



# Anglican Parish of Hamilton

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

### 17th May 2026

**Sentence:** John 17.3

This is eternal life, that we may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

**Collect**

O God, whose Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples, and sent them into the world to proclaim the coming of your kingdom: by your Holy Spirit, hold the Church in unity, and keep it faithful to your word, so that, breaking bread together, we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: [www.hamiltonanglican.org.au](http://www.hamiltonanglican.org.au)

Parish Facebook: [facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton](https://facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton)

Diocesan Website: [ballaratanglican.org.au](http://ballaratanglican.org.au)

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<b>CHURCH WARDENS</b>	Stewart Otton-Rector's Warden Claire Hilsdon-Peoples Warden Ian Hartley-Peoples Warden	0429 724 545 0488 529 303 0407 095 410

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 Peter's Glenthompson

St Mark's Cavendish

All Saints' Penshurst

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ <sup>7</sup> He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’ <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.’

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Psalm* 68.1-10; 68.32-35

1. God shall arise, and his enemies shall be scattered: those that hate him shall flee before his face.
2. **As smoke is dispersed, so shall they be dispersed: as wax melts before a fire, so shall the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

3. But the righteous shall be glad and exult before God: they shall rejoice with gladness.
4. **O sing to God, sing praises to his name: glorify him that rode through the deserts, him whose name is the Lord, and exult before him.**
5. He is the father of the fatherless, he upholds the cause of the widow: God in his holy dwelling place.
6. **He gives the desolate a home to dwell in, and brings the prisoners out into prosperity: but rebels must dwell in a barren land.**
7. O God, when you went out before your people: when you marched through the wilderness,
8. **The earth shook, the heavens poured down water: before the God of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel.**
9. You showered down a generous rain, O God: you prepared the land of your possession when it was weary.
10. **And there your people settled: in the place that your goodness, O God, had made ready for the poor.**
32. Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth: O sing praises to the Lord,
33. **To him that rides upon the highest heavens, that were from the beginning: who utters his voice, which is a mighty voice.**
34. Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel: and his might is in the clouds.
35. **Terrible is God who comes from his holy place: the God of Israel who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God.**

<sup>1</sup> Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you

<sup>2</sup> to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly.

<sup>3</sup> Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock.

<sup>4</sup> And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

<sup>5</sup> In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for

‘God opposes the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble.’

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.

<sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

<sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.

<sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

<sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.

<sup>11</sup> To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

<sup>12</sup> Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you, and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

<sup>13</sup> Your sister church in Babylon, chosen

together with you, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark.

<sup>14</sup> Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ..

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation*

**Alleluia, alleluia**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate,<sup>[a]</sup> to be with you for ever.

**Alleluia**

*The Holy Gospel: John 17.1-11*

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**

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,’ <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup> ‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the

world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one

For the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## **Intercessions for the Eucharist and for you to say at home**

The Response to the bidding:

“With all the Saints” ... is ... “We praise you Lord”.

With all the Saints... **We praise you Lord.**

In the name of Christ Jesus, the hope of saints and sinners, let us offer our prayers to the Father; for our church and parish family, that we may become a people of the Beatitudes – seeking God’s presence and joy in all things  
*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

.For Garry our bishop and those parishes and institutions under the patronage of All Saints. That the ministry of God’s people may build bridges from this life to the eternal life of God  
*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

For the nations and peoples of the world, that they may work together to establish God’s holy city of peace

*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

For families and households, especially for children, that the saints may inspire them to see the love of Christ in all things

*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

For those who work for equality and justice, for those who are persecuted and ridiculed for their beliefs, for those who give their lives in

humble service to others, that their prophetic witness may make the new Jerusalem a reality in our world

*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

For all who have died in the peace of Christ especially the recently departed; ..... That the company of saints may welcome them into the kingdom

*With all the Saints... We praise you Lord.*

Father, make us children of your light. May the lives of the saints give us hope, that one day we might be among the blessed of your kingdom. Give us the courage and resolve to be saints for our world that this feast of All Saints, may be our feast day as well. Hear the prayers we make to you in the name of your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

## **For Your Prayers This Week**

For the sick and in need and those who are preparing for surgery:

Bishop Garry, Vivian McKellar, Bishop Scott & his family, Lorraine, Sharon, Judy Trompf, Linda

## **For Those Who Have Died**

### **Years Mind**

Dorothy Young, Patricia Potter, Alice Woodall, Una Hatherell, Herbert Rippon, James Syrott, Mary Arden, Hedley Hughan, Lawrence Annett, Gilbert Anderson, Gweneth Black, Joseph Maynan, Keith Fraser, Elizabeth Hall, Lily Harmer, Francis Cross, Alexander Primrose, Lorna Bowker, Daphne Kennett, Eva Green, Claude Richardson, Wilma Povey, Clarence Hudgson, Walter Duthie, Dorothy Mildon, Ruth Walsgott, Annabel McKirdy,

## **For The Wider Church and Its Ministry**

- The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

- Sydney: Kanishka Raffel, Peter Hayward, Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Peter Lin & Gary Koo
- The Registrar: Anthony Mould.  
The staff of the Diocesan Centre: Kate Schnerring – Safeguarding Officer and John Russell.
- Kwima
- Those suffering incurable and isolating illness.

## Today's Homily

### I believe in the communion of saints.

This homily has been given to me over the years by a number of people. They were unaware of this treasure, but this just makes their gift all the more generous. They did not seek any recompense or reward. This homily is about several people and yet no one in particular.

Frequently it has been my privilege to visit someone in supported care. They have been uncurious, or asleep, or somewhere in between. Certainly a conversation was never going to happen.

I've never been completely relaxed about this type of visit. I've always gone with my heart way down at the bottom of my gum boots and my heart going pitta patta. It's confronting to say the least particularly if I have known the person for some time. The difference in how I once knew them and the image before me is brutally different. How did it come to this? Part of my squeamishness is that I know this might be me one day.

So I tip toe in, I say my prayers, sometimes a hand is held and often it is mine. I find myself speaking in hushed reverential tones because instinctively I know that the veil between this life and the next is flimsy and almost transparent .

Around the walls and on the bedside table,

there are photographs of family and friends. They are almost surrounding the person in the bed with their image, their love and prayers. All I can see of course is the photo and the person in the bed, but that is not all that is going on here.

The patient was and is clearly loved and held in high esteem. Even though I can't see it and touch it, that love is not in any way diminished or shrunken. It somehow becomes more real, more potent and more ferocious because of the excruciating circumstances of this illness and nearing death.

The patient in the bed, who is comatose, asleep, unconscious or whatever it is, is blissfully unaware of all of this, although the staff and I will tell you that they somehow always know and that the sense of hearing is the last to leave a person.

So perhaps they are not as oblivious as the outward appearances seem to tell us. Perhaps in their altered state they are actually more alert and more in tune with the invisible than they are with the visible. Perhaps that's what really going on here. Transitioning from the visible and tangible to the invisible and untouchable, moving from this dimension to the other, they become more aware of and begin to live in a different way as people of that quirky resurrection way. The life that is almost the same ... but not quite.

So are my friends in bed oblivious and ignorant to the people in the photos around them or is it as I choose to believe they are somehow already lying in and enveloped in that dimension of love which is stronger than anything we know on this side of the grave?

I come close to this ... I think... sometimes... in the chapel at morning or evening prayer. When it's just me and maybe one other. Am I alone and muttering my questions in the early morning gloom... who will roll away the stone... or am I in fact already surrounded by

Our Lady, St. Peter, St. Mark and Him who is always at table with me.

Perhaps this is what the authors of our creed meant when they gave us 'I believe in the communion of saints'; that you and I are already surrounded by a countless host of saints and angels and martyrs. That we are not alone but continuously being loved and prayed for and encouraged and cheered along the way.

I'm pleased that the folk in care have these photos of the people that love them more and more each day. I'm pleased that we have our stained glass windows and icons to remind us not of people of the past but who are part of our very present existence here and now in May 2026.

Because of the timelessness of that other dimension we are already living with those who have gone before us and we are already living in the bright future of heaven.

It's hard to see, it's hard to sense, it's hard to believe particularly when the husk of the person and a few glossy photos are all we have. But even so I will continue to say.

I believe. I believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting amen.

## Next Weeks Homily

This is not what we were expecting

## dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews.

## Fr. David's easy quiz

Your Parish Treasurer is...

- Stewart Otton
- Todd Venning
- Ian Hartley
- David Byrne
- Claire Hilsdon

- The Tooth Fairy

## Fr. David's hard quiz

For the coming year (2026/7) Fr. David may appoint...

- 1 Parish Councillor
- Up to a third of the Parish Council
- Up to half the Parish Council
- All of the Parish Council
- None of the Parish Council

## The answers from last week's quiz were:

Easy quiz: Graeme Mustow aka Lofty

Hard quiz: Hannah

## Thought of the week from Mothers' Union

Sunday May 17th 2026

### Birth and new beginnings

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!' (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The resurrection of Jesus is our evidence that a new day has dawned. We are still waiting for its full glory. But in the meantime, when we put our trust in Jesus through repentance and faith, we are spiritually resurrected, raised with Christ and from now on living with him and for him. We hear of this in the Bible as a new birth, or a resurrection, or a redemption, or as a new creation. Whatever language is used, the emphasis is on the love of God transforming us and getting us ready for the wonderful future he has in store.

*Question for the thought:*

*What is the most wonderful thing about being a new creation?*

Almighty God, we think and pray this week for the Dioceses of Bunbury in Western Australia and Wiawso in Ghana. May all the branches across Bunbury be united in prayer, love and sharing your love as they meet together and carry out projects within their parishes. And may members in Wiawso be encouraged in the

faith and trust in you as they serve you in nurturing family life and community wellbeing. Amen.

## **Cuppa and chatter**

Cuppa and chatter is on and happening on Thursdays. Ladies to Lemon Myrtle from 2.15pm until 3.00pm and Gents to Thommo's Tavern at 3:00pm. All are welcome.

## **The next outreach and Fundraising Committee meeting**

is on Thursday May 28th at 1:30pm. All are very welcome to this jovial and enterprising time.

## **Some dates for your diary.**

- Parish AGM Sunday July 26th
- Blessing of Pets Service Sunday October 11th.
- Parish Fete Saturday 8th of November

## **Snag a Snag**

On Saturday morning 30th of May we will be running one of our famous Coles Sausage sizzles. Come and meet a Master chef, be well nourished and support your parish.

## **Of Thursday May 21st at 5:30pm.**

Parish Council meets.

## **A date to keep in mind**

for St. Peter's Glenthompson  
St. Peter's day Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup>

## **What Anglicare needs for the cooler months.**

Clothing: Socks, tracksuit pants, gloves and warmer tops (even waterproof ones).

Food items: school snacks, spreads (vegemite and peanut butter) and some easy to eat snacks (muesli bars/biscuits/crackers).

Toiletries: bottles of shampoo and roll on deodorant are among some of the toiletries.

## **Your Planned Giving.**

All our offerings are freewill offerings but with our busy lives, the use of cash has become less easy and direct deposit a more popular option. However, we can still supply Weekly Offering envelopes where you may insert your offering. These envelopes are dated for your convenience. You can have envelopes weekly or monthly.

Those Parishioners who like to take advantage of this method and wish to continue using it, I still have the list from 2025, so you do not need to do anything more. Your envelopes will be at the back of the Church just before the end of the financial year ready to start the first Sunday in July.

Any information you need about envelopes or direct deposit from your bank please contact Jenny Rankin who can help you.

If you feel direct deposit is not the same as putting your offering in the plate there are small, laminated tickets which you can pick up from where you get your hymn books and pew sheets and put them in the plate as it passes which will go up to the altar for blessing.

Thank you.

Jenny (0419110817)

## **A small winter break.**

Fr. David and Jeanine will be on a small winter break from June 12th to June 16th.

Deacon Jannie will be the first point of contact in case of emergency.

ph.0420 283 809

## Forethought for our Fete

So it's probably time that we gave some forethought to our Fete. We will start thinking and planning on Saturday June 27th at 10am in our meeting room. All are very welcome with ideas, refinements and suggestions.

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of Hamilton is scheduled to be held in the Canon Julien Centre on Sunday 26 July 2026 commencing at 11.30am.

Please give thought to nominating for one of the positions which need to be filled. Positions to be filled this year are Churchwardens (3), Councillors (6), Parochial Nominators (3), Supplementary Parochial Nominators (3), Synod Representatives (3) and Alternate Synod Representatives (2).

A reminder that all parishioners are required to re-enrol on the electoral roll to be eligible to fill any of the above positions and to vote at the AGM.

Nomination forms and enrolment forms will be made available in due course.

If you have any enquiries, please contact the Parish Secretary.

## A PRAYER AT THE TIME OF CHOOSING A BISHOP

Eternal God, shepherd and guide, in your mercy give your Church in this diocese a shepherd after your own heart

who will walk in your ways, and with loving care watch over your people.

Give us a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth.

So may your Church be built up and your name glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## TODAY'S HYMNS

559      447      466      450

## Services for this week

Wednesday	20th May	Holy Communion 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday	23rd May	Vigil 5.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday	24th May	Eucharist 9.00am	St Peter's Glenthompson
		Eucharist 10.30am	Christ Church Hamilton

*Reader 1:* Caroline    *Reader 2:* Helen    *Intercessor:* Meredith    *Sidesmen:* Sandra & John

*Eucharist Assistant:* John