



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

Phone (all hours): (03) 5571 1161

Website: www.westernborder.church

E-mail: westernborder@ballarat.catholic.org.au



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 **Tarrayoukian**

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th August, 2026 | Year A

"WOMAN YOU HAVE GREAT FAITH"

Jesus is in a testing mood. He tests the perseverance and humility of the Canaanite mother, but he is also testing the disciples – and us.

The great irony of today's Gospel is that the outsider sees what the insiders cannot. The Canaanite recognises Jesus as "Son of David," kneels before him, and trusts so completely in his mercy that even the crumbs will be enough. The disciples, meanwhile, simply want her sent away.

Jesus tests her faith – and she aces the test. But perhaps the more uncomfortable test is for the disciples, and for us: can we recognise great faith when it appears in someone we did not expect?

Her witness leaves us with two challenges:

- **Persevere:** God's silence is not God's absence. Faith keeps praying and reaching towards Christ even when the answer doesn't come easily.
- **Beware your blind spots:** Where the disciples perceive a nuisance; Jesus recognises great faith. He asks us to notice the people we might otherwise overlook or keep at a distance.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

A sincere thank you to Fr Shane for celebrating the 10:30am Mass in Hamilton this weekend.

With Fr Vuong now joining our parish team, we have been able to reshape the Sunday roster so that he can gradually visit communities across the full breadth of the Western Border Parish. As part of those changes, Fr Damien will become a more regular presence at the 10:30am Hamilton Mass, beginning next weekend.

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

Fr Vuong Nguyen, CSsR - vuong.nguyen@redemptorists.org

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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

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

LET US PRAY

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Tom Ryan.

FOR THE SICK:

Loui Brown, Michael Callaway, Roma Doherty, Ian Ferguson, Quirinus Onderwater, Jaibu Philip, Bernadette Rees.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Casterton: Vera McNamara, Howard Turner, Pat Garratt, Maurice O'Connell, Matt Egger, Betty Lamb, Faye Murphy, Kath Turner, Ray Pretlove, Patrick McGuinness, Nellie Winch, Annie Mills, Pearl Kelly.

Coleraine: Geraldine Grey, Gavin Nolte, Tony Brown, Con Clynes, Jack Kane, Johanna Brown.

Edenhope: Anne Edwards, Bill Heenan, Jim Shirrefs, William Mahney, Dick Murray, Simone Bateman, Peter Carracher, Bridget Mahney, Rodney Mulraney, Floss west, Peter Cassidy, Carmel Ryan, Kevin Ryan, Julia Carey, Erica Smith.

Hamilton: John Schurmann, Vivienne Cook, Aileen Corbett, Catherine Finnegan, Julie Roache, Leonard Price, Molly Mott, Agnes Hockey, Julie O'Brien, Mary Riddle, Brendan Brown, Judith Prendergast, Leslie Fisher, Walter Fletcher, Dennis Hurley.

Harrow: Bernie Kelly.

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER

St Patrick's, Balmoral (9am Mass)

- Reader: Caryl
- Intercessions: Heather

Sacred Heart, Casterton (4pm Mass)

- Reader: Riya
- Commentator: Shane Kelly
- Communion: Renji, M Baulch
- Counters: J Donegan, H Gorman

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- Readers: John Kane

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15am Mass)

- Reader: R Rokebrand
- Intercessions: C McCann

St Joseph's, Penshurst - (8.30am Lay-Led Assembly)

- Leader: Catherine Loria
- Reader: Brendan Kelly
- Prayers: Theresa Fitzgerald

Grange - Frank Soulsby

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER 23 AUGUST

St Patrick's, Balmoral - No Service

- Reader:
- Intercessions:

Sacred Heart (11am Mass)

- Reader: Charlie Koch
- Commentator: J Donegan
- Communion: K Mitchell, Riya
- Counters: P Durbidge, M Murphy

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- Reader: Aileen Utber

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15am Lay-Led Assembly)

- Leader: H Surman Reader: C Heenan
- Intercessions: C McCann

St Joseph's, Penshurst (8.30am Mass)

- Reader: Catherine Loria
- Prayers: Brendan Kelly
- Gifts: Kelly Family

St Joseph's, Tarrayoukyan (9am Mass)

Grange - John Hockey

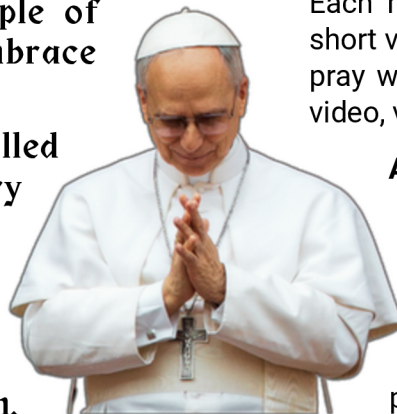
St Mary's Hamilton	Opening & Welcome	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	First Reading	Second Reading	Communion
Sat 15/08	Chris Jansen	Ophiya & Sairah	Chris Janen	Volunteer	Angelina Juby	Sairah Joeman	T Groves K Barker
Sun 16/08	Carolyn Stanhope	Geetha & Bridget	Carolyn Stanhope	Frank Soulsby	Helen Tripovich	Sherrie Hockey	P Wheaton M Roberts Volunteer
Sat 22/08	Fr John	Chris & Kathie	Jacinta Ryan	Maureen Dunn	Pauline Kelly	Fiona-Marie	N & N Joseph
Sun 23/08	John Hockey	Sherrie & John	Glenn Howell	Frank Soulsby	Helen Tripovich	Carolyn Stanhope	R & U Murphy J Nenke

PRAYER

God of all the nations, in the outstretched arms of Jesus the Crucified you gather the people of earth, diverse and divided into a single embrace of salvation and peace.

Stir up within us the longing for unity that filled the heart of Jesus your Son, and let our every word and deed serve your design of universal salvation, until all are gathered into your one family to be perfectly one in your covenant of love.

Praying as always though Jesus, the Christ. 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

AUGUST 2026: FOR CITIES

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

MONDAY 17 th AUGUST Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time	TUESDAY 18 th AUGUST Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time	WEDNESDAY 19 th AUGUST Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass, Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton	4pm Adoration, Hamilton 5:15pm Mass, Hamilton	9:30am Mass, Hamilton 10am Rosary & Litany, Casterton 5pm Rosary, Hamilton



BAPTISM

On Saturday night in Hamilton, the Church welcomes with great joy:

Joseph Victor Hill

son of Jordon and Girlie
and little brother to Mariana

May this special occasion be filled with love, joy, and God's blessings over the Hill family.

RENEWING THE OLD ST MARY'S CHURCH

Plans are underway for the careful renovation, including some restoration, of our beautiful Wardell-designed Old St Mary's church in Hamilton. We want to preserve its Gothic Revival heritage while also preparing the church to serve generations to come.

👉 Read the full details on our website:
www.westernborder.church/renovation



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN CATHOLIC ED. COMMITTEES

DOBCEL is looking for passionate staff, parents, and community members to lend their expertise to our school communities. We welcome applications for membership on our:

- Catholic Identity & Mission Committee
- Assurance & Risk Committee
- Finance Committee

 **Deadline:** Friday, 18 September 2026

👉 **To apply:** Scan the QR code



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EDUCATION
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PARISH PILGRIM STATUE

Our parish pilgrim statue encourages parishioners to set aside a week to host a public Rosary and honour Our Lady's request at Fatima to pray for peace.

This week: Chris & Kathie Jansen
24 Carmichael Street
Rosary daily at 4 pm (except Mon)
All welcome.

If you would like to join the roster and bring the statue into your home for a week, please contact Chris Jansen: 0407 719 530



EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY

Caritas Australia are supporting the current situation in Venezuela where two powerful earth-quakes have struck. Communities are shaken, homes destroyed, and families devastated. Your donations are welcome and needed. Visit: <https://www.caritas.org.au/venezuela>

PLEASE JOIN IN REFRESHMENTS

AT BALMORAL:

After 9am Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays

AT CASTERTON:

After 11am Mass on 4th Sundays

AT COLERAINE:

After 9am Mass on 2nd Sundays

AT DUNKELD:

After 8:30 Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays

AT GLENTHOMPSON:

After 8:30am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays

AT HAMILTON:

After 6pm and 10:30 Mass every weekend



THURSDAY 20 th AUGUST St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor	FRIDAY 21 st AUGUST St Pius X, Pope	SATURDAY 22 nd AUGUST Our Lady, Mother and Queen
7:30am Men's Prayer Group , St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton 10am Mass , Casterton 1:30pm Funeral Mass , Tom Ryan RIP, Edenhope 2pm Mass , Glenelg House 4pm Adoration , Hamilton 5:15pm Mass , Hamilton	9:30am Mass , Hamilton 9:30am Mass , Penshurst 5pm Reconciliation , Hamilton	9:30am Mass , Hamilton 10am Reconciliation , Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation , Hamilton 6pm Mass , Hamilton

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

RESPONSORIAL

Psalms 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

R/. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all people in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all humankind.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.



SUNDAY 23 rd AUGUST Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
8:30am Mass, Glenthompson 8:30am Mass, Penshurst 9am Mass, Coleraine 9am Lay-led Assembly, Dunkeld 9am Mass, Tarrayoukyan 10:30am Mass, Hamilton 11am Mass, Casterton 11:15am Lay-led Assembly, Edenhope	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 .  A safe Church for everyone	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.