



Anglican Parish of Hamilton

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

27th September 2026

Sentence: Hosea 6.1a, 2b

Come, let us return to the Lord, that we may live before him.

Collect

Grant, O merciful God, that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant, and in humility became obedient even to death. For you have highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in everlasting glory. **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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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

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalms 78.1-4; 78.11-16

1. Give heed to my teaching, O my people: incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
2. **For I will open my mouth in a parable: and expound the mysteries of former times.**
3. What we have heard and known: what our forebears have told us,
4. **We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come: the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.**

11. For he did marvellous things in the sight of their ancestors: in the land of Egypt, in the country of Zoan.
12. **He divided the sea and let them pass through: he made the waters stand up in a heap.**
13. In the daytime he led them with a cloud: and all night long with the light of fire.
14. **He cleft rocks in the wilderness: and gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.**
15. He brought streams out of the rock: and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.
16. **But for all this they sinned yet more against him: and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.**

2nd Reading Philippians 2.1-13

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God

the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21.23-32

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

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ ²⁴ Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?”’ ²⁶ But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ ‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the

vineyard today.”’ ²⁹ He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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 Lordis....Please answer our prayers

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

We pray for everyone who is affected by disasters in this world such as war, fires, floods earthquakes and famine that you protect them all and their animals from harm and suffering.
Dear Lord...Please answer our prayers.

We pray for Bishop Garry as he prepares for his retirement and hope he has a very happy and healthy future ahead.

We also pray for Bishop Scott and everyone who is in the Diocese of Ballarat that you Lord keep them healthy and safe from harm. We also pray for Fr David and Jeanine that they are having a happy and safe holiday.

Dear Lord...Please answer our prayers.

We pray for our families and friends who are being affected by ill health that they recover very quickly

Dear Lord...Please answer our prayers.

We pray for the recently departed that you Lord enfold them and their families in your warm embrace.

Dear Lord...Please answer our prayers.

Lord the people in this world need your love and guidance especially in this uncertain world, so please guide us all to do your Will.

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

Vincent Cameron, Elsie Fitzgerald, Zelma Pryor, Alan Pratt, Mabel Jasper, Willis Harper, Angus Kavanagh, Denis Belcher, Denise Dale, Muriel Hyde, Judy Marshall, Joyce Middenway, Jean Hodges, Heather Stephens, Audrey Noske, Vera Membrey, Walenti Greaves, Daisy Rankin, Claude Lovett, Margaret Crawford, Timothy Dunbar, Leslie Hinchcliffe, Leonard Preston, Lloyd Allen

For The Wider Church and Its Ministry

- The Church of Bangladesh
- All those involved in Police Chaplaincy throughout the Diocese.
All those involved in Chaplaincy for the CFA & the SES throughout the Diocese.
- Togban
- Those involved in IVF technology.
- Members of medical ethical committees.

Today's Homily

Egbert and Fr. David

The usual path for the aspiring preacher for today's little parable of the two sons is, I think, as follows.

Dad has two sons. One who is devious and disobedient and on our grumpy day we would call him a bare faced liar. He says he will go and work in the vineyard but does not. The other is more honest and says a polite, or not so polite 'No thanks it's too hot, the work is tedious and boring and you don't pay according to the standard minimum wage, let alone any overtime I do.'

Later he thinks all that was probably a bit harsh and dad probably did catch him at an awkward moment. So he quietly, unobtrusively slinks off to the vineyard and just gets on and does it.

Then our fearless preacher would point out that even when we grumble about doing God's will it's better than telling fibbers and not doing it at all. A change of heart, a re orientation to God's will and doing what He asks even if we have been wicked and mischievous is better than hypocrisy. Thus Tax collectors and prostitutes, even though they might live on the seedy side of life, will make it into heaven before those who are full of their own self entitlement and self righteousness. My pet theory is that there will be many such people waiting to greet me when I get to the other side and what an entertaining group of people they will be.

Of course it's better still if you can always say 'Yes' and always do it with a completely joyful and gleeful attitude; but few can achieve that and none can sustain that emotion perpetually. We all have our grizzly and glum days. Don't take yourself too seriously and just get on and always try to give it your best shot. Reorientation and conversion are an ongoing process and God's will is not always palatable,

glitzy and glamorous.

But when preaching about this parable not a lot is said about the third person in the parable and that is the Dad.

In my opinion the Father is just as vital to the story as the two sons.

Here's why.

The father knows his sons very well. He's watched them grow and burgeon and develop over the years. He knows their gifts and their foibles. For all this, he makes a conscious decision each and every year to go and work in his vineyard. The vineyard is his livelihood, his sustenance. It's his business and ultimately it is what puts food on his table at night.

So to ask the sons to go and work in the vineyard, is a risk. What if they muck up the harvest? What if they don't prune the vines in the right way? What if they eat more than they harvest? When The Master sends out his sons into the vineyard it makes Him vulnerable as love always is.

And to push the parable even further than I should, try this hoodie on for size.

What if this is not the first time that Dad has asked his sons to go and work in the vineyard. Is it not possible that he knows jolly well that Son number 1, let's call him Fr. David, will lie to his face and say one thing and go off and play his Nintendo switch all afternoon whilst quaffing refreshing beverages and sampling stilton cheese.

And with son number 2, let's call him Egbert, Dad knows that there is a chance that ultimately, eventually he might finish up in the vineyard testily doing the right thing even if his heart is not in it.

What if, for the last umpteen years, at every harvest, this has been the pattern of things for this winemaker and his sons. And what if every year, Dad still asks, still puts his livelihood and

the vineyard's reputation on the line and he knows that frequently, his sons will let him down. But, he will never give up on them, he will continue to ask and the invitation will always be there. The good news of this parable is Our Loving heavenly Father's unending love. The invitation with no use-by date to go and reap a reward in the vineyard that is tricky and rocky, but utterly inexhaustible in its mysteries and joys.

One last thing to ponder. There is an echo of today's parable with the story of the prodigal son. Dad and two sons. One who stays at home and is self entitled about his inheritance. The other a ratbag who nicks off and squanders his inheritance. Both parables have a dad and two sons. Both contrast one son against the other. But the most important thing that links them is the uninterrupted and burning desire that the Father has for his sons. He craves intimacy and relationship with the two sons. He craves intimacy and relationship with all his children. He craves intimacy and relationship with you and I. He always has done and he always will forever and ever amen.

Next Weeks Homily

'Hear the word of the Lord'

dNews

Each week. There is a new free complimentary dNews.

Fr. David's easy quiz

Fr. David & Jeanine's last Sunday is ...

- Advent Sunday
- The 21st Sunday after Pentecost
- The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
- Christ the King
- Advent 2

Fr. David's hard quiz

Jeanine and Fr. David have been in this parish...

- 8 years
- 6 years
- 7 years
- 5 and half years

The answers from last week's quiz were:

Easy quiz: Any of the above

Hard quiz: The Palloti Fathers

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.

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

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

The Winners are... all those who helped cook the sausages yesterday and those who bought them. A big Thank you to every one of you.

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

SEPTEMBER PARISH REPORT

The parish council met on Thursday and here are the important points from that:

Defibrillator is being installed soon in the east porch near the Flower vestry. For those opting out of the use of this there is a list in the choir room to pop your name on.

General maintenance to the front door and cleaning of the church spouting will occur soon.

A new parish phone will become available soon with a new Parish phone number. This

will be advertised widely in both the pew sheet and the Web site when this becomes operative. Treasurers' report to parishioners will happen soon.

Trivia night- please support this with either a table of friends or just bring yourselves.

A planning day for the annual fete will be after the 10.30 am service on October 4th.

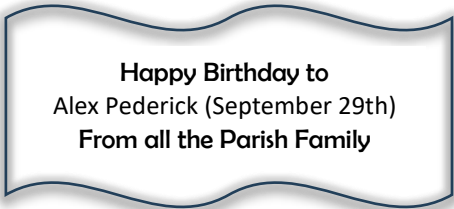
Details concerning Fr David's farewell will be available soon for you all.

Rosters

New rosters are at the back of Christ Church

**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
Alex Pederick (September 29th)
From all the Parish Family



TODAY'S HYMNS

220 480 272 690

Services for this week

Wednesday	30th September	Holy Communion 10.00am	Christ Church Hamilton
Saturday	3rd October	Vigil 5.00pm	Christ Church Hamilton
Sunday	4th October	Eucharist 9.00am	St Mark's Cavendish
		Eucharist 10.30am	Christ Church Hamilton

*Reader 1:*Jenny *Reader 2:*Gavin *Intercessor:* Heather/Ian *Sidesmen:* Helen & Illford
Eucharist Assistant: Heather