Weekly Parish News

Copies of our weekly parish news are available from Beatties newsagency 147 Gray St. Hamilton (please ask at the front counter for a copy) or from a container placed at the front door of Christ Church Hamilton. Copies for Penshurst, Glenthompson and Dunkeld can be obtained from where The Hamilton Spectator is available. It is also on our website: www.hamiltonanglican.org.au
We deeply regret that there are no acts of public worship and hope that you understand.
If it is your custom, please pray for all who are affected.
Fr. David is available for pastoral care and on the following mechanisms:

Address 39 Griffin Street Hamilton
Phone 5571 1317
Mobile 0423 671 692
email droulton72@gmail.com
Duo
Facebook
Facetime
Messenger
Skype

Mondays are Fr David's day off but he is available in case of an emergency

A little something for you to find

There are 16 letters to make up three words.
Last weeks words were Messiah, Feet, Repent

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews

Have you ever visited our Diocesan website?:

ballaratanglican.org.au.
You can find the dNews and lots of other interesting items

Did you realise we also have a website and are on face book?

See front of pew sheet.
Our pew sheet is posted on our website each week and our services by Fr David are live streamed on face book

More than half the Anglicans in the world live in...

(a) Africa
(b) North America
(c) Europe
The answer from last weeks question was "The Rule of St. Benedict"

Oh Yeah... you remember...

that we put in a grant for $15,000 to our local friendly shire for work on our Christchurch Hamilton roof? We were successful!. Yes.. True! Due to the virus that cannot be named, we are allowed to spend the $$ in the next financial year as the work had to be rescheduled. Some rooly good news for us in these tricky times.

Anglican Parish of Hamilton
Fourth Sunday Of Easter
3rd May 2020

Sentence: John 10.11
'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

Collect:
God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep: send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Parish Directory		
	Parish Website: **www.hamiltonanglican.org.au** *Parish Facebook:* **facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton**	
RECTOR	Fr David Oulton	03 5571 1317 (Rectory & Office) Email: droulton72@gmail.com PH: 0423 671 692
PARISH OFFICE	*9.00am-12.00pm* *Thursdays & Fridays*	03 5571 1317 (Office & Rectory) office@hamiltonanglican.org.au
CHURCH WARDENS	Robyn Wilken Claire Hilsdon	03 5572 4303 0488 529 303

If you would like to give to the parish by the direct debit option, the parish bank details are as follows:- NAB. BSB:083-663 the account No.: 51580-7866.
Even if you miss coming you are still giving.
This also helps with budgeting for our future.

Christ Church Hamilton

St Mary's Dunkleld	St Peter's Glenthompson	St Mark's Cavendish	All Saints' Penshurst

1st Reading: Acts 2.42-47

42 They devoted themselves to the
apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the
breaking of bread and the prayers.
43 Awe came upon everyone, because
many wonders and signs were being done
by the apostles. 44 All who
believed were together and had all things
in common; 45 they would sell their pos-
sessions and goods and
distribute the proceeds to all, as any had
need. 46 Day by day, as they spent much
time together in the temple, they broke
bread at home and ate their food with
glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God
and having the goodwill of all the people.
And day by day the Lord added to their
number those who were being saved

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 23

1. The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.
2. He will make me lie down in green pastures: and lead me beside still waters.
3. He will refresh my soul: and guide
me in right pathways for his name's
sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.
5. You spread a table before me in the
face of those who trouble me: you
have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full.
6. Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2.1-10

1 Rid yourselves, therefore, of all
malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy,
and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants,
long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by
it you may grow into salvation— 3 if
indeed you have tasted that the Lord is
good. 4 Come to him, a living stone,
though rejected by mortals yet chosen and
precious in God's sight, and 5 like living
stones, let yourselves be built into a
spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to
offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God
through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in
scripture:
'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a
cornerstone chosen and precious; and
whoever believes in him will not be put to
shame.' 7 To you then who believe, he is
precious; but for those who do not
believe, 'The stone that the builders
rejected has become the very head of the
corner', 8 and 'A stone that makes them
stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.
'They stumble because they disobey the
word, as they were destined to do. 9 But
you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, God's own people, in order
that you may proclaim the mighty acts of
him who called you out of darkness into
his marvellous light. 10 Once you were not
a people, but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy, but
now you have received mercy.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

our despair, our grief, our grumpiness, our hope, our isolation, our experience of intimacy, our friendship … to make all this available to other people as a source of replenishment and sustenance for them. To offer to all, the grist, our daily bread, our daily life, so that others might be fed and nurtured.
And this is a risky, risky business. For like Our Lord we leave ourselves vulnerable and open to be pierced, ignored, denied, rejected, stomped and jumped upon.
As shepherds, the greatest gift you and I can offer the people we serve is… our very selves. We can offer consolation and comfort especially in times of confusion and uncertainty.
It is in these times, that we can say "Even though you walk through a very dark place, I am with you. See, I have walked this road before and I am walking it with you now and I will stay by your side. Watch out for that pot hole… mind the loose stone there. This bit is easier." This is the way that we, you and I together, become Christ like shepherds. And it is a noble, exhilarating, heartbreaking and thrilling vocation.
Remember my flimsy adolescent attempt at droving. Another image of the good shepherd might be the shepherd that is walking right in the middle of his sheep. Walking with them, surrounded by the noise, and the heat, and the flies and the mess and the joy of knowing that we are all on our way together.
Christ the good shepherd. Not just at the front saying confronting things, not just at the back cajoling and rounding up, but also right in the muck and sparkle of our humanity. Enjoying it, relishing it, delighting in it and rejoicing in it.
This is Christ our good shepherd. He who spreads a table before us. This he who anoints our head with oil and fills our cup to overflowing.
This is the shepherd whose goodness and love will follow us all the days of our life, and we will dwell in the house of the Good Shepherd forever.

Voila! This morning's homily

Easter 4 - May 3rd.

Most of you know that I grew up on a wheat / sheep farm in the Wimmera. With mixed feelings I remember droving sheep with my father and brother. We had to take the sheep to a farm where there was a facility to drench them. The time it took to get there seemed endless. It was hot and dusty, I was thirsty, the flies were incessant and it seemed like we were never going to arrive. The sheep were recalcitrant, and they just never seemed to do the right thing.
My father would be in the ute at the front leading the way and making sure that oncoming traffic was aware of the pandemonium that was following. My brother and I were behind the sheep testing out a new vocabulary on the straying sheep and I want to come back to this happy little bunch a bit later.
Often when we think of leadership, authority and Christ the good shepherd, we think of the father out the front berating and haranguing. Come along… This way folks. Tallyho!
And there is a place for the hard things to be said… graciously. There are occasions when the way forward must be cleared and a centennial or prophetic way of leadership is necessary.
There are times too, when the Master encourages and cajoles from behind. With compliments and Thankyous, the shepherd emboldens us to the new adventures that await us. Perhaps even this morning he is saying to you. "You can do this. I do believe in you".
Now a point of clarification.
You could easily think that the church shepherds are just the deacons, priests and bishops. It certainly involves them, but it is not exclusive to them.
You may not be aware of it but you have shepherded me beautifully since the whole Covid19 thing turned our lives upside down and round the wrong way. The way you have stepped up in your ministry is inspiring and exciting and moving. By your gestures of kindness, thoughtfulness, and good old fashioned pastoral care, you have said to me and to others…. (perhaps unwittingly)
"This is the way to do things. This is how you care for people. This is how you show them what God is like."
So what else is in the shepherd's job description.
The good shepherd lays down his life for this sheep.
So our spiritual leaders, both lay and ordained, priests and people are called to lay down their life for their sheep.
In this day and age, and in our culture, it probably won't equate to martyrdom but there is a very real sense in which we lay down our life across the years in the joyful service of all.
First and foremost laying down our lives for others means this. To make our own lives, our joys, our sorrows,

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia! **alleluia.**
I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.
R. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: John 10.1-10

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to St John

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

1 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does
not enter the sheepfold by the gate but
climbs in by another way is a thief and a
bandit. 2 The one who enters by the gate
is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gate-
keeper opens the gate for him, and the
sheep hear his voice. He calls his own
sheep by name and leads them out. 4
When he has brought out all his own, he
goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow
him because they know his voice. 5 They
will not follow a stranger, but they will
run from him because they do not know
the voice of strangers.' 6 Jesus used this
figure of speech with them, but they did
not understand what he was saying to
them. 7 So again Jesus said to them, 'Very
truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the
sheep. 8 All who came before me are
thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not
listen to them. 9 I am the gate. Whoever
enters by me will be saved, and will come
in and go out and find pasture. 10 The
thief comes only to steal and kill and
destroy. I came that they may have life,
and have it abundantly.

For the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Some prayers to say at home (written by a parishioner)

The response to the bidding
"Dear Lord"….is….
"**Please help us to follow you**".

We pray for everyone in the world that they may follow God's guidance in dealing with the Corona Virus

Dear Lord...**Please help us to follow you.**

We pray for our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, Member's of Parliament, Cabinet, Professor Brendan Murphy and all State and Territory Leaders and State Medical Officers that they make the correct decisions in fighting the Corona Virus.

Dear Lord...**Please help us to follow you**

We pray for all the front-line workers in every profession that, with your guidance, they are doing their utmost to help the people in their care.

Dear Lord...**Please help us to follow you**

We pray for Bishop Garry and everyone in the Diocese of Ballarat, especially Fr David & Jeanine, that they keep healthy and safe during these unusual times.

Dear Lord...**Please help us to follow you.**

We pray for the sick and those suffering in the world that they may find healing in your hands.

Dear Lord...**Please help us to follow you.**

We pray for the Departed that they find healing and comfort in your presence.

Lord, please guide all of us in the world to follow your way in everything we do.

For your Prayers this week

For the sick and in need

Phil Reid
Nola
Fr Peter Treloar
Brian Lacy
Virginia
Dorothy
Patrick and family
(Irene Edwards son)
Katie Kuiper

For those who have died

For those whose Year's Mind we remember

Clarice Jones
Elizabeth Coles
William Richards
Walter Doueal
Ian Kennett
Susan Neal
Harry Baker
John Critten
Brian Taggart
Emily Weise
John Cuming
Jilian Morris
Amy Mitchell
Phyllis Baker
John Kennesy
Daniel Hodgson
Albert Hyde
Hugh Lewis
Harold Kennett

For the wider Church and its ministry

- Pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan) - The Most Revd Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu - Primate of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai & Bishop of Hokkaido
- Armidale: Rick Lewers
- Bathurst: Mark Calder
- St Paul's Ballarat: Sr Elisa Helen CSC
- Diocesan Missionary Council - Alice Knight
- Aiome & Ainong
- Perpetrators and victims of violence in the home.

In the magazine 'Time' dated April 20th, there is an article written by N. T. Wright, professor of New Testament and early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews. I found it invaluable. The following is a quote from his article.

"In the Bible, God also laments. The Spirit groans, Jesus weeps. God grieves for his world. It is no part of the Christian vocation to be able to explain what's happening and why. In fact, it is part of the Christian vocation not to be able to explain- and to lament instead. As the Spirit laments within us, so we become small shrines where the presence and healing love of God can dwell. And out of that can emerge new possibilities, new acts of kindness, new scientific understanding and new hope"

Anglican Parish of Hamilton Treasurers Report

In spite of the Covid19 we are still able to come together to worship in several ways. Fr. David has kept us all going with his sermon being live streamed, viewed online or read in the pew sheet, consequently the Church is still alive and Parishioners are not forgotten.

The Guild has donated $2000.00 towards our costs and so I have forwarded it to Ballarat towards Fr. David's stipend.

You may have noticed in the "D News" Bishop in Council have approved:

1. The waiver of the Assessment from April to June only. A sum of approximately $1500.00 per month
2. The 2020 Diocesan Income Distribution ie the interest we receive twice per year will be paid out this month (April) however any money in arrears to the Diocese will have this interest credited to our arrears. This will happen to us as we are in arrears of…$9730.93.to date
3. The third concession is the insurance payments from April to June will be deferred. ($1286.00). When and how we pay it in due course has not been worked out yet.

This will certainly help us but we do need to be mindful we will have a large account to pay back when this is all over. I do thank the Registrar and Bishop in Council for their concessions to all Parish Councils…

We also had a statement from the State Trustees via the registrar with regards to the Estate of Irene Hammond. Her generous bequest has been received in Ballarat and for which we receive interest, twice yearly.

I just want to thank all our wonderful parish members. You have been resourceful in finding ways to still give your financial gift to the church. I really appreciate it so much.

It is difficult to know how long this will keep up as I have no idea how long the amount sent in is to last but I am not worrying as I know God is in control.

We hope to get back soon but until then, keep well, keep safe and keep happy.

I think that concludes the financial news for the month. Please do not hesitate to ring if anything is not clear.

Jenny Rankin
Treasurer

Readings next Sunday 10th May 2020	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 7.55-60 Psalm 31.1-5, 17-18 1 Peter 2.11-25 John 14.1-14