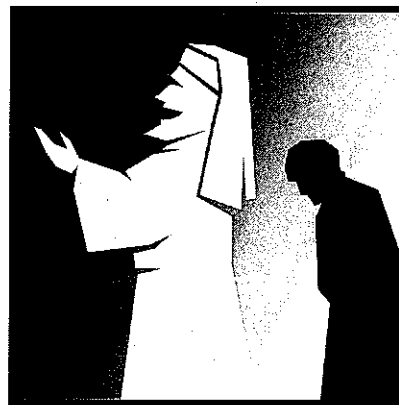
**God was in Christ, to reconcile the
world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation
he has entrusted to us.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 18:9-14

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some
people who prided themselves on being
virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two
men went up to the Temple to pray, one
a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The
Pharisee stood there and said this prayer
to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not
grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of
mankind, and particularly that I am not like
this tax collector here. I fast twice a week;
I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector
stood some distance away, not daring even
to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his
breast and said, "God, be merciful to me,
a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home
again at rights with God; the other did
not. For everyone who exalts himself will
be humbled, but the man who humbles
himself will be exalted.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage flows on
directly from last week's gospel and
continues the teaching of Jesus about
prayer. Whereas the preceding passage
emphasised the need for persistence in
prayer, this passage is about the way in
which we come before God in prayer. It
is the tax collector, whose simple prayer
is 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner,'
who goes home at rights with God. In
this simple prayer, the tax collector
recognises that he is not in right
relationship with God and asks for
God's mercy. This is a hallmark of the
lowly and outcast in the gospel of Luke:
they recognise their need and seek
God's forgiveness and mercy. The
model of faith that is depicted over and
over again in this gospel is the one who
recognises their need for God's loving
mercy and asks for it. We are repeatedly
reminded that God's mercy, forgiveness
and abundant love are constantly out-
flowing towards us and all we have to
do is humbly desire and welcome them.

Humility is at the heart of this parable.
The Pharisee is representative of those
who are assured of their own rightness
but who rely on comparison with others
to make themselves feel righteous and
justified. The actions of this man were
not limited to Pharisees alone, nor are
they limited to a particular time and
place. This man's attitude of asserting
his own faithfulness and religious
observance by comparison with others
can be easily seen in the world today.
All faiths seem to be afflicted with these
characters who assure themselves of
their own 'goodness' by railing against
those who are different. But, as the
parable assures us, it is the humble
who are exalted by 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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Office Address: 23 Dinwoodie St, HAMILTON

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

Weekday Mass Times @ Hamilton: Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 10am, Wed 5pm.

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: John O'Sullivan
Phone: (03) 5576 5438

MONIVAE COLLEGE, HAMILTON
Principal: Jonathan Rowe
Phone: (03) 5551 1200

www.westernborder.church

Country Mass Schedule

	1 st Sun	2 nd Sun	3 rd Sun	4 th Sun	5 th Sun
Penshurst	No Service	Mass 5pm	SAWC 8.30am	Mass 5pm.	No Service (To Hamilton)
Dunkeld 8:30am Mass 9am SAWC	Mass	No Service	Mass	SAWC	No Service (To Hamilton)
Glenthompson 8:30am	No Service	Mass	No Service (To Dunkeld)	Mass	No Service (To Hamilton)

Macarthur - 5th Sunday of the Month, Uniting Church @ 8.30am.

WEEKDAY Masses @ St Mary's Hamilton:

Tues, Thurs. Friday @ 10am & Wed @ 5pm.

Confession after all weekday Masses & 5.30 Sat evenings.

St Joseph's Penshurst

Sunday 9th November @ 5pm

Lector - Don Adamson

Prayers - Terry Pezzutti

Gifts - Eileen & Helen

Leader -

Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Thursday afternoons at
St Mary's Church at 5pm.**

All welcome.

Enquiries: Chris Jansen



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

25 & 26 Oct Ministers of Communion

6 pm	A Mason, P Fitzgerald.
10.30am	Channa, F Soulsby, T Hurley, M Robert.
The Grange	Frank Soulsby

1 & 2 Nov. Ministers of Communion

P & M Dunn
M Cook, J Hockey, T Irving, R Fitzgerald.
Channa

Date	Open & Welcoming	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading
25/10	Karen Brewis	Annette Mason	Jacinta Ryan	Sairah Joeman	Karen Brewis	Irene McGrath
26/10	Frank Soulsby	Sherrie & John	Carolyn Stanhope	Frank Soulsby	Helen Tripovich	Wendy Collins
01/11	Pauline Kelly	Jisha & Ophiya	Pauline Kelly	Fiona-Marie	Maureen Dunn	Jacinta Ryan
02/11	John Hockey	Maria & Bridget	Peter Christopher	Sherrie Hockey	Trish Irving	Bryan Roberts

Saint Mary MacKillop Parish

Priests' Support (1st Collection)

Electronic Funds Transfer

BSB: 083-663

Acc: 51-580-8981

Reference:
Priests' Support



Stewardship (2nd Collection)

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

BSB: 083-663 Acc: 01-715-7303

Reference: Your Name



Scan QR Code to make Donation.
Visa or MasterCard only.

Our Parish Collections

1st Collection:

2nd Collection: Stewardship —

Given : \$

Western Border Parish

Mission Outreach

Mission Donations made This financial year to date.

Sr Stella's—India Mission \$9,000

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

DEATHS: Robyn Beaton

We offer our prayers & deepest sympathy to Robyn's family & friends.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Anne Gurry, Neil O'Neill, Joan Holyoak, Eileen McGrath, Gerard McGrath, Mary Hanes, Gordon Penington, Jack Gower, Keith Cullinan.

SICK:

Enzo Diano, Frank Torpy, Ian Ferguson, Margaret Norris, Julie Gustus, Ted Perkins, Roma Doherty, Quirinus Onderwater, Geraldine McDonald.



Fatima Statue This Week

**St Mary's
School.**

Prayer

Only the humble prayer,
O God,
pierces the heavens
and comes into your presence.

Silence our prayer
when our words praise ourselves.
Turn your ears from our cry
when our hearts judge our neighbor.

Place always on our lips
the prayer of the publican:
"O God, be merciful
to us who are sinners!"

Praying as always
through Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

JM

JOHN MCKINNON

Sunday Gospel Reflections.



Scan QR
code

"God will provide for the future."

Mary MacKillop

St Mary MacKillop Parish Synodal Assembly Update

Last Sunday, over 60 parishioners gathered at the Chevalier Centre, Monivae, for our Parish Synodal Assembly. It was a wonderful day of prayer, reflection, and conversation as we came together to listen to one another and discern where the Holy Spirit is leading our parish over the next five years.

Throughout the day, participants reflected on three key questions:

1. What is St Mary MacKillop Parish doing well in fostering faith, connection, and community?
2. How can our Parish better involve those who feel unheard or are not currently engaged?
3. Where do you hope to see the Parish in five years' time?

The conversations were heartfelt and hope-filled, highlighting our parish's deep sense of welcome, community and care, while also naming areas where we can grow — particularly in engaging families, youth, and those who feel distant from parish life.

From this prayerful discernment, a draft Parish Pastoral Plan (2025–2030) has been developed. The draft plan outlines a shared vision and a series of commitments that will guide our parish life, mission and renewal in the coming years.

Over the coming weeks, parishioners will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft plan during a two-week consultation period. Once this consultation is complete and feedback has been incorporated, the final plan will be forwarded to the Diocese for endorsement by the Bishop.

We are grateful to everyone who attended the Assembly and to those who submitted written reflections in advance. Your contributions have shaped this plan and continue to strengthen our parish community.

A special thank you to Kings Bakery for their generous donation of baked goods, to Nola and Nicola for the delicious slices and to Maria Patience for coordinating the catering with the help of our wonderful volunteers — you truly kept the hungry hoard well fed! Thank you also to Monivae for providing the facility and to the staff who set up & cleaned up.

Once the consultation phase is complete, we will move into the next stage: creating actions to bring each of the strategic goals to life and parishioners will be invited to help with this important work.

As many know, Father Paddy will be retiring at the end of the year and we were delighted to welcome Father John to the Assembly. It was a wonderful opportunity for him to listen, meet our community and be part of this process from the very beginning.

We look forward to working together with all parishioners to realise the vision and goals of this plan, ensuring St Mary MacKillop Parish continues to grow as a vibrant, faith-filled community.

Rohan Fitzgerald

November Cemetery blessing of graves.

**Prayers for our
deceased loved ones.
*All faiths welcome.***

**Hamilton Lawn Cemetery
Prayers & blessing of graves.**

Saturday 1st November @ 10am.

Please bring camping/fold up chair.

**Dunkeld Cemetery
Mass & blessing of graves.
Sunday 2nd November @ 8.30am.**

**Penshurst Cemetery
blessing of graves
Sunday 9th November @ 4.15pm.
Mass @ 5pm.**

**Macarthur Cemetery
blessing of graves.
Sunday 23rd November @ 3pm.**