



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' **Glenhompson**
St Mary's **Hamilton**
St Michael's **Harrow**
St Joseph's **Penshurst**
St Joseph's **Tarrayoukyan**

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd August, 2026 | Year A

UPON *THIS* ROCK?

In a world buzzing with opinions and noise, Jesus poses a question that defines our lives: **"Who do you say that I am?"** He demands a personal answer. Eventually each of us must decide whether Jesus is merely a teacher, a prophet, an inspiring figure from history – or, as Peter confesses, "the Christ, the Son of the living God."

When Peter recognises Jesus as the Messiah, our Lord names him *Cephas* – the rock upon which he builds his *ecclesia*. We translate that as "church," but 2,000 years ago it meant *an assembly* – a people called together. Christian faith was never meant to be lived alone. Jesus gives us something outside ourselves: a rock, an office, a visible point of communion. He gives us the Church.

Peter is an unlikely "rock." He misunderstands Jesus, argues with him, panics, sinks, lashes out with a sword, and denies him three times. But the Master chooses Peter as the rock on which he builds his Church.

Dorothy Day understood the paradox: **"As a convert, I never expected much of the bishops. In all history popes and bishops and father abbots seem to have been blind and power loving and greedy. I never expected leadership from them. It is the saints that keep appearing all through history who keep things going. What I do expect is the bread of life, and down through the ages there is that continuity."**

The Church is not dependable because of Peter. The Church endures because of Christ. So we stay close to the pope – we love him, and we pray for him, and we unite ourselves to him – not because he impresses us or pleases us, but because this is what Jesus asks of us.

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:

Brian Gavin.

FOR THE SICK:

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

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Balmoral: Josie Grey.

Casterton: Cecil Foster, Edward Martin.

Coleraine: Eileen Peterson, Tay Murtagh.

Edenhope: Gordon Reader, Joan Mahney, Tommy Donnelly, Jacki Dignan, Mary Dishon, Greg Carter.

Hamilton: James Kinnane, Kerry McCaskill, Patricia Everston, Phyllis Lang, Gwenda Woodward, Lindsay Ross, Michael Phillips, Nicholas Carr, Peter Tripovich, Marion Burow, Marjorie Kenna, Virginia Stewart, Moya McMahon, Megan O'Neil, Dorothy Turner.



THIS WEEK'S ROSTER

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

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER (30th AUG)

St Patrick's, Balmoral - No Service

- Reader:
- Intercessions:

Sacred Heart, Casterton (9am Mass)

- Reader:
- Commentator:
- Communion:
- Counters:

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Ecumenical Service)

- Readers:

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15am Mass)

- Reader: Ricardo F
- Intercessions:

St Joseph's, Penshurst - No Service

- Leader:
- Reader:
- Prayers:

St Michael's, Harrow (4pm Mass)

Grange - Frank Soulsby

St Mary's Hamilton	Opening & Welcome	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	First Reading	Second Reading	Communion
Sat 22/08	Fr John	Chris & Kathie	Jacinta Ryan	Maureen Dunn	Pauline Kelly	Fiona-Marie	N & N Joseph
Sun 23/08	Carolyn Stanhope	Anne & Des	Glenn Howell	Frank Soulsby	Helen Tripovich	Carolyn Stanhope	R & U Murphy J Nenke
Sat 29/08	Pauline Kelly	Vanessa Storan	Pauline Kelly	Terrielynn Groves	Jacinta Ryan	Jet Storen	K Barker P Murphy
Sun 30/08	Frank Soulsby	Della & Glenn	Peter Christopher	Frank Soulsby	Jacob Nenke	Carmel Schlaghecke	F Soulsby M Roberts P Wheaton

PRAYER

Upon this rock, Lord God,
you have built your Church,
and the faith of the Church is on the lips of Peter:
Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.
Let the witness these words have inspired
in the course of the centuries
flourish with renewed vigour
in the Church of our time.
Let the gates of hell give way
before the power of this confession.
Praying as always through 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.

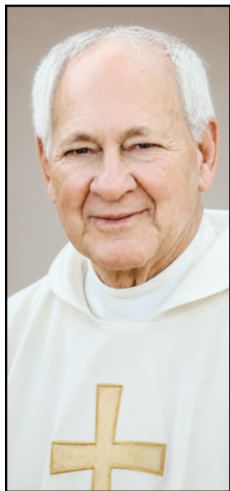
MONDAY 24 th AUGUST St Bartholomew, Apostle	TUESDAY 25 th AUGUST Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time	WEDNESDAY 26 th AUGUST Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass, Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton	1:30pm Lakeside Living, Edenhope 4pm Adoration, Hamilton 5:15pm Mass, Hamilton	9:30am Mass, Hamilton 10am Rosary & Litany, Casterton 5pm Rosary, Hamilton

FR DAMIEN HEATH'S MOVE TO HAMILTON

Following the joyful celebration of his Platinum Jubilee in Casterton, Fr Damien travelled to Melbourne, where his remarkable 70 years of priestly ministry were celebrated again with family and friends.

Upon returning, he became unwell with a chest infection and spent several days in Hamilton Hospital before being discharged on Friday.

Fr Damien is making a good recovery, and has moved into St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton, where he will join Fr John, Fr Cay, and Fr Vuong in the common life of the presbytery for the foreseeable future. We are very glad to have Fr Damien home among us. Please keep him in your prayers and affection as he returns to full health.



CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION

Congratulations to Isabella Watson, who this Saturday morning at St Mary's Church in Hamilton received the Sacrament of Confirmation and made her First Holy Communion. May her ongoing journey in faith be a source of strength and inspiration to all those around her.

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



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.

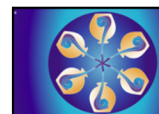
This week: Dan McOwan's
165 Hensley Park Road
Rosary Daily at 4 pm
All welcome.

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



EATING WITH JESUS RETREAT

"The simplicity of life with Jesus for his call and our call to live in fellowship."



"To encounter Jesus in our everyday life."



JOIN US FOR 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:

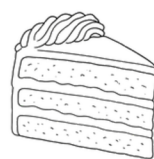
After 8:30 Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays

AT GLENTHOMPSON:

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

AT HAMILTON:

After 6pm and 10:30 Mass every weekend



THURSDAY 27 th AUGUST St Monica	FRIDAY 28 th AUGUST St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor	SATURDAY 29 th AUGUST Beheading of St John the Baptist
7:30am Men's Prayer Group, St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton 10am Mass, Casterton 10:30am Anointing, Eventide 4pm Adoration, Hamilton 5:15pm Mass, Hamilton	9:30am Mass, Hamilton 9:30am Mass, Penshurst 2:30pm Funeral, Brian Gavin RIP, Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton	9:30am Mass, Hamilton 10am Reconciliation, Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton 6pm Mass, Hamilton

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I place the key of David on my servant's shoulder

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

RESPONSORIAL

Psalms 137(138):1-3,6,8

R/. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart:
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love,
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:33-36

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



SUNDAY 30 th AUGUST Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
8:30am Mass, Dunkeld 9am Mass, Casterton 9am Ecumenical Service, Coleraine 10:30am Mass, Hamilton 11:15am Mass, Edenhope 4pm Mass, Harrow	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. 	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.