

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill



BULLETIN

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time –17th February 2019



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
Phone: 5382 1155. Fax: 5382 3016
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
Acting Principal: Cathy Grace
Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children in Grade 3 and above is in Term 1.

Parent Information Night on Tuesday February 26th at 7pm in the Parish Centre

The Sacrament will be celebrated on Wednesday March 27th from 5 to 6pm, and Thursday March 28th: 5pm to 6pm, 7pm to 8pm.

Eucharist and Confirmation Masses
June 15 & 16, 22 & 23.



SBC Opening Mass and Induction of Leaders
tomorrow Monday February 18th at 9.30am in SMJ Church.

OLHC Murtoa Opening Mass at 12nn on Tuesday February 26th in St Mary's Church.

St Patrick's Nhill Opening Mass today Sunday February 17th at 10am

ASH WEDNESDAY is March 6th.

We have Parish Gatherings to help you to put forward your thoughts on the way forward for the Church in Australia with the Plenary Council.

Everything will be recorded and submitted.

These Gatherings are in the Parish Centre this week:

Tuesday 19th February at 7pm

Thursday February 21st at 2pm

Lesley Price will facilitate these Gatherings.

Lesley will speak on these Gatherings at the Horsham Masses this weekend

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 when they experience pain, their source of hope in moments of despair, sorrow, woundedness, their solace and inspiration 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 healing 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 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. 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.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting this Thursday February 21st at 5.30pm

Please have your Reports into Anita by Wednesday morning.

Men's Breakfast this Thursday February 21st from 7.30 to 8.30am in the Parish Centre

All men in the Parish, with their sons, and single men, are welcome for chat, prayer, breakfast.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 19th Feb	2pm	Funeral Mass for Brian O'Loughlin
Wednesday 20th Feb	9.30am	SMJ Yrs 5 & 6 attend 9.30 Mass
Thursday 21st Feb	9.30am	St Peter Damian
Friday 22nd Feb	9.30am	The Chair of St Peter
Saturday 23rd Feb	10am	St Polycarp

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: Brian O'Loughlin, Jean Murray,

ANNIVERSARIES: Brian Tobin, Peter Oakley, Jose Alipar, Tony Uytdehaag, Eileen Moroney, Melissa Jane Coutts, Dorothy Shalders.

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joan Glen, Debbie Nolan, Ken Dowsley, Una Bartlett, Cathy Mintern, Fleur Armstrong, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Rosetta Cafarella, Betty Fitzgerald, Heather McPhee, Maurice Brennan, Sr Geraldine Stapleton, Rachel O'Connor, Maree Frew, John McNamara, Garry Isbel,

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

Confessions on Saturday after 10am Mass (10.25)

Each Saturday Morning:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20
Rosary 9.30. Prayer of the Church 9.40. Mass 10am

Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 24th February 2018

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

Natimuk **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 11.30am**

Nhill **Sunday Mass 10.00am**

Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
HORSHAM 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. 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30pm.
For appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

Affordable Counselling from Centacare Ballarat, for families, individuals. **Free Call** 1300 303 988 for appointment

Wednesday February 20th is

World Social Justice Day

Its underlying principle is for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and

among nations. This day advances and upholds the principles of social justice, to promote peoples' religion, culture, gender, age, race, ethnicity or disability, and removes barriers that people face because of these. The United Nations pursuit of social justice for all is the core of their global mission - to promote development and human dignity, and focus on guaranteeing fair outcomes for all through employment, social protection, social dialogue, fundamental principles and rights at work.

ROSTERS

16/17 Feb	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Emelia Sudholz	Angela Murphy
23/24 Feb	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	John Parker	Michael Connellan
Commentator	Anthony Amor	Shayne Keenan
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Tirsia Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitiz	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Teresa Bottoms
Welcomers	Pat Williams Gary Coutts	Helene Bush Marina Manserra
Prayers	Alison McKinnon & Anna Robertson	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	24th February Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan	3rd March Pauline Barber Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Kate Hermon-Spasic

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Rupanyup	\$ 50.00	Murtoa	\$ 75.00
Horsham	\$ 1182.00	Dimboola	\$ 49.00
Total			\$ 1214.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 3913.00	Loose	\$ 53.15
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 3966.15

Making Connections: Remember a time of difficulty or suffering in your own life. Was there a blessing for you hidden in that experience? How and when did you come to realise the blessing born of pain?

Exploring the Word: Luke is interested in the lived experience of those who are literally poor, hungry, suffering. They were the ones who were persecuted under the status quo of their day, and it was they who had an openness to the new order announced by Jesus' preaching of the kingdom. The powerful, who directed the established order of the day, could not bear such a challenge to their own position and thus they will 'drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal' for preaching the new order of God's kingdom.

Living the Word: Pray for the poor, the hungry and the suffering of the world, name the places where these may live.

Daily Prayer: Not from on high do you summon us, O God, to tasks beyond our power. But through Jesus, you come into our midst with promises of blessing and warnings of woe. Shield us from the false security of possessions and privilege. Fix our hearts instead on the blessings promised those who trust in you alone.

Marriage Tip: Marriage responds to the deepest longings of the heart for love. How will you show your spouse love today?

Vocational View: Try not to pray for an easy life; rather, pray to be a strong person. Strong in trust, hope, care, love. Follow the Master.

Country Mass Times:

Feb 24th: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola **11.30**
Nhill 10am

March 3: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
Kaniva 11.30am

March 10: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.

Plenary Council 2020 - Listening and Dialogue Encounters

Everyone is invited to participate in the Listening and Dialogue process to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda.

Information Cards are available in the Foyer, and more information on the Diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

All of us are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"

Questions for individuals or groups:

1. What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?
2. What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?
3. Do you have a story of your experience of faith, or the Church you would like to share?

We have Parish Gatherings to help you to put forward your thoughts on the way forward for the Church in Australia with the Plenary Council. Everything will be recorded and submitted.

**These Gatherings are in the Parish Centre on
Tuesday 19th February at 7pm
Thursday February 21st at 2pm
Lesley Price will lead these Gatherings.**

Responses need to be submitted by Ash Wednesday, March 6th, at www.plenarycouncil.org.au

CATERING MEETING

A meeting of all involved in Funeral Catering on **Wednesday February 27 in the Church Meeting Room at 2pm.**

Re: Changes already made to roster. Please try to attend, there are no positions to be filled.

Thank you. Betty Heinrich

Ash Wednesday Masses.

Tuesday 5th: Horsham 5.30. Dimboola **6.30pm.**

Wednesday 6th: Horsham 9.30. Murtoa 11am.

SBC Liturgy 12.20 in Gym. Nhill 2pm. Horsham 5.30

Ashes blessed and given at each Mass, Liturgy

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

World Day of Prayer Friday March 1st.

Peace which the world cannot give is calling you!

Our parish Christian Meditation meeting has restarted for 2019 in the Church Meeting Room from 2 to 3pm

Our Horsham CWL celebrates 90 years in 2019



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

The St Vinnies Retail Shop in David Street, Horsham desperately require volunteers to sort and price in the store.

The shop is open 7 days a week. Interested people must be over the age of 15 years. If interested please contact the store on 53824003. You will be required to

fill out an application form, have a Working with Children's Check and a Police Check.

Our Parishes are the Heartbeat of the Church!

At the heart of our parishes is our connection as people of faith. As a lead into our Plenary Council Gatherings, we ask you to reflect on the importance of faith in your life. Is your faith the foundation of who you are? Does it drive the way you choose to live your life? We also ask you to re-affirm the importance of Sunday Mass – the celebration of the Eucharist - where we come together to celebrate the Eucharist – it is not a private or anonymous experience. The communal celebration of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass provides essential nourishment for our journey through life. Pope Francis said: *"The Eucharist is the summit of God's saving action: the Lord Jesus, by becoming bread broken for us, pours upon us all of His mercy and His love, so as to renew our hearts, our lives, and our way of relating with Him and with each other. From this Sacrament of love...flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness."*

We ask you to commit to growing in faith – to take the opportunities available in your parish to develop a mature understanding of our faith. Join us on the journey...

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad?

Know that God is with you all the time, the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

*The first Men's Breakfast for 2019 is Thursday 21st

* SBC SAC Meeting this Wednesday 20th at 7pm

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, Anita Masiero (Sec)

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

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 1:1-4

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields

its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people. But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

**Gospel Reflection – 6th Sunday Yr C
Veronica Lawson rsm**

We are unlikely to consider ourselves blessed or happy when we cannot pay our bills or put food on the table, when we find ourselves in tears or when we are excluded, rejected, and treated with contempt. We are more likely to consider ourselves blessed when we do not have to be constantly worried about money or food and when others treat us with respect. So why does Luke's Jesus declare the poor and suffering happy or blessed? And why does he seem to be so hard on those who enjoy economic security and the respect of others? What does the gospel say to those of us who are somewhere between the destitute who are declared blessed and the wealthy who are told to watch out? What does this gospel offer to those who attract neither praise nor blame? There

are no easy answers to any of this, beyond the clear evidence that Luke's Sermon on the Plain engages the theme of reversal that permeates this gospel. The poor are told that the reign of God is theirs. In others words, it is a present rather than a future reality. The poor can at least know that they are acceptable to God in ways that are incomprehensible to the wealthy who, in their turn, are challenged to share their wealth. It is not much consolation for the hungry or those who weep to know that their "reward will be great in heaven" if heaven is a place enjoyed only in the afterlife. "Heaven" is better understood when talking about a God of justice and compassion. Reversal is expected in this life rather than the next. Weeping is usually connected in the prophetic literature with the disasters that flow from "ungodly" decisions. In our times, there are many weeping over

"ungodly" decisions in relation to asylum seekers and carbon emissions. Laughter seems a remote possibility for many displaced people of our world. Today the gospel imperative is to work and pray that war-torn and climate affected countries will once again resonate with the sound of happy laughter. Finally, our experience makes us wary of those who flatter us or put us on pedestals. It is generally only a matter of time before we fall from favour and find ourselves on the receiving end of criticism or even attack. It is better to be misunderstood and to be at peace with one's conscience in the pursuit of compassion and justice than to be the object of adulation and praise. It is only in handling life's challenges with dignity, grace, and single-minded focus on the gospel that we find blessing or happiness.

Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those

from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.' Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

**SMJ Family Catch-up
TODAY Sunday from 11:45
All Families welcome to
the Botanical Gardens for
a BYO Lunch and catch-up
after 10:30am Mass.
To share a meal together,
catch up, and let the kids hang
out in the park.
Please invite your friends.
Contact: Rebekah Rowe
0434 913 189**