



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**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September, 2026 | Year A

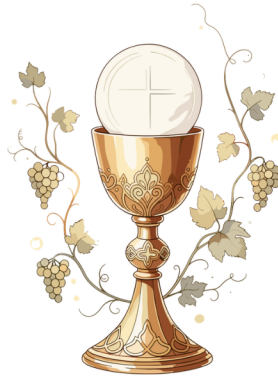
FIRST COMMUNION DAY

Congratulations to our First Communicants, who receive Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist at Masses in Hamilton this weekend. This joyful occasion marks the culmination of their year of sacramental preparation, following their First Reconciliation and Confirmation.

Along the way, the children have learned about several saints, including Our Lady, St Joseph, St Mary MacKillop, Mother Teresa, and St Carlo Acutis. These saints lived in different times, and led different lives, but they all loved God more than anything else, and people loved them for it.

That's our job too – to love God so much, that our love overflows. What first seemed hard then becomes easy: to love as God loves, and to forgive seventy times seven times!

Today let's pray for these children, whom God loves so much. Their families are already filled with pride and gratitude for the gift these children are. As a parish family, we join our prayers of thanksgiving with theirs, knowing that these young disciples, like the saints who've gone before us, will build up the world, and make it a better place, by the love of God burning in their hearts, and by the amazing grace they receive in the Eucharist.



LET US PRAY

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Ian Ferguson –
Funeral Mon 14 Sept. @ 2.30pm.
St Mary's Hamilton.

FOR THE SICK:

Loui Brown, Michael Callaway,
Quirinus Onderwater, Jaibu
Philip, Bernadette Rees,
Mandy Malseed.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Balmoral: Jack Rogers.

Casterton: Kevin Tierney, Norm
Newport, Mavis Cain, Michael Fitzgerald,
Bruce Grinham, Raymond Aumann,
Sarah Williams, Stan Hurst, Doug
McIntosh, Marj Kerr, Molly & Keith Tait,
Phyllis Sylvester, Stuart Cain.

Coleraine: Leo Fitzgerald.

Edenhope: Eileen Collins, Peter
Donaldson, Tom Barrett, Sr Adrian,
Bill Kealy, Margaret Thurgood,
Eileen McDonnell, Margaret Douglass,
John Gartlan, Margaret Gilhooly.

Hamilton: Mackenzie Mason, Keith
Parker, Frances Sullivan, Norma Tangey,
Naomi Phillips.

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

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER

St Patrick's, Balmoral - No Service

- **Reader:**
- **Intercessions:**

Sacred Heart, Casterton (10.30 Lay-led Assembly)

- **Leader:** M Davis & C Condon
- **Commentator:** K Brody
- **Communion:** H Gorman & M Baulch
- **Counters:** H Gorman & M Murphy

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- **Readers:** Shane Whelan

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15am Mass)

- **Reader:** G Clarke
- **Intercessions:** Ricardo F

St Joseph's, Peshurst (8.30 Mass)

- **Lector:** Catherine Loria
- **Prayers:** Rob Coates
- **Gifts**
- **Leader:** Brendan Kelly

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER (20th Sept)

St Patrick's, Balmoral (9am Mass)

- **Reader:** Michele
- **Intercessions:** Sabrina

Sacred Heart (10.30am Mass)

- **Reader:** Renju
- **Commentator:** Shane Kelly
- **Communion:** M Baulch & C Condon
- **Counters:** M O'Connell & P Durbidge

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)

- **Reader:** Kevin Myers

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15 Mass)

- **Reader:** M Payne
- **Intercessions:** A Kealy

St Joseph's, Peshurst (8.30am Lay-led Assembly)

- **Lector:** Rob Coates
- **Prayers:** Terry Pezzutti
- **Gifts:** Rob & Eileen
- **Leader:**

Grange - Margaret Roberts

Grange - Maria Patience

St Mary's Hamilton	Opening & Welcome	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	First Reading	Second Reading	Communion
Sat 12/09	Fr John	Chris & Kathie	Jacinta Ryan	Terrielynn	First Communion	First Communion	Terrielynn Tania Stevens
Sun 13/09	Carolyn Stanhope	Richard & Ursula	Peter Christopher	Sherrie Hockey	Carolyn Stanhope	Carmel Schlaghecke	T Hurley R Fitzgerald M Roberts
Sat 12/09	Chris Jansen	Jisha & Angelina	Chris Jansen	Karen Brewis	Jacinta Ryan	Fiona-Marie	N & N Joseph
Sun 13/09	John Hockey	Geetha & Maria	Richard Murphy	Ursula Murphy	Rohan Fitzgerald	Della Gogoll	P Wheaton M Cook J Nenke

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.



*Peter and Liz Hinchey
1 Wills Street, Dunkeld
Rosary Daily at 4.30 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

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



SEPTEMBER 2026: FOR THE CARE OF WATER

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water -- a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

MONDAY 14 th SEPTEMBER The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	TUESDAY 15 th SEPTEMBER Our Lady of Sorrows	WEDNESDAY 16 th SEPTEMBER Sts Cornelius & Cyprian, Martyrs
9.30am Mass, Hamilton 2:30pm Funeral Mass, Ian Ferguson RIP, Hamilton 5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton	4pm Adoration, Hamilton 5:15pm Mass, Hamilton	9:30am Mass, Hamilton 10am Mass, Casterton 10am Mass, Edenhope 5pm Rosary, Hamilton

COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS THIS WEEKEND 12th & 13th SEPT IN ALL OUR COMMUNITIES



CARING FOR THOSE WHO
CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH
COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Nineteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat, Geelong and Warrnambool, and others live in supported accommodation.

Donation options:

Special envelopes can be placed in the collections this weekend. **Credit card** contributions can be made using this envelope.

OR

QR code for **CDF Pay, Western Border:**
Select *My Giving is for ...*
"Retired Priests Collection"



HALLS GAP TWO DAY RETREAT

The Diocese of Ballarat invites parishioners to **Emmaus 2026**, bringing together people from across the Diocese to share what is life-giving in their Catholic communities.

Participants are invited to share the projects, ministries and initiatives that are bearing fruit in their own parishes, with time for prayer, Mass, Conversation in the Spirit, shared meals and fellowship.

Starts: 4pm Sunday 25th October

Ends: 12 midday Tuesday 27th October

MOUNTAIN VIEW LODGES, HALLS GAP

Cost: \$100 for two nights' accommodation

Registrations close Friday 25 September

All are welcome, including those who would like to become more involved in parish life. If you would like more information, please call the parish office.

PRAYER

How many times,
God Most High,
we come seeking forgiveness,
yet how often we refuse forgiveness
to those who wrong us.

Let the word of Jesus
challenge our ways
and drive anger far away
from our hearts,
so that we who
so much need mercy ourselves
may forgive our brothers and sisters
from the heart, as often and as easily
as we would have you forgive us.

AMEN

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY September 13, 2026 - "Love Protects"

Today is Safeguarding Sunday: a day to pray for all who have experienced abuse or harm, to support their healing, and to renew our commitment to creating communities where every person is welcomed, respected and safe.

In the Gospels, Jesus shows particular care for those who are vulnerable and calls his disciples to do the same. Safeguarding is not simply a policy or procedure; it is a Gospel responsibility that reflects the dignity of every person and our commitment to love one another as Christ has loved us.

As we celebrate today, let us pray for all who continue to journey towards healing, give thanks for those who serve in safeguarding ministry, and recommit ourselves to building parish communities where trust, compassion and care are evident in all we do.

THURSDAY 17 th SEPTEMBER Twenty-fourth Week, Ordinary Time	FRIDAY 18 th SEPTEMBER Twenty-fourth Week, Ordinary Time	SATURDAY 19 th SEPTEMBER Twenty-fourth Week, Ordinary Time
7:30am Men's Prayer Group , St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton 10am Mass , Casterton 10:30pm Anointing , Eventide 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 5pm Reconciliation , Hamilton 6pm Mass , Hamilton

FIRST READING

Sirach 27:33-28:9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13:34

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour and when you pray, you will be forgiven

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

RESPONSORIAL

Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12

R/. The Lord is kind and merciful:
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

SECOND READING

Romans 14:7-9

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

To be forgiven, you must forgive

Peter went up to Jesus and said, ‘Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

‘And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master’s feet. “Give me time” he said “and I will pay the whole sum.” And the servant’s master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. “Pay what you owe me” he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, “Give me time and I will pay you.” But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. “You wicked servant,” he said “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?” And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’

SUNDAY 20 th SEPTEMBER Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
8:30am Mass, Dunkeld 8:30am Lay-led Assembly, Penshurst 9am Mass, Balmoral 9am Mass, Coleraine 10:30am Mass, Casterton 10:30am Mass, Hamilton 11:15am Mass, 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.  AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING LTD 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.