



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time — 6th October 2019



Plenary Council 2020

Plenary Council 2020
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

The 6 Themes we are asked to reflect and pray upon up to April 2020 are:

1. Missionary and evangelising.
2. Inclusive, participatory and synodal.
3. Humble, healing and merciful.
4. Prayerful and Eucharistic.
5. A joyful, hope-filled, servant community
6. Open to conversion renewal and reform.

Today Sunday 6th we welcome you to gather after 10.30 Mass in the Church Meeting Room for the first of our Gatherings.

The theme is Prayerful and Eucharistic. Sr Jacinta will facilitate this Gathering at 11.30am.

Materials for our Listening and Discernment will be available.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

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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: Cathy Grace

Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John and we thank him for his ministry.

Fr Peter will be with SBC Year 10 on their Street Retreat in Melbourne from Wednesday to Thursday night.

Fr Peter will celebrate with SMJ School their Feastday Mass this Friday October 11th at 12 noon in the Church. All Parishioners are welcome to join in this celebration.



We pray for God's blessings on the final Term of the School Year which begins for all Schools this Monday 6th. May our Teachers and students grow in faith and wisdom over this time.

We pray for VCE students in their final weeks at School. SBC Year 12 will end their Year on October 23rd, with their first Exam, English, on October 30th.

SMJ Mission Day Mass and Fete is on Friday October 18th.

SBC Presentation Ball is on Friday October 25th.

PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust our sick to your loving care.

We pray your blessings upon all in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort in pain, of hope in times of despair, woundedness, sorrow, their solace and inspiration when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them with courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and love. Bless **caregivers**, as channels of your love, they are your very hands on earth. Give them gentleness as they help the sick, to respect their dignity and value to You.

Give carers and helpers patience and courage as they manage their time, to best serve those who are needful of their care, to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands and when they need your enduring help. Give them love and understanding to be a caring companion, on the path of pain and sadness with the sick.

Bless the **ministry** of those who take Holy Communion to the sick, elderly, and those in Homes and in Hospital.

5th October - World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1996 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. This year, World Teachers' Day celebrates the theme, "*Young Teachers: The Future of the Profession*". We pray for teachers' leadership, example and wisdom in the ways of teaching and living their faith. We celebrate their achievements, and pray for their important role in our children's lives.

Thank you to all who serve and assist in Parish Ministries and Committees and Groups. We never take you for granted, thank you

WEEKDAY MASSES: A Funeral Mass will replace weekday Mass

Tuesday 8th Oct	5.30pm	Una Purcell anniv
Wednesday 9th Oct	AWC 9.30	
Thursday 10th Oct	No Mass	St Denis
Friday 11th Oct	12noon	SMJ School Feast day Mass.
Saturday 12th Oct	10.00am	Nora Clancy, Geoff Boseley annivs.

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: John Jess (Stawell)

ANNIVERSARIES: Brendan Kennedy, Jock Panozzo, Nora Clancy, Geoff Boseley, Terry Sheehy, Brian Frawley

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Debbie Nolan, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Betty Fitzgerald, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, John McNamara,

Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 5382 1155

**Next Sunday 2nd Sunday of the Month
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 13th October 2019**

Horsham **Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 10.30am**

**Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.**

Regular Activities in the Parish

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.

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

Men's Group Meeting will be at the 3rd Thursday of the month in the Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428847455

St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm for assistance. Phone 53812371

BAPTISM PREPARATION. For enrolment and appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.



Ballarat Clergy Collection for Retired Priests

Our parish this year has raised **\$1492.05** Thank you

"May every sunrise bring you hope, may every sunset bring you peace" (Irish Blessing)

OLD CANDLES to recycle to make our candles could you please drop them into the Parish office. Thank you.

The Shared Table. Brochures are in the Church Foyers to explain how your \$1 a week can help the people of Lima, Peru, set up kitchens to cook good food. Please return your form and money to the Office.

Global Rosary - October 13 You are invited to pray the rosary particularly on October 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. People can join in this prayer by praying the rosary personally or by praying the rosary with others

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett** as our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** has been adopted for all who work with children in the Parish. Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Chris Robarts (Chair), Peter Gutteridge, Andrea Cox, Fr Peter, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon, Daryl Wren, Bob Pritchett, Garry Heinrich, Cathy Grace, Margaret Lingham, Joan Lane-Storey, Srs Manuela & Tirsa, Anita Masiero (Sec)

ROSTERS

5/6 October	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzzer Peter Gutteridge Micky Roberts Cathy Taylor John Parker Geoff Simpson	Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalglish Andrea Cox Faye Wills
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Anna Robertson
12/13 October	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Garry Heinrich	Bob Pritchett
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	Kingsley Dalglish
Eucharistic Ministers	Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce	Bob Pritchett Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalglish Karen Hill Anna Robertson Neville Strachan
Projector	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Judie & Hugh Delahunty	Mary Dalglish Alistair Castle
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	13th October Pauline Barber Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Kate Herson-Spasic	20th October Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 103.00
Horsham	\$ 922.00	Dimboola	\$ 37.00
Total			\$ 1064.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 886.00	Loose	\$ 137.90
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 1023.90

Making Connections: Perform as many small acts of service as you can this week.

Marriage Tip: Listening well says to the other person, "I care about what you're saying; I care about you." It helps love to grow.

Daily Prayer: Do you see, O God of love, the violence that stalks us, the destruction that frightens us, the wrongdoing that surrounds us? Increase our faith that we may wait upon your appointed time, and work at our appointed tasks, use-less servants, doing our duty, at peace in the knowledge that you see and will save!

A Vocation View: Oh, that today you would hear His voice! Listening brings faith; faith brings hope. Hope brings trust; trust brings courage to follow the Lord.

Marriage Tip: "To live out of love is to give one's self." – St. Therese. Make a conscious effort to give yourself to your spouse and family today, through your time, prayers, and acts of service.

"Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful... Help me, O Lord, that my ears may be merciful... Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful... Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful... Help me, O Lord, that my feet may be merciful... My true rest is in the service of my neighbour." – *Saint Faustina Kowalska.*

A Missionary "Spring" in the Church That the breath of the Holy Spirit will engender a new missionary "spring" in the church, as we celebrate in October World Mission Month.

Country Mass Times:

Oct 13th: Murtoa Mass 10.30. Dimboola Mass 8.30.
Oct 20th: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Oct 27th: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30.
Nov 3rd: Murtoa 10.30. Dimboola 8.30. **Nhill 5pm**

CWL 90th BIRTHDAY Sunday Oct 20th

The CWL 90th Birthday Celebration and Reunion is on **Sunday 20th October** at 10.30am Mass, and a Lunch in the Parish Centre after Mass.

All current and former members are invited to Mass and Lunch to celebrate the 90th birthday and to rekindle old friendships.

Please contact Marina 5382 1047,
Tess 5381 1785 or Frances 5382 1546



Seniors Week this week October 7th to 11th.

We will honour our Senior Parishioners with an

Afternoon Tea in the Parish Centre on Tuesday October 15th at 2pm.

Afternoon Tea will be supplied.

Come as you are. If anyone needs a ride, please contact Anita in the Office

October is often a challenging, busy month. We might feel exhausted with work and study, or helpless to support a loved one who is struggling. When we're anxious and overwhelmed, we can experience a loss of faith leading to despair. Today's readings encourage us to keep the faith and not give up. God is faithful and we can learn from God's patience with us. But we feel so small and what faith we have is surely not enough! Jesus declares to his disciples that even with faith the size of a mustard seed, great and surprising things are possible. Overcoming the challenges that face us might seem like telling a huge tree to plant itself in the ocean: absurd. Perhaps trusting in God's faith in us, we might have more faith in ourselves. So, however small, may our faith be enough to lead us (and our loved ones) through October's challenges. We pray for all students in their upcoming exams

Extraordinary Month of Mission October 2019

For Mission Month, the Holy Father has chosen the theme "Baptised and Sent: The Church of Christ on a Mission in the World". There are four dimensions, specified by the Pope, to live more intensely the journey of the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019:

1. Prayer;
2. Witness of extraordinary people of mission;
3. theological reflection/formation; and 4. Charity.

Throughout October our parish will hold the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal. This year we are invited to partner with **the Church in Ghana**, as they provide ongoing protection and development of children who are vulnerable. In line with traditional beliefs, in parts of Ghana, children born with a disability, or whose mother passes during childbirth, are considered to be 'spirit children', and thus at risk of being harmed or killed. The Church in Ghana is dedicated to protecting these children and educating families to ensure every child has a chance to live a full life. **Catholic Mission Envelopes will be here next week.**

Father Shane Mackinlay of our Diocese will be ordained as the new Bishop of Sandhurst, in Bendigo's Sacred Heart Cathedral at 12 noon on Wednesday 16th October. Bishop Paul Bird invites Diocesan parishioners to a celebratory Mass for Bishop Shane Mackinlay on Wednesday 13th November in St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm, and for supper in the Cathedral hall after. All are welcome. **We pray for Shane as he goes on Retreat this week prior to his Consecration.**

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Win Stephens, Pat O'Connor and Barbara Connellan for their valued ministry to the Church Cleaning and Flowers. They have been giving of their time for many, many years. They are now having a well deserved rest. God's blessings to these wonderful ladies. *Lynda Hutchinson, co-ordinator.*

From the Finance Committee Meeting with Mark Bromley. Members: Jill Coutts, Kath Robertson, Rodney Clarke, David Cox. Apology: Penelope Mansera. There was a thorough discussion and review of Parish finances. Planned Giving has dropped to \$140,000 a year, and this does not meet our Parish budget. The Committee will meet on October 17 to discuss all issues and how to renew our Program, plus other ways to give us a better cash flow, to manage our finances. Thank you to all parishioners continuing to contribute, we seek new comers to our Program, cards are in the Foyer.

Child Safe Workshop Report.

Children's Liturgy will be postponed as a number of issues need to be clarified before proceeding.

We are seeking a Female to work with Bob Pritchett as Safeguarding Officer, anyone interested please see Fr Peter or Bob Pritchett

I was a stranger and you welcomed me...



Come along to hear An Update on Asylum Seekers.

Visiting Speaker: Sr Brigid Arthur csb,

Co-ordinator of the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project

**Monday 14th October at 7.30 pm.
SS Michael and John's Parish Centre.**

Christmas Crib Display. From Tuesday December 3 to Sunday December 8th, Fr Andrew Hayes, Fiona Tonkin and Kevin Linard will bring to our Parish more than 300 nativity scenes in a stunning exhibition. There are figurines, cribs and mangers of all shapes, sizes, ages and histories, and many of the nativity scenes have fascinating stories behind them. One of the oldest items dates back to 1750, a sheep from Germany 254 yrs old. **The Display will be in Nhill on Tuesday 3rd, and in the Parish Centre from Wednesday 4th to Sunday 8. Schools will attend the Display. If you have a Crib scene you may wish to display for this time, you are welcome to bring it. Please see Fr Peter beforehand.**

Fr Richard Leonard SJ will lead our Parish in a Mission from November 23rd to 27th this year.

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help while you will not listen; to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear and you will not save? Why do you set injustice before me, why do you look on where there is tyranny? Outrage and violence, this is all I see, all is contention, and discord flourishes. Then the Lord answered and said, 'Write the vision down, inscribe it on tablets to be easily read, since this vision is for its own time only: eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive; if it comes slowly, wait, for come it will, without fail. See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights, but the upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who

made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God. Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look

after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Peter 1:25

Alleluia, alleluia! The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it would obey you. 'Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately?" Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."

Gospel Reflection – 27th Sunday.

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

The strength to remain faithful in the face of adversity, the capacity to forgive, and the courage to do what we ought to do without seeking recognition or reward are perennial challenges for most people. According to the Lukan Jesus, it takes faith to meet such challenges. The devastating fires in the Amazon forests and in north-eastern Australia are testing the faith of those who have devoted much of their energy, even their whole lives, to speaking truth to power about the need for action. These people remain faithful, finding the strength to forgive and the courage to do what must be done for the sake of our common home. Today's gospel reading brings to closure the central section of the long journey narrative that recounts the teaching of the Lukan Jesus on his way from Samaria to the final events of his life in Jerusalem. The "apostles" ask

Jesus to increase their faith. Their request is in itself an act of faith. He has been telling them to be on their guard. He has been emphasising the importance of endless and unconditional forgiveness. These disciples are well aware that to keep on forgiving those who offend repeatedly is not easy. It is in this context that they ask him to increase the faith. Jesus responds by insisting that even the smallest amount of faith can work wonders. His metaphorical language stretches the imagination. Even transplanting a mulberry tree from land to sea becomes possible through the power of a faith-infused word! They have no answer to this. Luke seems to be invoking "faith" in much the same way as does Habakkuk in today's first reading which closes with a comparison between the proud whose "spirit is not right" and the just who "live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). The Hebrew word for faith in this passage is probably better

translated as "fidelity" or "faithfulness". For the Lukan Jesus, a little fidelity or faithfulness goes a long way. Among other things, it enables us to keep on forgiving even wilful ignorance and to keep on acting for justice. Finally, Jesus puts a number of questions to his disciples, questions that align their status with that of slaves in the service of a master. His questions provide a stark contrast with an example he has offered earlier in the gospel where the slave master serves the faithful slaves (12:37). These questions are consistent with his insistence that true disciples do not seek the reward of honour or recompense for their service. Jesus' followers must admit that their service is no more than is required of them. Power, status, wealth acquired at the expense of others, refusal to forgive, all run counter to the path of gospel fidelity. To live by faith is to be humble, forgiving, just and attentive to the cry of the earth.

Next Week's Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said

to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

Daylight Saving begins tonight Sunday morning.. **Before going to bed turn your clocks forward one hour.**



Mass this Monday morning October 7th at 10am to celebrate the Feast of the Rosary. Rosary after Mass.

"The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and strong nourishment for all of us in our weaknesses." - Pope Francis

"Without Sunday (Mass), we cannot live" (North African Martyrs).

Next Sunday October 13th Fr Peter celebrates the Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion with 3 children at 10.30 Mass at Murtoa. Please pray for the children. I celebrate with them their First Reconciliation this Tuesday.