



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

6th Sunday of Easter - 17th May 2020



### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary:

Camille Del Castillo

10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400

PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402

Phone: 5382 1155.

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: Cathy Grace

Phone: 5385 2526

Nhill: St Patrick's

Principal: Kingsley Dalglish

**We can allow 10 people to attend Weekday Masses and 10 at each of our 6.30 and 10.30 weekend Masses.**

If you wish to come to any of these Masses, you must let us know before, please leave a message at the Office 53821155 or on my mobile 0419323397.

**We are still dispensed from our Sunday Mass Obligation** (canon law 1248) **if we can't make the 10 who can attend.**

We encourage you to participate in personal and family prayer, reflect on Scripture, make a spiritual communion.

I will pray for you in Mass each day. If you wish to be part of our Mass each day, and you have Facebook, please link into Eucharistic Group to go online, at the times for Masses below.

### Our Parish Bulletin is online

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**select Horsham Parish, click on the yellow magnifying glass symbol, open Horsham below.**

**Anointing of the Sick and Individual Confession, on request to Fr Peter.**

**For Funerals, we work with the Funeral Homes.**

**Church Opening** following announcement lifting some of the restrictions in regard to places of worship. **SMJ Church will be opened each day from 9am - 5pm for private prayer from this Wednesday 20th May. Please enter and leave by the door near the Presbytery.**

\* You will need to sign in as you arrive

\* use hand sanitizer at the door and sit away from anyone else in the Church.

\* If there are 10 people inside please wait outside until someone leaves or come back later.

**ONLINE MASSES: (Eucharistic Group Facebook page)**

**Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 10.30am**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament THURSDAY 10-11**

Tuesday 19th	5.30pm	
Wednesday 20	9.30am	Murray Lloyd anniv.
Thursday 21st	9.30am	Max Robertson, Max Shalders anns. Hayes, Herd, McGrath 60th Wedding
Friday 22nd	9.30am	Fr Peter's 49th Ordination anniv.
Saturday 23rd	10am	Terry Vincent anniv.

**We welcome the news that our Schools can return. Preps, Yrs 1 & 2 on Tuesday May 26th.**

**Yrs 7, 11 & 12 at SBC on Tuesday May 26th.**

**Yrs 3,4,5 on Tuesday June 9**

**Yrs 8 to 10 at SBC on June 9.**  
*Thank you to families, schools carers and teachers for your care and support at this time of isolation.*



### **Laudato Si' Week 16-24 May,**

"I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all. I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all." *Pope Francis,*

Catholic Earthcare established by the Australian Bishops Conference, in partnership with the Jesuits Australia and Campion are coordinating a list of activities to celebrate Laudato Si':

<https://laudatosiweek.org/>

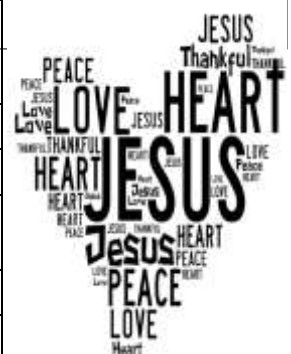
Fr Peter and the 11 priests of his year, celebrate 49 years of Ordination this Friday 22nd May.

**BIG THANKS** to all who have supported us during this time of separation. I have eaten beautiful meals, appreciated contact by email, phone, cards and messages, and the contribution of people who have volunteered their prayerful support, and assistance around the parish during this so unexpected time.

Thank you to Sr Manuela for arranging our online Masses each day. We have 250 people signed up for this and for nightly Rosary.  
*Fr Peter and Sr Manuela*

"May God have mercy on us and put an end to this pandemic, as well as the pandemics of hunger, war, children without an education.

*Kindness is a language the blind can see and the deaf can hear.*



## Please Remember in Your Prayers

**Recent Deaths:** Clarrie Chaston

**Anniversaries:** Anna Facchin, Murray Lloyd, John Baldas, Max Robertson, Terry Vincent, Max Shalders, Sharon Aron

**Sick:** Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, Pat Craig, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Sr Tirsa Bale, Laurie Manserra, Heather Healy

**Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 53821155**

### Livestreaming of Mass at SMJ Church:

For those on Facebook, who would like to watch Mass at SMJ Church online: A group page, set up by Sr Manuela, titled “**Eucharistic Group**”, which Parishioners are free to join. Click on the magnifying glass symbol at the top of your Facebook home page, type in “Eucharistic Group” into the search bar, tap the magnifying glass symbol again to search, and in the results you shall find one with the image above, tap into it and once loaded click ‘Join’ to see posts and receive updates.



**Finances:** Thank you for those who have dropped in envelopes or who have gone online to our BSB or CDF Accounts for Planned Giving Program, Presbytery, Project Compassion, and Easter Dues. In these difficult times, with so many not having an income, anything you can give to any of these Collections, is gratefully received. You can drop Envelopes or money into the **Parish Office** anytime: open Monday to Friday **8.30am to 12.30**

#### Collections

**Presbytery: \$205.00**

**PG - Envelopes: \$960.00**

**PG - Direct Debit: \$1950.00**

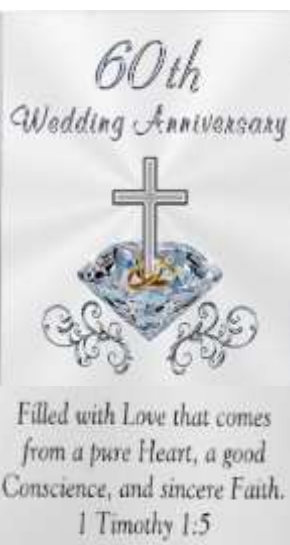
**PG - Credit Card: \$2549.17**

**Loose: \$600.00**

If you wish to give via our Parish BSB Account :  
BSB: 083 680 Account: 515830337

REF: Your Envelope number/surname or put “Presbytery” for the plate collection.

# THANK YOU



**On May 21st 1960,**

*Bob & Tess Hayes  
George & Mary Herd  
Bill & Ivy McGrath  
celebrated their Weddings.*

*We congratulate and pray for them and their families, as we cherish our memories of Bill and Ivy with their family.*

*Prayerful best wishes and congratulations to you all on your 60th Wedding Anniversaries*

## To help you pray Mass on 6th Sunday Easter Yr A:

### Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

### Collect

Let us pray. Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do.

### Prayer over the Offerings

May our prayers rise up to you, O God, together with our offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your almighty love and peace.

### Preface (Easter V)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. By the offering of his Body, Jesus brought the sacrifices of old to fulfilment in the reality of the Cross and, by commending himself to you for our salvation, showed himself the Priest, the Altar, and the Lamb of sacrifice. Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, people rejoice in your praise with the heavenly Powers, and angelic hosts, proclaim your glory..

### Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Almighty ever-living God, You restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts your strength

### Prayers of Intercession

We are united in prayer in the promise of Jesus to give us another Advocate, the Holy Spirit, as a source of constant joy for us and Divine strength in time of difficulties, as we seek the prayerful support of Mary our Mother, Health of the Sick and our Perpetual Help.

In union with Pope Francis, who seeks the help of Mary during this pandemic, we ask God to deliver the world from this virus and the anxiety it is generating.

That in his saving Mercy, God will rescue our world from danger, and restore to the human family a sense of unity, so that we become a gentle and compassionate people. That all who face financial stress at this time, those who have lost employment, or have no money for food and shelter, and for charities which seek to give them support, that governments and communities will work together to relieve this suffering.

For Christians everywhere, loved by the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, that they will keep the commandment of love.

We pray for each other living in these difficult times, that we will witness to our hope with courtesy and respect and a clear conscience.

We pray for all whose lives are lived on the brink of despair because of the coronavirus pandemic, or war and persecution, or trapped in refugee camps, that God's Spirit will sustain them and reveal God's tender embrace. We pray that as Jesus who was raised to life he will now lead to God those who have died in recent times, those isolated from the people they love the most, and those who were longing for the comfort of the Sacraments. We also remember . . .

Heavenly Father, you have always been mindful of the needs of your people and heard the cry of the poor. Reject not our prayers at this time, do not withhold your love, but let us sing your praises with joy, as we put all our trust in you.



### Links to Mass online:

**St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne:** The 1.00pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) and is then available as a recording on-demand until one hour prior to the next Mass. Sunday Mass with the 11.00am Mass live streamed and it is also available as a recording on-demand. <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

**Pope Francis' daily Mass:** Pope Francis' daily Masses are available online through the Vatican's website and YouTube channel. Watch here

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta.pagelist.html> or [shalomworld.org/dailymass](http://shalomworld.org/dailymass)

**Mass for You at Home:** This program allows the faithful to participate Mass for You at Home is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel daily. <http://www.mfyah.com/video.html> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>



### **National Volunteers Week May 18-24, 2020**

**Thank you to all who volunteer their time,**

**talents and energy to serving in our Parish, Church and Community**

*'Volunteering is time willingly given for the common good and without financial gain.'*



### **Today is the 54th World Communications Day:**

Pope Paul VI established this event to recognise that the media provided many avenues by which the Church could engage with society. For this year's celebration, Pope Francis has highlighted the role of stories and storytelling. "Human beings are storytellers. From childhood we hunger for stories just as we hunger for food. Stories influence our lives. Often we decide what is right or wrong based on characters and stories we have made our own. I believe that, so as not to lose our bearings, we need to make our own the truth contained in good stories. Stories that build up, not tear down; stories that help us rediscover our roots and the strength needed to move forward together."

**90** Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to DOM GASPARINI on his 90th birthday today Sunday May 17th.



Prayerful best wishes to Pat and Laurie Williams on their 50th Wedding anniversary at this time.

### **Ballarat Diocese E-Newsletter and ODC**

Staying connected to each other in our faith communities is now more important than ever. The latest edition of ODC and eNews are now online: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) under "News & Events"

Our fellow Parishioners are offering help with getting groceries, prescriptions/medications and other essential errands; to vulnerable members of our community, such as those who are sick and/or are elderly and homebound. If you need assistance please contact our Parish Office at 53821155, or **Courtney Ramsey 0428 274 018.**

### **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 trust in your healing touch. Bless **caregivers**, as channels of your love, they are your hands on earth. Give them gentleness, give them respect for the sick in their dignity and value to You. Give them 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, to love and understand, 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 elderly, sick, in Homes or in Hospital.

### **Taking Place This Week**

May 16th: World Day of Living Together in Peace

May 17th: World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

May 20th: Auto-Immune Arthritis Day and Refugee Day

May 21st: World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

May 22nd: Biological Diversity Day.

*You can go OnLine to find each of these Topics.*



### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Our Parish rejoices as we prepare for Reception into the Fullness of the Church our RCIA Candidates:

Robert Fry, Maryann & Julia Kardogeros, Maricel Mahmood, Vince, Lance & Lander Rosello.  
*Please pray for our candidates.*

### **Parish Pastoral Council Members:**

Chris Roberts (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 & Tirsia.

**Child Safety Standards.** St Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett and Jill McGennisken** as our Safeguarding Officers. 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 and vulnerable adults in the Parish.

Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish.

**First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20**

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.  
Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! 'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might. Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me.  
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18**

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation: cf John 14:18**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 14:15-21**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave your orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

**Gospel Reflection 5th Easter Yr A Veronica Lawson rsm:**

Those who defend themselves in court run the risk of being outsmarted by clever and sometimes unscrupulous adversaries. It is never a good idea to be too self-reliant even in a country with a basically sound legal system such as ours. Today's gospel implies that the disciples need a defense attorney or lawyer. Jesus has acted in that capacity for them in their struggles with the anti-gospel forces arrayed against them. Now he is close to death and he gives them instructions that begin and end with reference to loving him and keeping his commandments. Jesus has given them a new commandment, namely that they love one another: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (13:34). Later in this discourse (15:12-14) the reader of the gospel learns what the actors in the drama already know about Jesus' commandments. "This is my commandment," says Jesus, "that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you." This is no small demand, to be prepared to die for one another. Given the opposition they are likely to face, the disciples cannot live out such a commitment on their own. Neither is Jesus leaving them "orphans" who have to fend for themselves. He will ask his "Father" to

provide "another" defender or advocate who will act on their behalf, an advocate who will always be there. This new advocate is the "Spirit of truth". As we approach the end of the Easter season, the liturgy thus points us towards Pentecost and the gift of God's Spirit. It is good to know we are never on our own. It is also good to reflect on the capacity we have for love. Many of us will never find ourselves in a situation where our love is tested to the point that we have to die for another. Since the outbreak of the present pandemic, however, we do not have the look far to find countless people doing just that. Health professionals, cleaners, truck drivers, flight attendants, shop assistants, school teachers, lecturers, ordinary people everywhere are laying down their lives for the sake of others. They are truly our friends. The gospel calls us to put the well-being of others, even their survival, before our own comfort. With the life-style changes that will inevitably come sooner rather than later, we may all find ourselves "laying down our lives" in various ways for the sake of our friends, across the planet. We can, despite opposition, continue to advocate for climate action, for the rights of detainees and prisoners and for those displaced by war or persecution. With the help of the Spirit, our Advocate, we can surely rise to the challenge.

**Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Next Sunday May 24th is the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. This day begins a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, leading up to the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday May 31st. *Prayer resources for Christian Unity week will be on line.*

**Pope Francis Prayer for Spiritual Communion:**

*"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never let me be separated from You."*

**Enrolments for 2021** are now open for SMJ, OLHC, SBC, St Patrick's Nhill. Information Packs are available from each of the Schools or online. Each School also has their own Facebook Page.