



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

BULLETIN



2nd Sunday in Lent - 21st February 2016



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 who will celebrate Horsham Masses this weekend.

Sts Michael & John Playgroup meets on Tuesdays from 10am to 12 noon in the Parish Centre.

Parents and children are welcome, facilities, toys available, safe and secure.

For more details please contact Anita in the Office 53821155.

We are looking for a person to co-ordinate the Group.

Opening of the Year

School Mass:

St Brigid's College:

this Tuesday February 23rd

at 9.30am

in SMJ Church.

All families and parishioners are welcome to Mass.

Year 7 Family BBQ Tea this Monday 22nd from 6pm in the College Grounds.

Second Sunday of Lent



Pope Francis extends our understanding of the word "Fast" - to do away withand to do

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

The glory of God is revealed in the transfigured Jesus, the one who discussed his suffering and death with Moses and Elijah.

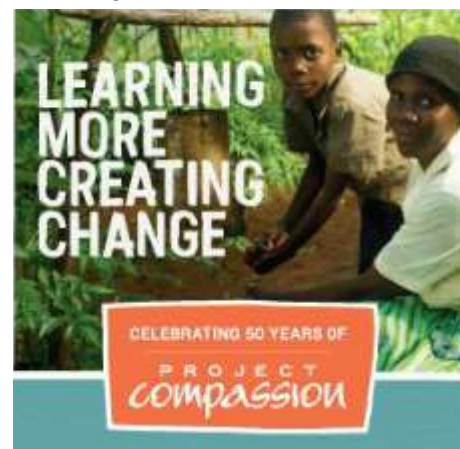
Lent is a time for us to enter into this suffering, not merely through reflection, prayer and penance, but concretely, by sharing in the suffering of the body of Christ. We see this suffering all around us, and in those whose integrity strengthens us, in those whose religious sentiments inspire us, in those whose endurance gives us confidence. God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see.

Information on the Royal Commission Hearing in Ballarat this week, sheet in the Foyers

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, 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday at 7pm in SMJ Church



WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 23rd Feb	5.30pm	9.30: SBC Opening of Year School Mass
Wednesday 24th Feb	9.30am	Joan and Jack Coffey annivs.
Thursday 25th Feb	9.30am	Bill Fitzpatrick anniv.
Friday 26th Feb	11.00am	Funeral Mass Jessie Garwood
Saturday 27th Feb	10.00am	Tony Uytdehaag anniv

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



Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS: Pat Oakley, Michele Mibus, Jessie Garwood

ANNIVERSARIES: Joe Peterson, Bill Fitzpatrick, Silvio & Reginetta D'Agostin, Tony Uytdehaag, Joan & Jack Coffey

SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Corey Panozzo, Renee Kerr, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Jill and Christie Higgenbottom, Roma Magee, Joy Flynn, Peter Kelly, Rodney Clarke.

Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator

Betty 5382 6688

Confessions Saturday after Mass (10.25)

Saturday Morning Devotions:
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20
Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church. 10am Mass

Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month
3rd Sunday of Lent—28th February

Horsham Saturday - 6.30pm
Sunday - 10.30am

Natimuk **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 10.30am**

Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
Including the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary
HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.

Regular Activities in the Parish

Mother's Prayer Group Fortnightly Every Wednesday 2.00pm Church Meeting Room Contact Marina 5382 1047

Ss Michael & John's Playgroup Tuesday's in school terms 10am to 12 noon - Parish Hall. Contact Anita 53821155

Craft Group 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

Meditation Group Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807

CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm in Meeting Room.

Men's Group Meet 3rd Thursday of the month, breakfast 7.30am-8.30, Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428 847 455

St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm, for assistance. Phone 5381 2371

RELATIONSHIP & INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Michael Grimes, a professional counsellor from Centacare Ballarat visits Horsham **every Wednesday**. Phone appt 1300 303 988 or contact the Parish Office

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS 3rd Thursday of each Month at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Forms to be filled in with the Parish Office prior. Contact is the Parish Office 53821155.

Piety Stall in the Church has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, cards, medals etc., lovely Peru crosses.

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm.

ROSTERS

Feb 20/21	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Chris Velthuis Cathy Taylor Peter Gutteridge Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch	Judy Reid Shirley Hoffmann Andrea Cox Faye Wills Cate Rigby Mary Marshall Tim Lannen
Feb 27/28	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Anthony Amor	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Angela Murphy
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Maree Plazzer Maureen Ervin John Parker Micky Roberts Marie McMillan Tess Hayes Anne Newton	Mary Dalglish Zita Cannane Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan Kingsley Dalglish
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Shayne Keenan
Children's Liturgy		Jo Martin
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Gary Coutts Pat Williams	Angela Stephens Mary Dalglish
Prayers	Mary Brown & Anita Masiero	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	28th February Josie Phelan Claire Irwin Joan Butler Mary Dowsley	6th March Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi

FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 60.00
Horsham	\$ 955.00	Dimboola	\$ 46.00
Total			\$ 1061.00

2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)-Wk 13
(Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals)

Envelopes	\$ 1296.00	Loose	\$ 60.35
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 1356.35

Making Connections: Spend extra time this week listening to the 'beloved Son'. What is Jesus saying to you?

Marriage Tip: Sometimes we can become irritable over small things. Next time this happens with your spouse, try taking a deep breath and responding with a "gentle love."

Daily Prayer: Countless are the stars, O God of Abraham, are the faithful whom you have led into the land of promise. Dazzling as the snow, O God of Moses and Elijah, is your glory shining on the face of Jesus, who forever prays on our behalf, the people for whom he accomplished the exodus of the resurrection. It is good for us to be here!

A Vocation View: After the transfiguration, Peter, John and James wanted to stay up the mountain. But Jesus said, "Move," with the knowledge that ships are safe in harbours, but not meant to stay in harbours.

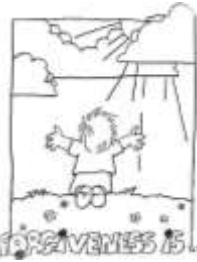
'**The Church** must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel'. *Pope Francis* "The ashes mean I am a sinner. The shape of the Cross means I have a Saviour."

Country Mass Times in February/March:

February 28: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
March 6th: Dimboola 8.30. **Murtoa 8.30**
March 13th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
March 20th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
Easter Saturday: Murtoa 7.30pm
Easter Sunday: Dimboola 8.30am

Murtoa Inter Church Council Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Today Sunday February 21st at OLHC School at 5pm, followed by a shared meal. Perishable goods (jams, fresh fruit and vegetables etc) will be auctioned. Non-perishable goods given to the Food Centre. All welcome to the service, meal and auction.



The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated at these times:
Wednesday March 9th at 5pm.
Thursday March 10th at 5 and 7pm.
Wednesday March 16th at 5pm.

Please pray for the children and their families in this time of preparation.

World Day of Prayer 2016 will be hosted by our CWL

in SMJ Church on Friday March 4th at 10am.

Other Churches will be involved in the Service, This year's Service composed by the Women of Cuba. Morning Tea after. All welcome.



OLHC SAC Board Meeting Wednesday 24th at 7.30pm.

From the Parish Council Meeting.

Present - Chris Robarts Chair, Sr Jacinta, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon, Mary Marshall, Bob Pritchett, Joan Lane-Storey, Fr Peter, Peter Gutteridge, Gary Typuszak, Garry Heinrich, Anita Masiero - Secretary.

Sr Jacinta gave Formation on the Year of Mercy.

Fr Peter gave an update on Coughlin Park. Finish date end of May, hand over to the Parish mid-June, Fr Peter to give PPC update on variations and contingencies will be available this coming week.

A Parish Brochure will be printed and available on the Parish Website and in the Churches.

The 140th anniversary of the Parish will be with a Mass and morning tea later in the year.

Finances. Responses to the new Program have been very good. Follow Up Committee to meet and speak to the Parish in March, 3 months into the new Program.

Social Justice tied in with response to Year of Mercy.

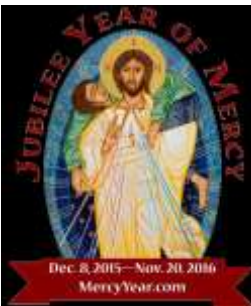
Sr Veronica Lawson visit on March 17th, 10am to 3pm.

Maintenance: painting of posts around SMJ Church.

Reports received from all Schools and Parish Groups.

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.



Pope Francis' Year of Mercy Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you see Him. Show us your face and we shall be saved. Send your Spirit, and consecrate every one of us with the Spirit's anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy, may be a year of grace from the Lord, and we your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor.

Let your Church be your visible face in the world. We ask this of you, God of mercy and forgiveness, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy. *We will pray this prayer at the end of Prayers of Intercession*

Misericordiae Vultus – The Face of Mercy 6 - Pope Francis declares that the "mercy of God is not an abstract idea. It is "a concrete reality through which God reveals his love as that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child."



Second
Sunday
of Lent

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION



With limited support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos, Duangmala feared that her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, would never reach his full potential because he has Down Syndrome. However, he now has the chance to learn and thrive at a school for children with intellectual disabilities, supported by Caritas Australia. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential.**

C.W.L. Northern Regional Conference/Reflection Day

Tuesday 8th March St. Patrick's School Hall Stawell. Conference commences at 9.30am. Reflection led by Father Justin Driscoll at 11am. Mass at 12.00noon, Reflection recommences at 1.30pm. Concludes at 3.00 pm. Morning Tea, Afternoon Tea & Lunch provided Cost \$ 12.00. All welcome. For catering purposes RSVP 1st March Liz Driscoll. E/Email edriscoll@westnet.com.au or ph.53581724



"Mercy listens - with interest and concern - then smiles, and reaches out her hand."

Sr Veronica Lawson will come to Horsham on Thursday March 17th from 10am to 3pm to lead us in a Reflection Day on the Year of Mercy. Copies of her book will be on sale at Piety Stall or Parish Office at a reduced price.

1st Reading: Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;

whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer. Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.'

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Acclamation Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. A voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence, told no one what they had seen.

Gospel-2nd Sunday Lent Year C, Sister Veronica Lawson rsm

Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of glory. Last week, the wilderness was a character in the gospel reading. This week, we find a mountain and a cloud featuring significantly in the narrative. Wilderness, mountain, and cloud and the prophets of old Moses and Elijah link Luke's story of Jesus to the Israelites' covenant relationship with their God; these also remind us that God's Earth is the locus of mystery: the place where human and nature are transformed through encounter with the divine.

For Jesus, the mountain is already a place of encounter with God, a place of prayer. Luke has Jesus spending a night in prayer on an unidentified mountain before he chooses the Twelve. Jesus now takes Peter, John, and James up another mountain where the aspect of his face changes and his clothing be-

comes dazzling white. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, "appear" and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet. This episode seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he accepts his likely fate: if he continues to challenge oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with this realisation in the wilderness and comes to terms with what it involves on the mountain. The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus and calls for a response: "Listen to him". These words are reminiscent of Moses' instruction to the Israelites: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet" (Deut 18:15). For Luke, Jesus is the prophet-like-Moses whom they must heed. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" and settle down. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in

fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. The tents evoke once more the Israelites' wanderings. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of glory. We also need the good sense to follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we sometimes experience. If we are to hear the prophet-like-Moses in our times, we have to come to terms with the personal costs involved. Some of us need to go alone or together to a mountain top or place of extraordinary beauty to discover again the strength that comes from encountering the Divine. I once climbed within view of Everest. Every now and then, I climb Mt Buninyong. At such times, I know the wonder of God revealed in the beauty of the earth even as I sense its fragility and susceptibility to destruction.

Next Sunday C Gospel Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom

the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look

here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."