



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

## BULLETIN

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 15th November 2015



### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson  
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400  
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402  
Phone: 5382 1155.

Fax: 5382 3016

Email:

horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Diocesan Website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

### SCHOOLS

Ss Michael & John Primary

Principal: Andrea Cox

Phone: 5382 3000

St Brigid's College

Principal: Peter Gutteridge

Phone: 5382 3545

Our Lady Help of Christians

Principal: Gary Typuszak

Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr Damien this weekend.

Fr Peter will join the Priests of the Diocese for their Council of Priests' Meeting with Bishop Paul Bird this Tuesday 17th November in Ballarat.

### MEN'S GROUP END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS TEA

this Thursday November 19th at John & Silvana Foster's home, 50 Mardon Drive at 6.30. BYO drinks. \$10 each.

**Numbers needed. Contact Patrick 0428 847455 to confirm attendance.** All men and their sons are welcome

### PARISH STEWARSHIP PROGRAM

The final outcome of our Renewal of our Parish Stewardship Program is:

**Amount pledged per week : \$3785.29**

**Number of pledges : 332**

**New Pledges : 36**

**Average amount per pledge: \$11.41**

**No of envelopes : 218 (65%)**

**No of Credit Card pledges : 62 (19%)**

**No of Direct Debits : 52 (16%)**

**Increase per week : \$761**

• 1504 families are on our database

*(Compared to last Program as at 31/10/2015):*

*Amount pledged per week : \$3024*

*No of pledges : 321*

*Average weekly pledge : \$8.06*

*No of envelopes : 73%*

*No of Credit Cards : 15%*

*No of Direct Debits : 12% )*

• A wonderful result, thank you to **YOU** for your reflection, prayer, commitment

• Thank you to those who will give cash when they can.

• Thank you to all whether you could increase, or had to decrease, your pledge, or stopped giving.

• We believe these new figures will be accurate as only current pledge givers were followed up.

• New pledges are welcome anytime.

• Pledge Cards in the Foyer or Office.

**The new program begins this weekend November 14/15.**

Sets of envelopes or letters for you who give direct debit or credit card, or monthly, quarterly, yearly etc are in the Foyers today.

You need to fill out your Direct Debit form in the envelope (yellow page) and return it to the Office for your pledge to be activated.

**Thank you again to our Stewardship and Follow Up Teams .**

### PRAYER for SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source of all healing power. We entrust our sick brothers and sisters to your loving care. We pray that your blessings be upon all those in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain. May You be their source of hope in moments of despair, woundedness and sorrow. May You be their inspiration and solace when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them all with the courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and your healing love. Bless those who are **caregivers**, as channels of your tender love, for they are your very hands on this earth. Give them gentleness as they help those who are sick, that they respect the dignity and value of the sick to You. Give them patience as they manage their time, to best serve those in need of their care. Give them courage to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands, and when they need your enduring help and strength. Give them love and understanding to be a caring companion, as they walk the path of pain and sadness with the sick. Bless the **ministry** of those who take Holy Communion to the sick, elderly, those in Homes and in the Hospital.

• **Ladies....Something NEW!!!**

**CWL present Shoe Parade,**

courtesy of Trends,

this Tuesday November 17th at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Tickets \$8 at the door. Lucky prizes, raffles, afternoon tea. Bring a friend.

**Members, could you please supply a plate for afternoon tea. Please leave in the Parish Centre anytime Tuesday morning.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, my creator, breathe on me, renew me, refresh me, extend my abilities, comfort me in adjusting to changes in health, mobility and activity. Body of Jesus Christ flow through every fibre of my being. Keep me well, and hope filled, always. Holy Spirit use me in my situation, for the good of others. Amen



### WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 17th Nov	<b>NO MASS</b>	Priests' Council in Ballarat.
Wednesday 18th Nov	<b>5.30pm</b>	
Thursday 19th Nov	9.30am	Gavan Merrett anniv
Friday 20th Nov	9.30am	Mary Lawson intens.
Saturday 21st Nov	10.00am	Presentation of Our Lady. Clancy family inten.

Please Remember in Your Prayers	
<b>RECENT DEATHS:</b> Kevin Walsh	
<b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b> Pat James, Robert Hayes, Albie Kennett, Diosma Lillian Chandler, Gavan Merrett, Dave Marshall, Wayne Mills	
<b>SICK:</b> Kobe Davidson, Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Renee Kerr, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, Marge Whitehead, Warren Strauss, Eileen Finnigan, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Jill Higginbottom, Christie Higginbottom, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Kevin O'Connor	
<b>Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator</b> Betty 5382 6688	
<b>Confessions Saturday after Mass (10.25)</b>	
<b>Saturday Morning Devotions:</b> <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20</b> <b>Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church. 10am Mass</b>	
<b>Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month</b> <b>Feast of Christ the King - 22nd November 2015</b>	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am
Natimuk	<b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b>
Dimboola	<b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b>
Murtoa	<b>Sunday Mass 10.30am</b>
<b>Rosary &amp; Divine Mercy Chaplet</b> <b>Including the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <b>HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.</b>	
<b>Regular Activities in the Parish</b>	
<b>Mother's Prayer Group</b> Fortnightly Every Wednesday 2.00pm Church Meeting Room Contact Marina 5382 1047	
<b>Ss Michael &amp; John's Playgroup</b> Tuesday's in school terms 10am to 12 noon - Parish Hall. Contact 0428 119 234	
<b>Craft Group</b> Every Monday - Parish Meeting Room Mornings - 9.30am to 11.30am. Evening - 7pm to 9pm. BYO Craft - Gold Coin Donation. Contact Anita at Parish Office	
<b>Meditation Group</b> Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807	
<b>CWL Meetings</b> 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm in Meeting Room.	
<b>Men's Group</b> Meet 3rd Thursday of the month, breakfast 7.30am-8.30, Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428 847 455	
<b>St Vincent de Paul Conference.</b> Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm, for assistance. Phone 5381 2371	
<b>RELATIONSHIP &amp; INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING</b> <b>Michael Grimes</b> , a professional counsellor from Centacare Ballarat visits Horsham <b>every Wednesday</b> . Cost \$30 concessions available. Phone appt 1300 303 988 or contact the Parish Office	
<b>BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS 3rd Thursday of each</b> <b>Month at 7.30pm</b> in the Parish Meeting Room. Forms to be filled in with the Parish Office prior. Contact is the Parish Office 53821155.	
<b>Piety Stall in the Church</b> has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, cards, medals etc., lovely Peru crosses.	
<b>Children's Liturgy at 10.30 Mass in School Terms.</b> Children leave at start of Mass, and return at Offertory.	
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b> 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm	

ROSTERS			
Nov 14/15	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am	
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer Maureen Ervin John Parker Sr Jacinta Rice	Tim Lannen Mary Dalglish Zita Cannane Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan	
<b>Nov 21/22</b>	<b>Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 9.15am</b>	
<b>Readers</b>	Geordie Butler	Alison McKinnon	
<b>Commentator</b>	Tess Hayes	Angela Murphy	
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Marie McMillan Tess Hayes Anne Newton Silvanna Foster Rosie Taylor Lorraine Clancy Micky Roberts	Kingsley Dalglish Lesley Lannen Karen Hill Lynda Hutchinson Shirley Hoffmann Andrea Cox Faye Wills	
<b>Projector</b>	Peter Gutteridge	Shayne Keenan	
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Roberts	Teresa Bottoms	
<b>Welcomers</b>	Judie & Hugh Delahunty	Judy Bryan Zita Cannane	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Emily Hobbs	
<b>Prayers</b>	Joan & John Parker		
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>22nd November</b> Pauline Barber Pat Williams Louise Guest Kate Herson-Spasic	<b>29th November</b> Shirley Hoffmann Marie McMillan Margo Hogan	
<b>FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)</b>			
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 95.00
Horsham	\$ 1030.00	Dimboola	\$ 135.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 1260.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)</b>			
Envelopes	\$ 1887.00	Loose	\$ 74.75
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 1961.75</b>
<b>Making Connections:</b> What signs of growth, life, death or change do you see around you—in the natural world, your community, your family, yourself? Be attentive to any change			
<b>Marriage Tip:</b> Parenting teens can put stress on a marriage. If you have teenagers you know that you can't always choose the time when they are in the mood to talk. When they do open up, stop and listen.			
<b>Daily Prayer:</b> You keep vigil, O God, over the fortunes of your people, guiding their destiny in safety as the history of the world unfolds. Increase our faith that those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall rise again, give us your Spirit to bring forth in our lives the fruit of charity, so that we may look forward every day to the glorious manifestation of your Son.			
<b>A Vocation View:</b> 'As I keep the Lord ever in my sight ... my heart rejoices, my soul is glad ... You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence.' Let our Vocation be, to be one with God - forever.			
<b>Prayer of St Teresa of Ávila:</b> Let nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, All things are passing away, God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.			

### Country Mass Times in October/November:

Sunday 22nd: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Dimboola Mass 8.30  
Murtoa Mass 10.30.

Sunday 29th: Dimboola LLA 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30.

Sunday Dec 6: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30.



### **MALE VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

St Vinnies seek the help of any male volunteers who would be able to help with the clearing of the bins on a Sunday. Contact Pat on 53824003

Australia Catholics Christmas Edition out NOW!!!  
Featuring many articles on celebrating the feast of Christmas. Copies in each Church Foyer.

### **PRAYER FOR RAIN:**

Loving God, maker of all things and protector of your people, in You we live and move and have our being. In your mercy come to our aid, bless our land with rain, to nurture crops sown, and to bring them to a head, and for rain to provide sustenance for all towns. Strengthen our resolve in times of trial and difficulty, and teach us to seek your help on our life journey.

### **AVAILABLE NOW IN THE PIETY STALL**

\* Christmas Cards. \* Columban Calendars

### **PARISH LITURGY ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DIARY**

***Next Sunday November 22nd is the Feast of Christ the King, which ends our current Liturgical Year. Advent begins on Sunday November 29th.***

### **Advent Reflection Groups begin November 23 to 27**

Anyone who would like to belong to a group, please contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807. Booklets available also for individual use, \$5 each.

**Advent River Walk** is on Tuesday December 8th at 7am beginning from the Bennett Road Carpark.

**The Jesse Tree** will be decorated by the Children's Liturgy group at each Sunday Advent Mass, with the Jesse Tree Symbols.

**The White Christmas Tree** will be in the Foyer from the Third Sunday of Advent, to which you can add the "The Remembering Family Who Are not With Us at Christmas" names. Tags will be in the Foyer then.

**Christmas Anointing Mass on Thursday December 10th at 2pm in SMJ Church.** Cuppa and raffle drawn after Mass.

### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:**

**Horsham:** Christmas Eve Friday December 24th:

**7pm - Children's Family Mass** with Christmas play.  
**10pm - Carols** with the Choir.

**10.30pm - Parish Christmas Mass**  
**Christmas Day Horsham Mass 9am**

**Murtoa Christmas Eve 6.30pm Mass**

**Dimboola Christmas Eve 8.30pm Mass**

**Advent Reconciliation Service** Monday Dec 21, 7pm.

**Time Out Sessions** with Sr Jacinta to help us debrief before Christmas. Dates December 8th, 2pm-4pm and December 16th, 7pm - 9pm. More details next week.

- Our Parish will celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy in Lent 2016, with the possibility of a Parish Mission, with the Redemptorists, and other Liturgies to be planned.
- Our Parish is 140 years old in 2016. More details on Year of Mercy etc after our meeting on January 25th.

Pope Francis has announced a **Holy Jubilee Year of Mercy** to commence on December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception and conclude on Sunday, November 20, 2016, Feast of Christ the King.

All are invited to attend the Opening of the Door of Mercy at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat by Bishop Paul Bird CSSR on December 13th at 10.30 Mass.

Refreshments will follow the Mass.

### **Ss Michael & John's Primary School**



All Parishioners welcome today Sunday

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING** this

Thursday November 19th 5.30pm in the Meeting Room  
Reports, minutes, agenda sent email before meeting.

### **TIME & TALENT SHEET MEETING** this Wednesday

**Nov 18th at 2pm in the Meeting Room** for those who expressed interest in being a Reader, Commentator, Eucharist Minister, Computer, Welcomer. 121 T&T sheets were returned. *A night meeting will be held on Thursday Nov 26 at 7pm for those who can come then*

### **NOVEMBER HOLY SOULS BOOK IN THE FOYER**

You can write names of those who have died in the Book in the Foyer, and the Book of Remembrance will be placed on the Altar at each Mass in November.

**HOLY SOULS MASS ENVELOPES are in the Foyers today.** If you wish to have a Mass said for your loved ones in November or beyond, please write their name and preferred date on the envelope, and leave it on the plate or at the Office. Thank you.

**Candles for you to light for deceased loved ones at home will be available at Masses next weekend November 21/22.**

**1st Reading: Daniel 12:1-3**

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:5. 8-11**

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in

safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever.

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

**2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14. 18**

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

**Acclamation: Luke 21:36**

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and pray constantly, that you may be

worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Mark 13:24-32**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven. 'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

**Gospel Reflection -33rd Sunday  
Sister Veronica Lawson rsm.**

In the opening lines of today's gospel reading, there are clear echoes of two passages from the prophecy of Isaiah. The first passage reads, "For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light" (Isaiah 13:10). These images from Isaiah read like an unravelling of God's work in creation. The second passage likewise predicts a scenario that seems to reverse the Genesis creation account: "All the host of heaven [the constellations] shall rot away, and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall wither like a leaf withering on a vine, or fruit withering on a fig tree" (Isaiah 34:4). The prophet is using powerful poetic imagery to speak of God's judgment on the people of Israel who have strayed from their covenant relationship. The parallel images in Mark 13 are

referenced to the aftermath of the "time of distress" associated with the destruction of Jerusalem, a time of intense suffering for the community of believers. Jesus tells his disciples that, after all their suffering, strange cosmic phenomena will signal his return in glory and usher in a new age for God's people when the faithful will be gathered in. The message is intended to give comfort and hope to Mark's persecuted community of the late sixties or early seventies of the first century. Just as the new leaves on the fig tree signal the approach of summer, so too will the strange signs in the heavens signal Christ's coming and the onset of a new era, an end to the "time of distress". The message is thus one of encouragement for the community as they face an uncertain future rather than one of judgment. The strange apocalyptic imagery and the ancient cosmology that has Jesus returning on the clouds need not distract

the modern and scientifically sophisticated reader from hearing the call to trust in God no matter what happens. This reading may remind some of us that the unravelling of God's work is more than a poetic image in our times. The freak storms, the cyclones, and other signs of global warming we have seen might well serve as reminders to attend more carefully to the preservation of planet Earth. We may also hear a call to pay closer attention to what the "other-than-human" Earth elements can tell us about God and God's ways. Tim Winton's memoir, *Island Home*, offers a contemporary reminder of who we are as planetary beings, of what we have done to our planet and of how attentiveness to land and landscape is integral to being who we are. The wild fig or the black-flanked rock wallabies, for instance, may be more eloquent teachers than we had ever realised.

**Gospel: John 18:33-37**

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you

are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

SMJ SCHOOL SPRING  
FESTIVAL TODAY from  
10am to 3pm in school grounds  
Activities for all the family.  
All are welcome after 9.15 Mass.

- We pray for a safe and successful trip for SMJ School Year 6, staff, families, and supporters in their RACV Energy Challenge this Thursday - Saturday in Maryborough
- SBC AGM Board Meeting this Wednesday Nov 18th at 7pm.
- SBC Yr 8G Mass Wednesday 18th, 12.05
- Coughlin Park Meeting this Thursday. Old pavilion started to be demolished this week.
- November 16th is International Day for Tolerance, Nov 20th is World Children's Day