



St Mary MacKillop

WESTERN BORDER PARISH, DIOCESE OF BALLARAT

Parish Office: 23 Dinwoodie Street, HAMILTON VIC 3300

Office Hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm, Tuesday to Friday

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St Patrick's **Balmoral**
Sacred Heart **Casterton**
St Joseph's **Coleraine**
St Patrick's **Dunkeld**
St Malachy's **Edenhope**
St Thomas' **Glenthompson**
St Mary's **Hamilton**
St Michael's **Harrow**
St Joseph's **Penshurst**
St Joseph's **Tarrayoukyan**

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (Year A)

Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th April, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

This weekend we welcome back Fr Peter Hudson to the parish. He will be celebrating the Sunday Masses in Glenthompson and Hamilton, and assisting with the Divine Mercy devotions in Hamilton on Sunday afternoon.

Fr Cay is catching up with family in Vietnam, and will return after next weekend. Please note that Dunkeld will celebrate an 8:30am lay-led Assembly in place of the usual Mass next Sunday, and Fr Ted McCormack will celebrate 10:30am Mass in Hamilton.

Many have remarked on the noticeable increase in attendance at our Easter ceremonies this year. This seems to be a local reflection of a global phenomenon: amidst economic and political volatility, more people are seeking the stability of public Christian worship. Worldwide, over one million adults became Catholic this Easter.

With the help of God's grace, let us foster peace in those around us. As we continue the Easter season, remember that feasting can enhance our spirit of service – enjoying the good things God gives can help us to be cheerful and serene in all our encounters.

God bless,

Fr John



PARISH TEAM

Parish Secretaries: **Carolyn Stanhope** and **Kymhan Watson**

Parish Manager: **John Hockey** - managerwb@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest: **Fr John Corrigan** - john.corrigan@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: **Fr Cay Trinh** - cay.trinh@ballarat.catholic.org.au

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Casterton: **Brenda Bath** - 0427 701 327

Coleraine: **Kevin Myers** - 0407 688 449

LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK: Michael Callaway, Enzo Diano, Roma Doherty, Ian Ferguson, Julie Gustus, Margaret Norris, Quirinus Onderwater, Ted Perkins, Bernadette Rees.

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: Aileen Lampard, Alison Cleary, Pat Mason, Kay Hadden.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Hamilton: Darrell Fry, Maureen O'Connor, Michael Bowden, Mary Pedrina, Leonard Marks, Val Mills, Marshall Macklin, Kees Onderwater, Joyce Walsh, Mignon Kinnane, Elsee Hryckow, Pat McNamara.

Casterton: Veronica Herbert, Esma Upton, Brian Burgess, Dot Chapman, Margaret Ryan, Tony Tuohy, Jack Gill, Len & Iris Kermeen, Peter Ruth(Snr), Grace Mullane, Dawn Davidson, Jessie Hardy, Mary McCalman, Fred Lehane, Nacy, Matuch Wes Jeffreys, Rosalie Fitzgerald, Shane Murrell, Bernard Gill.

Coleraine: Jack Allan, Harold Carroll, Fr Bart McDermott.

Edenhope: Ethel Bull, Nancy Oliver, Alyce Fitzgerald, Chris Purdie, Maureen White, Graeme Ryan, Les Tansey, Martin Hubert Ryan, Annie McDonnell, Rene Moore, Terence Peter Ruth, Norman Burchell.

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER

Sacred Heart, Casterton (10am Lay-led)

- *Commentator:* Shane K. *Leaders:* Cecily C. & Rita Mcl.
- *Reader:* Michael O'C.
- *Communion:* Margaret Davis & Margaret Baulch.
- *Counters:* Helen G. & Pauline D.

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- *Reader:* Kaye Wraith.

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11:15am Mass)

- *Reader:* A. Kealy.
- *Intercessions:* ????

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER 19 APRIL

Sacred Heart, Casterton (5pm Mass)

- *Reader:* Charlie Koch.
- *Commentator:* John Donegan.
- *Min. of Eucharist:* Margaret Baulch & Margaret Davis.
- *Counters:* Helen G. & C. Thompson.

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- *Reader:* Kevin Myers.

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11:15am Mass)

- *Reader:* R. Rokebrand.
- *Intercessions:* H.Surman.

St Mary's, Hamilton (6pm Vigil Mass and 10:30am Sunday) Grange Roster - This Sun: Frank Soulsby • Next Sun: Margaret Roberts

	Opening & Welcome	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	First Reading	Second Reading	Communion
This Sat	Karen Brewis	Jisha & Angelina	Jacinta Ryan	Maureen Dunn	Fiona-Marie	Angelina Juby	K Brewis K Barker
This Sun	Carolyn	Geetha & Frank	Peter Christopher	Carolyn Stanhope	Chris Jansen	Wendy Collins	M Cook P Stanhope R Fitzgerald
Next Sat	Chris Jansen	Vaness Storan	Chris Jansen	Terrielynn Groves	Jack Bell	Karen Brewis	M & P Dunn
Next Sun	Frank Soulsby	Trish Irving & Felicity.	Glenn Howell	Frank Soulsby	Helen Tripovich	Jacob Nenke	T Irving T Hurley F Soursby

*In your great mercy, O God,
you have given us a new birth to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
who gathers us into community,
stands among us and gives us peace.
Day by day, increase in us this Easter faith,
and day by day add to our number,
that, believing in Jesus, whom we have never seen,
we may confess him as our Lord and our God,
and loving him, whom we cannot see,
we may rejoice to share with others
the pardon and peace he bestows.
Amen.*

PRAY WITH THE POPE


Each month, Pope Leo produces a short video and invites the faithful to pray with him. To view this month's video, visit www.popesprayer.va

APRIL 2026: FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

He has welcomed news of the two week ceasefire in the Middle East, and on Easter Saturday in Rome, he led a prayer vigil for peace.



MONDAY 13 th APRIL Second Week of Easter	TUESDAY 14 th APRIL Second Week of Easter	WEDNESDAY 15 th APRIL Second Week of Easter
<p>9:30am Mass, Hamilton 5pm Confessions, Hamilton</p> <p><i>The resurrection is the greatest miracle of Christianity, and everything depends on it.</i> Pope St Paul VI </p>	<p>10am Southern Zone Meeting, St Joseph's Church, Warrnambool 4pm Holy Hour, Hamilton 5:15pm Mass, Hamilton</p>	<p>9:30am Mass, Hamilton 10:30am Mass, Casterton 2pm Funeral, Alison Cleary RIP, Casterton 5pm Rosary, Hamilton</p>

TRIBUTE TO ALISON CLEARY

The parishioners of the Sacred Heart community acknowledge the dedicated love Alison showed in her care of our Casterton church, presbytery and parish hall. Her spirit of service and love of God would shine through her sparkling cleaning. Our prayers and thoughts are with Alison's family during this sad time.

Alison's Funeral will be held at Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday 15th at 2.00pm. Her Committal will follow at Sandford Cemetery.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

This Sunday, Fr Peter Hudson is celebrating the 10:30 morning Mass at St Mary's Hamilton. He and Fr John Corrigan will minister the sacrament of Reconciliation throughout the afternoon.

EASTER WATER

Every household is encouraged to take home a bottle of the holy water blessed at our Easter Vigil Masses in Casterton and Hamilton. Bottles will be transported to our other communities during the next few weeks.

Easter water be used to bless homes, family gatherings, or any moment that calls for grace and spiritual connection.



10:30	Mass with blessing of Divine Mercy images
11:30	Morning Tea / Light Lunch
12:30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<i>Confessions available from 12:45 to 2:45pm</i>	
2pm	Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary
2:30	Litany of Divine Mercy
3pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Solemn Benediction

SACRAMENTAL DATES

Confirmation will be celebrated on 13th/14th June.

First Communion will be celebrated on 12th/13th September.

It's not too late for families to join the program. Visit www.westernborder.church/wots



COME AND SEE CATHOLIC ENQUIRY

Share a light meal while exploring the *Catechism*. All are welcome: believers, non-believers, the curious and the cautious. No strings attached.

6pm-7pm Fridays, Hamilton



ABOUT THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

In 1930s Poland, St Faustina Kowalska received a series of private revelations from Jesus. He requested that the first Sunday after Easter be officially established as the Feast of Divine Mercy:

"I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened."

On Sunday 30th April 2000, the first Sunday after Easter, at St Faustina's canonisation Mass, Pope St John Paul II declared, "It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called Divine Mercy Sunday."

THURSDAY 16 th APRIL Second Week of Easter	FRIDAY 17 th APRIL Second Week of Easter	SATURDAY 18 th APRIL Second Week of Easter
<p>7:30am Men's Prayer Group, St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton</p> <p>10am Funeral Mass, Aileen Lampard RIP, Hamilton</p> <p>3pm Rite of Committal, Aileen Lampard RIP, Edenhope</p> <p>4pm Holy Hour, Hamilton</p> <p>5:15pm Mass, Hamilton</p>	<p>9:30am Mass, Hamilton</p> <p>10am Confessions, Hamilton</p> <p>5pm Confessions, Hamilton</p> <p>6pm Catholic Enquiry, Hamilton</p>	<p>9:30am Mass, Hamilton</p> <p>10am Confessions, Hamilton</p> <p>5pm Confessions, Hamilton</p> <p>6pm Mass, Hamilton</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Easter is not just a day to celebrate; it is a season to live with renewed faith and hope.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">St John Chrysostom </p>

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

RESPONSORIAL

Psalms 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

R/. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

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.'

I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just.

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.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first Letter of St Peter

You did not see Christ, yet you love him

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by

fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

John 20:29

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Eight days later, Jesus came again 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.

SUNDAY 19th APRIL Third Sunday of Easter	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
<p> 8:30am Lay-led Assembly, Dunkeld 8:30am Lay-led Assembly, Penshurst 9am Mass, Balmoral 9am Mass, Coleraine 10:30am Mass, Hamilton 12pm Family Catechism, Hamilton 11:15am Mass, Edenhope 4pm Mass, Casterton </p>	<p> We adhere to Victoria's eleven Child Safe standards. Our policies are displayed in our churches and on our website. Our Parish Safety Officer is John Hockey - 0439 319 823. </p> 	<p> St Mary MacKillop Parish recognises the Traditional Custodians of parish lands: the Eastern Maar people, the Gunditjmara people, and the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations. The parish acknowledges their deep and continuing connection to the land, water and community. </p>