



St. Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee

Beulah - Dimboola - Hopetoun - Horsham - Kaniva - Minyip - Murtoa -
Natimuk - Nhill - Rainbow - Rupanyup - Warracknabeal

BULLETIN

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B
10th December 2023

Christmas Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 23rd December

Horsham 6.30pm
Beulah 7pm

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve

Dimboola 8.30am
Rainbow 10am
Horsham 10:30am

Christmas Vigil (Sunday p.m.)

Warracknabeal 5pm
Nhill 8pm
Murtoa 6pm
Horsham Carols 7:30pm Mass 8pm

Christmas Day

Hopetoun 9am
Horsham 9am

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Once again we call on your generosity to assist with our good works. Families are stressed to the limit with the increasing cost of living. Homelessness is very prevalent in our community, people sleeping rough and sleeping in their cars. We help with emergency accommodation, food, scripts, and petrol vouchers for out of town medical appointments.

Monetary donations may be left at the piety store in the narthex of our Horsham Church, envelopes also available in the Horsham foyer.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 12th December	5:30pm	Warracknabeal
	10:30am	<i>Horsham Funeral Mass for Patricia Brennan</i>
Wednesday 13th December	5.30pm	Warracknabeal St Mary's PS End of Year Mass
	9.30am	Horsham
Thursday 14th December	12pm	Nhill St Patricks PS End of Year Mass
	6pm	Murtoa OLHC End of Year Mass
	5pm	Horsham
Friday 15th December	12pm	Horsham SMJ End of Year Mass
	5.30pm	Warracknabeal Ladies Club & Vinnies End of Year Mass
Saturday 16th December	No Mass	Warracknabeal (<i>Fr Matt away Ballarat Ordinations</i>)
	9.30am	Horsham

Funeral Mass for Patricia Brennan
Ss Michael & John Church Horsham
Tuesday December 12th at 10.30am

(will be livestreamed on <https://www.youtube.com/@smjchurchhorsham/streams>)



Second Sunday
of Advent

CONTACTS:

Parish Priest:

Mons. Glynn Murphy
Ph: 0419 683 773

Assistant Priest:

Fr Matt Restall
Ph: 0417 991 387

Parish Office:

Office Hours:

CLOSED MONDAYS

TUES - FRI

9am - 12.30pm, 1.30- 4.00pm

Ph: (03) 5382 1155

Staff:

- Olivia Tuohey
- Janette McClure

Email: wimmeramallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Address:

10 Roberts Avenue,
Horsham.

Mailing:

PO Box 212,
Horsham, VIC. 3400

Website:

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/wimmera-mallee/>

Mass Livestreaming

Mass will be livestreamed from the Horsham Church at **6.30pm each Saturday evening**, and will be available to watch 'live', or for replay viewing at a time convenient. (*Recordings are deleted weekly, and will be available until Friday each week*) **YouTube Channel Link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/@smjchurchhorsham/streams>

HORSHAM MINISTRY ROSTER		
9th & 10th December	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Reader	Emelia Sudholz	May Rosello
Commentator	Maree Plazzer	Louise Kemp
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Lesley Price Anthony Amor	Andrea Cox Kingsley Dalglish Alison McKinnon
16 & 17th December	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Reader	Micky Robarts	Bob Pritchett
Commentator	Betty Heinrich	May Rosello
Eucharistic Ministers	Micky Robarts Cath Taylor	Fay Wills Rosie Taylor Mary Dalglish
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Robert Sartori
Musicians	Choir	Chris Robarts
Livestream	Rob Sartori	N/A
Welcomers	Gary & Betty Heinrich	Mary Dalglish Alistair Castle
Tea/Coffee After Mass	N/A	Angela Amor, Liz Both, Anna Robertson Lyn Starr
Prayers	Darryl & Maree Wren	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	17th December Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney	24th December Zita Cannane Pauline Breen Judie Delahunty

WARRACKNABEAL LITURGY ROSTER		
	10th December Mass 8.30am	17th December Mass 8.30am
Reader	D Baxter	M Aitkin
Prayers	D Baxter	K Downes
Collectors	D & K Baxter	D & K Baxter
Cleaning	Cleaning Bee in December	

NHILL LITURGY ROSTER		
	10th December Mass 11am	17th December Mass 11am
Sacristan	M Millington	C Kennedy
Reader	M Millington	J Gurry
Collector	R Picone	R Picone
Music	Paulino Ramas	Paulino Ramas
Cleaning	M Millington	M Millington

Natimuk Mass: Final Natimuk Mass for 2023
Thursday 21st December, 6.30pm, Venue TBA

Rupanyup Mass: TBA

Child Safety Standards: St Paul VI Parish
Bob Pritchett is our Safeguarding Officer.
A **Child Safety Policy** and **Code of Conduct** has been adopted for all who work with children and vulnerable adults in the Parish, to ensure the safety of all.
Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish.

ROSARY - MURTOA:
Rosary will be prayed at St Mary's Church, Murtoa each Wednesday at 4.30pm.

Please submit notices for our weekly Bulletin to the Parish Office by C.O.B **Thursday**. Thank you.

Anointing:
On request to Mons. Glynn Murphy or Fr Matt Restall, or please call the Parish Office.
-++=====+-

Communion:
Upon request to the Parish Office, Holy Communion can be arranged for the sick and infirm.
-++=====+-

Confessions:
After Saturday Morning Mass at Horsham Church, or on request to our Priests.

Our Parish Finance:
For all wishing to support either our Parish or Clergy through online banking transfer:
St Paul VI Parish Account (NAB)
BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830337
(Please state envelope number if you have one, and name)

St Paul VI Presbytery (Clergy Support) Account (NAB)
BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830345

~ The option of regular automatic Direct Debit contributions can be arranged by contacting our office ~
The Parish also has an NGR number for grain growers who wish to donate through harvest.
All amounts are an active support to our faith community and are greatly appreciated.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
THIS WEEKEND

2nd Sunday of the month: 9 & 10th December
Horsham: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am**
Hopetoun: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm**
Dimboola: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Warracknabeal: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Nhill: **Sunday Mass 11am**
Murtoa: **Sunday LLA 9am**
Minyip: **Sunday LLA 10am**
Rainbow: **Sunday LLA 10am**
Beulah: **Sunday LLA 9.30am** **NOTE: Thursday Mass after the 2nd Sunday 5.30pm (14th December) CANCELLED**

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
NEXT WEEKEND

3rd Sunday of the month: 16 & 17th December
Horsham: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am**
Hopetoun: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm**
Murtoa: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Warracknabeal: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Nhill: **Sunday Mass 11am**
Beulah: **Sunday LLA 9.30am**
Dimboola: **Sunday LLA 8.30am**
Rainbow: **Sunday LLA 10am**
Minyip: **Sunday LLA 10am**

PARISH EVENTS AND NOTICES

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Anne Kress, John Coleman, Erin O'Connor, Jose Lawson, Milena Zorzetti, Robert Trentinaglia, Tony & Olga Rossi

SICK: Ken Dowsley, Pat Hateley, Ted Haynes, Sam McCulloch, Max Young, Joan McNamara, Alex Kavoor, Elliot Pumpa, Kevin Clancy, Jodie White, Bernie Ryan, Brendan McKinnon, Cynthia Maiden, Peter James, Noel Kearns, Brenda Ramsdale, Pat Cummins, Patricia Simpson, Frank White, David Gillard, Maggie Landrigan, Eddie Taig, Jason O'Connell

Seminarian **Cay Trinh** will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10am.

Please pray for Cay as he prepares.

All welcome to attend. This Mass will be livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/fy7Ze_ysi_4?feature=share

St Vincent de Paul

A representative of St Vincent de Paul is available to assess and assist cases on **Mon, Wed and Fri** mornings between 11am-12noon.

***Appointments essential-** Phone 5381 2371 to book.

Publications Available for Purchase

We have more copies of **God's Word 2024** which are available again this week for **\$20ea**. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange purchase.



A limited supply of **The Sign** books for Advent and Christmas daily reflections are also available for **\$8ea** at the Parish Office.



We still have copies of the **Brigidine Centenary book** available for **\$35** in the Piety Stall in the Horsham Church, at St Brigid's College, or at the Parish Office.

Mass of the Oils 2024:
Monday, March 25, 2024 at
St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at
11.30am
(please note change of time).
Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.

Resources to assist with the celebration of Advent 2023 are available from the diocesan website. Resources include Advent Stations of Christmas, prayers for individuals and/or groups and music.

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

Just a reminder to pick up your **2023 / 2024 Planned Giving envelopes** from your local Church foyer, if you haven't already. Thankyou.

A Christmas get together for St Mary's Warracknabeal Church Community and friends, together with St Vincent De Paul Conference.

- ◆ Friday **15th December 2023**
- ◆ 5.30pm Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's Church.
- ◆ 6pm onwards, drinks and dinner at The Creekside Hotel.

The marquee has been booked for this dinner. Please list your name on the sheet provided in the foyer of the Warracknabeal church. **RSVP: Tuesday 5 December 2023**

We are pleased to now be able to offer EFT 'Tap-n-Go' in the Horsham Church foyer. (weekends only)

For those who don't carry cash, and for visitors to the Parish, this is an easy option for **donations** to support the Parish account.



Christmas cards & 2024 Calendars are available in the St Vincent de Paul Piety Stall in the Horsham Church

Next Weekend's Readings: The Third Sunday of Advent, Year B

1st Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11
Responsorial Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54
Response: My soul rejoices in my God
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN SMJ CHURCH HORSHAM:

Morning Craft Group:

Wednesdays in Parish Office Meeting Room, 9.30-11.30am.

Meditation Group: Every Tuesday, 2.00pm in the Church meeting room.

Choir Practice:

2nd Wednesday of the month, 4pm

- **Any newcomers always welcome**

Men's Fellowship: Next date to be advised in 2024

Sunday Mass

10 December 2023

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading A reading from the prophet Isaiah

40:1-5, 9-11

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading A reading from the second letter of St Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

LOYOLA PRESS REFLECTION

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension

that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.