



Anglican Parish of Hamilton

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

19th July 2026

Sentence: Psalm 86.15

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Collect

Saving God, in Jesus Christ you opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through 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

Diocesan Website: ballaratanglican.org.au

PARISH PRIEST	Fr David Oulton	03 5571 1317 (Rectory & Office) Email: droulton72@gmail.com PH:0435 867 040 39 Griffin Street Facetime, Messenger, Skype
PARISH OFFICE	9.00am – 12.00pm	03 5571 1317 (office & Rectory) office@hamiltonanglican.org.au PO Box 474
CHURCH WARDENS	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

Today it is our special joy to welcome Eleanor Harman into God's church at Christ Church Hamilton.

We welcome her parents Amy and Brad, her older brother Clay and her godparents Rodney and Caitlin.

If you have come for the baptism and normally make your communion in your own parish church then you are warmly encouraged to do so with us this morning.

1st Reading Genesis 28.10-19a

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' ¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first..

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 139.1-11; 139.23-24

1. O Lord, you have searched me out and known me: you know when I sit or when I stand, you comprehend my thoughts long before.
2. **You discern my path and the places where I rest: you are acquainted with all my ways.**
3. For there is not a word on my tongue: but you, Lord, know it altogether.
4. **You have encompassed me behind and before: and have laid your hand upon me.**
5. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: so high that I cannot endure it.
6. **Where shall I go from your spirit: or where shall I flee from your presence?**
7. If I ascend into heaven you are there: if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.
8. **If I spread out my wings towards the morning: or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**
9. Even there your hand shall lead me: and your right hand shall hold me.
10. **If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me: and the night will enclose me',**
11. The darkness is no darkness with you, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike.
23. **Search me out, O God, and know my**

heart: put me to the proof and know my thoughts.

24. Look well lest there be any way of wickedness in me: and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

2nd Reading: Romans 8.12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;.

Alleluia

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 13.24-30; 13.36-43

The Lord be with you

And also with you

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to St Matthew

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

²⁴ He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” ²⁸ He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” ²⁹ But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ ³⁷ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil;

the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

Dear Lord.....is.....Please answer our prayers.

Dear Lord....**Please answer our prayers.**

We pray for everyone who is suffering from the effects of war, floods, drought, fires and earthquakes that you Lord please protect them from harm.

Dear Lord....Please answer our prayers.

We pray for members of our families, friends, and people who are travelling overseas and around Australia that you Lord please protect them from harm and illness in their journeys.

Dear Lord....Please answer our prayers.

We pray for Bishop Garry and Bishop Scott and everyone in the Diocese of Ballarat that you Lord keep us all from ill health and harm. We also pray for everyone in and around the Hamilton district that you Lord guide us to do the best we can to look after each other and keep us safe.

Dear Lord....Please answer our prayers.

We pray for the recently departed that you help them and their families, and you enfold them in

your warm embrace.

Dear Lord....Please answer our prayers.

Lord Jesus please put your arms around us all and keep us from harm and illness .**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

Lillian Scholfield, Llewelyn Davies, James Muir, Francis Smith, Violet Munro, Leonard Littlechild, Henry Lowin, Charles Lovett, Leslie Neaves, Alma McPherson, Richard Hughes, Joan Rowe, Ralph Slade, Ronald Stinchcombe, Annie Frickett, Howard Newell, June Rose, Elsie Annett, Mary Bond, William Porter, M. Graham, Gregory Annett, Florence Menzel, Rose Davies, Erbert Ranley, Alfred Martin, Frances Broadwood, Doyne Hunt

For The Wider Church and Its Ministry

- Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
- The Murray: Keith Dalby
Colac: Jeremy Morgan and Claire Morgan (deacon).
The Otways: Those clerics and lay leaders providing locum ministry.
(Anglicare) Forest Op Shop: Volunteer staff
- Madang
- Those tempted to suicide and those who love them.

Today's Homily

The sin of certainty...The holiness of doubt

Today I would like to explore the possibility

that Certainty is a sin and that doubt is actually a holy thing. This concept should be quite liberating for us, for we all struggle with doubts and we can all fall into the sin of certainty.

My inspiration for this homily is from our second lesson today where St. Paul is writing to the congregation at Rome. In his letter he is speaking about Present Suffering and Future Glory.

The present suffering is easy to see and understand. It is the here and now stuff. Visible and tangible. We all get that and can identify with it.

The future glory stuff is a little trickier. It belongs in the time to come, a place we cannot see and experience, but St. Paul assures us that the future glory will be infinitely and indescribably more thrilling and enjoyable than anything we can possibly imagine. So he writes...

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”

Further, he points out that the sufferings of the present time lead naturally to the glory that is revealed to us. It's as if the two are dependent on the other.

So we get...

We share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

But this shift from suffering to glory does not happen instantaneously. It's not a quick fix, a silver bullet. There is some waiting to be done in between times and waiting as we all know can be down right excruciating.

But we ourselves, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as children, the redemption of our bodies

And while we wait, we are in the dimension of hope and doubt. Every so often an arrow with a

message will pierce our conscious mind and the message on this arrow is a simple two worded question.

What if?

And our minds and hearts are left to run amuck with possibilities and conundrums.

What if this life is all there is? What if... I am not forgiven? What if my muttered feeble prayers and my countless tears amount to nothing, go unheeded and are just the gesticulations of a dotty old priest. What if ... all this is folly?

So we wrestle, we doubt, we struggle and we hope. Some of the finest folk who walk very closely in the presence of the living risen Christ, are those for whom this arduous grappling is a part of their very being. They are all the more exquisite and admirable, for they get up day and after day and consciously choose to walk this boulder strewn track.

We are clothed then not just in sparkle and joy and feasting and laughter, but also in dowdy rags of doubt and hope. All of this, the desirable and the hard slog, are who we are. All are essential ingredients in the bread of life where you have to knead it... prove it and then just jolly well wait.

We hope and doubt because we cannot quite see what we are and what we shall be, but in this same cloudy hope St. Paul tells us we shall be saved.

For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Take out the hope and doubt ingredients and you are left with the sin of certainty and we must always consider the possibility that we will frequently get it wrong.

I conclude with something I wrote last year.

Once I went to see the film 'Conclave'. It was

the fictitious story about the election of a Pope. Towards the beginning of the film the Dean who helps to co-ordinate the trickiness, delivers a stunning homily to the assembled cardinals and I believe it is particularly pertinent for our diocese as she seeks a new bishop at this time.

“St Paul said, ‘Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.’ To work together, and to grow together, we must be tolerant. No one person or faction seeking to dominate another. And speaking to the Ephesians, who were of course a mixture of Jews and gentiles, Paul reminds us that God’s gift to the church...is its variety. It is this variety, this diversity of people and views which gives our church its strength. And over the course of many years in the service of our Mother the Church, let me tell you, there is one sin, which I have come to fear above all others. Certainty. Certainty is the great enemy of unity. Certainty is the deadly enemy of tolerance. Even Christ was not certain at the end. “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” He cried out in his agony at the ninth hour on the cross. Our faith is a living thing, precisely because it walks hand-in-hand with doubt. If there was only certainty...and no doubt...there would be no mystery...and therefore no need... for faith. Let us pray that God will grant us a leader who doubts. And let him grant us a leader who sins, asks for forgiveness, and who carries on.”

Next Weeks Homily

Love has no transaction fees.

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews.

Fr. David's easy quiz

One of the Churches that is featured in the National Anglican Church calendar for next year is

- Christ Church Hamilton
- St. Mary's Dunkeld
- St. Peters Glenthompson
- St. Marks Cavendish
- All Saints Penshurst.

Fr. David's hard quiz

The next meeting of Bishop in Council is on

- 21st of August
- 19th of August
- 25th of December
- 7th of September.
- MMM... Will I need a lectionary next year??

The answers from last week's quiz were:

Easy quiz: Bathseeba

Hard quiz: Felicity Lowrey

Thought of the week from Mothers' Union

Sunday July 19th 2026

Showing God's Compassion to people in need

‘remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”’ (Acts 20:35)

Jesus not only said these words, he acted upon them, supremely by coming into a world of lost sinners to save us. But as well, when he was with us he cared for the sick and the poor. What drove him was, of course, love. When we know we are loved it changes us and we become more loving ourselves. When we experience the love of God, we become more kind, more generous, more forgiving, especially to those in need. A friend of mine does exactly that. Overcoming the limitations of age and sickness, (she is ninety years old) she teaches English to newly arrived people. In doing so she is showing the compassion of Jesus to those in need.

Question for thought: How do I show

compassion. Why?

Loving Lord, we pray for families in the Dioceses of Tonga in Polynesia and Jaffna in Southern India. In Tonga, we thank you for the enthusiasm of members as they support each other care and pray for each other. In Jaffna we pray as they support marriages and help families coping with hardships. May they know that you are with them as they serve you. 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.

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.

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 July 25th 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.

Completed Nomination Forms are to be handed to the Rector, Secretary or left in the box at the rear of Christ Church. Nomination Forms from outlying churches should be handed to Fr David. Nomination Forms are to be received by 12pm Sunday 12 July 2026.

Electoral Enrolment Forms are to be handed to the Secretary or left in the box at the rear of Christ Church. Enrolment Forms from outlying churches should be handed to Fr David. Nomination Forms are to be received by 12pm Sunday 19 July 2026.

Notes for completing each form are contained on the back of the form. Any form not correctly completed, signed and dated cannot be accepted.

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

ALL FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN ALL CHURCHES.

Annual Reports to be presented at the Annual General Meeting should be received by **5pm Monday 13 July 2026**

All annual reports should be forwarded to the Secretary s an attachment to an email addressed to loftyandsue@bigpond.com The report should be in Word format (.docx).

Any reports received in another format, or that are handwritten, cannot be processed.

Please find the new roster at the back of Christ Church

Due to the time of year when people are away
or for other various reasons, you may be on
the roster more than usual.

If you are not on the roster but would like to
volunteer please contact Jenny Rankin.

It would be most appreciated.

2 things by the end of August

Thing 1

There is an idea that when there is a 5th
Sunday in the month, that the Sunday
morning service be rotated around our
centres. Trying to think through the
practicalities of this... it would need a cheerful
willingness for folk to travel to another centre
for worship. Please let Fr. David know if you
would be prepared to do this ... By the end of
August.

Thing 2

Your local trusty Parish Council would like to
purchase a defibrillator for Christ Church
Hamilton. Hopefully we would never need to
use it but it would be important to have it there.
The cost is between \$1500 and \$2000. If you
would like to make a contribution to this
venture please put some cash in the plate in an
envelope marked 'defibrillator' or electronically
transfer your donation with the reference
'defibrillator'.... By the end of August

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

226 548 272 257

Happy Birthday to
Elizabeth Wallis (July 23rd)
From all the Parish Family

Services for this week

Wednesday	22nd July	Holy Communion 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday	25th July	Vigil 5.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday	26th July	Eucharist 9.00am	St Peter's Glenthompson
		Eucharist 10.30am	Christ Church Hamilton
		Eucharist 4.00pm	All Saints' Penshurst

Reader 1: Eileen *Reader 2:* Tony *Intercessor:* Robyn
Eucharist Assistant: John

Sidesmen: Sandra & John