



Anglican Parish of Hamilton

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

20th September 2026

Sentence: Ephesians 2.8–9

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Collect

Loving and righteous God, your boundless generosity exceeds all that we can desire or deserve, and you give to the last worker all you promised to the first: liberate us from all jealousy and greed, that we may be free to love and serve others, and in your service may find our true reward; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: www.hamiltonanglican.org.au

Parish Facebook: facebook.com/AnglicanHamilton

Diocesan Website: ballaratanglican.org.au

PARISH PRIEST

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9.00am – 12.00pm

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CHURCH WARDENS

Stewart Otton-Rector's Warden

0429 724 545

Claire Hilsdon-Peoples Warden

0488 529 303

Ian Hartley-Peoples Warden

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

² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The Israelites said to them, ‘If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.’ ⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.’ ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.’ ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?’ ⁸ And Moses said, ‘When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.’ ⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.”’ ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹² ‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.”’ ¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew

lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 105.1-6; 105.37-45

1. O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name: tell among the peoples what things he has done.
2. **Sing to him, O sing praises: and be telling of all his marvellous works.**
3. Exult in his holy name: and let those that seek the Lord be joyful in heart.
4. **Seek the Lord and his strength: O seek his face continually.**
5. Call to mind what wonders he has done: his marvellous acts, and the judgements of his mouth,
6. **O seed of Abraham his servant: O children of Jacob his chosen one.**
37. He brought Israel out with silver and with gold: and not one among their tribes was seen to stumble.
38. **Egypt was glad at their going: for dread of Israel had fallen upon them.**
39. He spread out a cloud for a covering: and fire to lighten the night.
40. **The people asked, and he brought them quails: and satisfied them with the bread from heaven.**
41. He opened a rock, so that the waters gushed: and ran in the parched land like a river.
42. **For he had remembered his holy word: that he gave to Abraham his servant.**
43. So he led out his people with rejoicing: his chosen ones with shouts of joy;

**44. He gave them the land of the nations:
and they took possession of the fruit for
which other peoples had toiled,**

45. So that they might keep his statutes: and
faithfully obey his laws. O praise the
Lord.

2nd Reading Philippians 1.21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

Welcome with meekness the implanted word
that has the power to save your souls.

Alleluia

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20.1-16

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

¹ 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶ So the last

will be first, and the first will be last.'

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:

'Open our eyes' ... is... 'To see your face'

Open our eyes ... **To see your face**

That church may show forth the Face of the loving Father to a waiting world.

for Garry, our Bishop preparing to lay up his pastoral staff. For the gift of safe travel on all those who will attend and for God's blessing on the work of our Board of Electors.

*Open our eyes ... **To see your face***

That those who are scarred by the violence of war and oppression may see in our nation and community the face of the welcoming Saviour

*Open our eyes ... **To see your face***

We pray for harmony and understanding in the workplace, especially those who serve others in positions of responsibility and oversight. Bless those who cannot find work and those who feel trapped in their jobs

*Open our eyes ... **To see your face***

That our departed loved ones may see the vision of your loving face and enjoy your nearer presence of love and peace.

*Open our eyes ... **To see your face***

We ask these things in the name of the one who gazes upon us. Even Jesus Christ Our Lord.

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

Ethel Sanidson, Dorothea Crossley, Maxwell Eagles, Arthur Austin, Patricia Sheills, Raymond Keating, Margaret Kennett, Derrick Strawford, Ian Sparrow, George FGreen, Harold Price, Agnes Welch, Albert Grant, Christina Hawkins, Alfred Fraser, Edward Gardiner Irene Hammond, Eric Cockerell, Thomas Jasper, Barry Dunbar, Susan White, William Menzal

For The Wider Church and Its Ministry

- The Anglican Church of Australia
- Roman Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.
Bishop Mark Freeman.
- Beaufort & Skipton: Anne McKenna
- Markham
- The starving and malnourished.
Those without medical supplies.

Today's Homily

A special kind of blindness.

The folk who compile our lectionary try to offer a common theme between the readings. It's not always obvious, but it can be discerned with some time, effort and patience.

The common thread in today's readings could be titled 'a special kind of blindness.'

Let's start with the gospel, the parable of the generous employer.

Various people are hired at different times of the day to go and work in the vineyard. There are some that sign on at the crack of dawn

whilst others drift in at various times throughout the day.

All are given the understanding that they will be paid a full day's wages.

The working day comes to a close and the viticulturists, wine makers and bottlers all line up to get paid.

First, those who have only worked a few hours. As agreed, they are paid a full days wages. So when those who got out of bed with the sparrows come along they expect significantly more. But not so. They are paid what was agreed. A full day's wages. Exactly the same as their counterparts who only worked a few hours.

Understandably they whinge to Benno Seppelt, the owner of the vineyard who asks them, politely mind, to go back and read their fair work agreement contract.

They grumble because they have fallen into the trap of comparison. They are comparing themselves and the long day they have worked, with the Jenny and Johnny come lately's. And at one level I completely understand their rumblings and rumination, but comparing yourself to someone else is not healthy. This is because you can become so fixated on someone else, their good bits and bad bits, that you are distracted from taking a good honest look at your own bad bits and good bits.

The grumpy labourers are so antsy about their fellow workers that they have forgotten all the remarkable work they have accomplished. They fail to celebrate and rejoice in the things they have achieved in the vineyard on the Northern slopes of Coonawarra. It's a very subtle form of spiritual blindness, not easily spotted, but very potent.

So what's the link or theme with these disgruntled cellar hands and our friends in the Old Testament lesson.

First, the Israelites could cheerfully be labeled

as a pack of old whinge-bags. Whilst trekking through the wilderness they complain about the lack of water, the quality of the water, the biting snakes, the length of time Moses goes up the mountain, the lack of bread and the lack of meat.

So there is a really good homily linking the readings, about the temptation of whinging and how infectious it can be.

But there's another theme in both readings. The blindness of both groups of people. Time and their new standard of living, has blinded the Israelites to all the miraculous things God has done in the past to enable their escape from slavery. And day by day, they always have the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. God in fact has not abandoned them, but all the time is leading them on to the promised land. Moses might be fallible, but he does not give up on them. He does not phone the Bishop, type a quick letter of resignation, take his long service leave and annual leave and disappear into the mists of blissful retirement at Miners Rest.

Similarly, by casting aspersions on their boss the whinging workers in the vineyard have forgotten how blessed they were to have a full days work and full days pay.

Both groups fail to see.

There's another bit of blindness right at the end of the first lesson.

God provides quails... for the Israelites to eat. Yum Yum. But also some bread.

"In the morning there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

They fail to see what it is right before them. The bread God gives them; and here we have

one of the very first references to God giving bread for the nourishment of his people. There will be more of course, culminating in the bread of life that we receive from the altar at the eucharist. And there are times when it becomes so familiar that we forget what it is and who it is that we receive. This is my body. Our Lord always chose his words very carefully and he means what he says. This is my body... this is my blood.

The take away this morning is about spiritual blindness. By comparing ourselves to others we cannot see the marvellous gifts God has given us. We fail to see who it is that is in our hands. We fail to see how gifted and blessed we are and all we have achieved in Our Lord's vineyard.

Others can see how special we are. God sees how exquisitely remarkable and miraculous we are. And if they can so easily see those sparkling gifts in our very own selves ... why can't I?

Next Weeks Homily

Egbert and Fr. David

Fr. David's easy quiz

The liturgical color for All Souls day is

- White
- Black
- Purple
- Any of the above

Fr. David's hard quiz

For Retreat this year the clergy will travel to

- The Monastery at Camperdown
- The Monastery at Templestowe
- The Palloti Fathers
- Vincentian Retreat Centre at Perth

The answers from last week's quiz were:

Easy quiz: We don't know yet

Hard quiz: Fr James Wood

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.

Forethought for our Fete

So it's probably time that we gave some forethought to our Fete. We will start thinking and planning on Sunday October 4th after Mass in our meeting room. All are very welcome with ideas, refinements and suggestions.

Go the winners. On Grand

Final day, the 26th of September, we will be having one of our famous Coles sausage sizzles. Thank you to those who have kindly agreed to cook sausages and make this all happen.

It's time to sign up for a lectionary. A lectionary will be supplied for each of our parish centres but if you would like your own take home copy please sign up at the back of Christ Church Hamilton or see Fr. David.

So next time you're at the Supermarket... Think about what you would like to win in the raffle at the Fete and slip that delicious thing into your trolley

You are invited to attend the special commemoration service to pray for police officers who have died either 'on or off' duty'. It will be held at Hamilton Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday 29th of September at 10am. If you are able to attend please contact Senior Sergeant Gerard Kelly at the Hamilton Police Station on p. 5551 9100

Refreshments will be available at the completion of the service.

Dates for your diary

- ❖ Our Annual Pet Blessing October 11th
- ❖ Trivia Night October 16th
- ❖ Synod October 23/24
- ❖ Clergy Retreat November 2nd - 6th
- ❖ Our Parish Fete November 7th
- ❖ Glenthompson Christmass Carols and market December 6th 6:30pm

Daylight saving

begins in the early hours of Sunday 4th of October. This means that the first Saturday night Vigil at 6pm will be Saturday 10th of October. The first Sunday mass at All Saints Penshurst at 5:00pm will be on Sunday 25th of October

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews.

Diocesan Consultation Survey

The search for the Next Bishop of Ballarat

At each church there are copies of the survey which you may complete voluntarily and anonymously. **There is also one for children.** Please return your completed survey by 25th Sept, 2026. It should only take 7-10 minutes. The return address is on the back of the survey.

Thursday October 15th

is significant and exciting

Parish Council meets at 5:30pm and the Outreach Committee meets at 1:30pm

DEFIBRILLATOR-

As discussed and announced after the Parish Council meeting on August 20th. This will be placed in the East Porch and available for public use.

If you have a medical episode in church the ambulance will be called- but if you do not wish to have the defibrillator used, please let fellow congregation members know- NOW. This will enable us all to respect everyone's wishes as much as possible.

From + Scott

I would like to invite parishes, organisations and individuals to contribute to the Diocesan Retirement gift for + Garry. He recently said "that he has loved being the Bishop of Ballarat".

We have also appreciated his wisdom, humour and episcopal care over 15 years. If you would like to make a donation towards his retirement gift please make a direct deposit as follows or contact the Registry to make other arrangements.

Details:

Account Name: Ballarat Anglican Diocesan Corporation

BSB: 633 000

Account #: 155 020 977

Reference: Bishops Retirement Gift

If you are attending the service

at our cathedral on Saturday October 3rd please let the Registry know for catering purposes. p.5331 1183.

We are keeping All Souls

day this year on **Saturday 31st of October and November 1st** We seek your help in compiling the list of those who we are to pray for. Please **print clearly** the names of people that you would like remembered on this special day on the clipboard at the back of the Church or see Fr. David

So where's Jeanine and Fr. David today?

Jeanine and Fr. David are using up their annual leave. The first point of call in case of pastoral emergency is
Deacon Jannie on 04 2028 3809

TRIVIA NIGHT

On Friday October 16th in the Church Hall – starting at 7pm.

Tables of 10- \$10 per head.

Please bring your own nibbles/ drinks and supper.

Bookings to Susan Mason. If you cannot fill a table with friends etc just let me know and I will place you on a table.

This is always a fun night!!- emphasis is on a good night out and not the actual Trivia.

Susan Mason 0408528781

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**

Happy Birthday to
Ian Hartley (September 23rd)
From all the Parish Family

TODAY'S HYMNS

675 153 571 561

Services for this week

Wednesday	23rd September	Holy Communion 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday	26th September	Vigil 5.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday	27th September	Eucharist 9.00am	St Peter's Glenthompson
		Eucharist 10.30am	Christ Church Hamilton

Reader 1: Caroline *Reader 2:* Stewart *Intercessor:* Meredith *Sidesmen:* Elizabeth & Gavin
Eucharist Assistant: John