

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 **Tarrayoukyan**

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 14th October and Sunday 15th November, 2026 | Year A

GOD'S INVESTMENT



Bankers have an image problem. We picture them in expensive suits, smoking fat cigars, making fortunes with other people's money. We entrust them with our savings, and they charge us for the privilege!

In today's Gospel, Jesus depicts God as a very different kind of banker. God doesn't ask us to deposit *our* wealth with him. He has already entrusted *his* wealth to us. Everything we possess — our abilities, opportunities, relationships, even the time we have left on earth — is a gift from God. We are not owners, but stewards. And God expects a return on his investment.

The economy of grace is unique. The more we give away, the richer we become. The more generously we love, the greater our capacity for love. The saints understand the secret of spiritual investment. They've risked everything for Christ, and gained everything.



The servant who buried his talent does the opposite. He risks nothing. His great failure was not extravagance; it was timidity. He played it safe. It makes for a fearful epitaph: "*He never did anything wrong. He never did much of anything.*"

Please note the next issue of our parish quarterly magazine will be published soon. If there are stories or even photos you think are worth sharing with the parish, please email them to the office! God bless,

Fr John

LET US PRAY

RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Alan Ward

FOR THE SICK:

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

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Balmoral: Cliff Sinclair, Frank Watt.

Casterton: Ivy Bridges, Nellie Edgerton, Vera White, Louise Brens, Ellie Upton, Flora Murphy, Matt & Mary Flynn, Joe Davis, Shirley Cottier, Sr Kate McGrath, Austin Goodes.

Coleraine: Beatrice Bunney, Ken Fitzgerald, Molly Millard, Betty Cameron, Norma Dugan, Brian Byrne.

Edenhope: Dorrie Ryan, Roger Pahl, Barry Norman, Mary Merrett, Brian Mulraney, Robert Robertson, Audrey McDougall, Joseph Farrelly.

Hamilton: Robin Turnbull, Leonard Presser, Jackie Handley, Mopsy Tierney, Peter Hurley.

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

IF YOU ARE UNAVAILABLE FOR YOUR MINISTRY, PLEASE ARRANGE A SWAP AND ADVISE THE OFFICE ASAP

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER 15th Nov

St Patrick's, Balmoral (9am Mass)
- ***Reader**: Michele*
- ***Intercessions**: Gerard*

Sacred Heart (10.30am Mass)
- ***Reader: Charlie Koch***
- **Commentator**: K Brody
- ***Communion***: K Renji & M Davis
- ***Counters***: P Durbidge & M Murphy

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)
Reader: John Kane

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15 Mass)
- **Reader:** C McCann
- ***Intercessions***:C McFarlane

St Joseph's, Penshurst - (8.30am Lay-led Assembly)
- **Leader:** Brendan Kelly
- **Lector:** Catherine Loria
- ***Prayers***: Rob Coates

Grange - Margaret Roberts

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER 22nd Nov

St Patrick's, Balmoral (No Service)
- ***Reader**:*
- ***Intercessions**:*

Sacred Heart (10.30am Mass)
- ***Reader:** K Hausler*
- **Commentator**: K Brody
- ***Communion***: M Egger & M Baulch
- ***Counters***: M Murphy & H Gorman

St Joseph's, Coleraine (9am Mass)
Reader: Kay Wraith

St Malachy's, Edenhope (11.15 Lay-led Assembly)
- **Reader:** R Rokebrand
- ***Leader***: C McCann

St Joseph's, Penshurst - (8.30am Mass)
- **Reader:** Rob Coates
- **Gifts:** Rob and Theresa
- ***Prayers***: Theresa Fitzgerald

Grange - John Hockey

St Mary's Hamilton	Opening & Welcome	Cuppa	Computer	Commentator	First Reading	Second Reading	Communion
14/11	Pauline Kelly	Chris & Kathie	Pauline Kelly	Terrielynn	Jack Bell	Maureen Dunn	P & M Dunn
15/11	John Hockey	Sherrie & John	Carolyn Stanhope	Frank Sousby	Della Gogoll	Carmel Schlaghecke	M cook T Hurley F Soulsby
21/11	Chris Jansen	Vanessa Storan	Chris Jansen	Pauline Kelly	Terrielynn Groves	Jacinta Ryan	K. Brewis K. Barker
22/11	Frank Soulsby	Geetha & Maria	Richard Murphy	Frank Soulsby	Ursula Murphy	Selina Perera	F. Soulsby T. Irving P. Wheaton

PRAYER

Into the hands of each of us, O God, you have entrusted all the blessings of nature and grace. Give us the will and wisdom to multiply the gifts your providence has bestowed, and make us industrious and vigilant as await your Son's return, so that we may rejoice to hear him call us, "good and faithful servants" and be blest to enter into the joy of your kingdom. 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**

NOVEMBER 2026: FOR THE PROPER USE OF WEALTH

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that we do not succumb to the temptation of selfishness, but instead use it in the service of the common good and in solidarity with those who have less.

MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER St Margaret of Scotland	**TUESDAY 17th NOVEMBER** St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious	**WEDNESDAY 18th NOVEMBER** Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass, Hamilton **5pm Reconciliation**, Hamilton	**5pm Reconciliation**, Hamilton **5:30pm Mass**, Hamilton	**9:30am Mass**, Hamilton **10am Mass**, Casterton **5pm Reconciliation**, Hamilton **5pm Rosary**, Hamilton

FAMILY FUN DAY



The Tins in the Bin project, based in Coleraine, collects food from supermarkets to be distributed through St Vinnies and the Salvos. The project is holding a Family Fun Day & Money Raiser next **Saturday 21st November, from 11am to 4pm at the Coleraine Tourist Centre** (The Old Railway Station). There will be lots of activities, entertainment and food available. This is a small, community based project and very worthy of our support. Thank You, Frank McInerney.

ADVENT BOOKLET



This Advent and Christmas, discover the God who is closer than we think. ***Presence: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2026*** is a beautifully presented, 84-page, full-colour book of daily reflections inviting you to slow down, become attentive, and rediscover the presence of Christ in your everyday life. **Now available to buy at all our churches for $5 each.**

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES OF HAMILTON
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

8pm Friday 11th December at the Botanical Gardens



JOIN THE COMBINED CHOIR

Come along, lend your voice, and spread the joy of the Christmas season.

- *When:* Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm
- *Where:* St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
- *Who:* All voices and experience levels welcome

PENSHURST CAROLS

- *When*: 7:30pm, Saturday 6th December
- *Where*: Penshurst Memorial Hall
- *Who*: Bring your family and friends to share an evening filled with music and joy. All welcome!



ELECTION STATEMENT

Ahead of the 2026 Victorian election, the Bishops of Victoria have issued an election statement, *Faith In Action* — not to direct your vote, but to help you to step back from the media cycle and weigh your choices against the measures of Catholic social teaching. The bishops are clear that there is no "Catholic party," nor a single required way to vote. To read the bishops' statement, please scan the QR code or visit www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/faith-in-action/



THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat	**FRIDAY 20th NOVEMBER** Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time	**SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER** Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary
7:30am Men's Prayer Group, St Mary's Presbytery, Hamilton **10am Mass & Rosary**, Casterton **2pm Anointing**, The Birches **5pm Reconciliation**, Hamilton **5:30pm Mass**, Hamilton	**9:30am Mass**, Hamilton **9:30am Mass**, Penshurst **12pm Team Meeting**, Hamilton ~~5pm Reconciliation, Hamilton~~ **Monivae Graduation Mass,** Hamilton	**9:30am Mass**, Hamilton **5pm Reconciliation**, Hamilton **6pm Mass**, Hamilton

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is,' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Because you have been faithful, enter into the joy of the Lord

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"

SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	**WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH**	**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
8:30am Mass, Glenthompson **8:30am Mass**, Penshurst **9am Lay-led Assembly**, Dunkeld **9am Mass**, Coleraine **9am Mass**, Tarrayoukyan **10:30am Mass**, Casterton **10:30am Mass**, Hamilton **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**. ACSL 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.