

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

The Nativity of St John the Baptist - 24th June 2018



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400
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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
Principal: Cathy Grace
Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John. Fr John will be here from Thursday to Wednesday July 4th. Fr Peter is leading Spirituality days in Perth.

We pray for a safe and blessed School holidays as Term 2 finishes this Friday. Safe travelling for those going away. We pray for VCE students in their studies these weeks

I am pleased to announce that Cathy Grace has been appointed Principal of OLHC School Murtoa. We pray for and congratulate Cathy

Today Sunday June 24th, is the Feast of St John the Baptist. We welcome SMJ School as they lead our Ministries at 10.30am Mass.

Today is the Feastday of the Baptistine Sisters. During 10.30am Mass Sisters Tirsa and Manuela will renew their Religious Vows.

We invite you to stay after Mass for a cuppa and to congratulate the Sisters.

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From the Parish Council Meeting:

◆ A timetable for Bishop Paul Bird's Visitation to our Parish from August 24th to 27th will be drawn up for him to meet Groups and see as many people as possible

◆ Our Parish Response to the Plenary Council preparations will be to hold Groups in October, similar to our Lenten Groups, where Parishioners can meet, pray and share their hopes, dreams, fears around a booklet prepared for Groups.

◆ Our Parish will start negotiations with the Bishop, and Warracknabeal and Hopetoun Parishes, to prepare for a Horsham-Nhill-Warracknabeal-Hopetoun Ministry District to be in place by June 2020. We will follow a format used by Swan Hill, Donald and Hamilton Parishes for their new Districts.

◆ New Digital Projectors and Screens for clearer presentations in SMJ Church will arrive this week and be installed by Hoppers.

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BBI eConference: *Synodality in Practice Listening to the Spirit and Leading Change.* The 14th National eConference will focus on engaging communities around Australia in a discussion around the future vision and direction for the Catholic Church in this country. **On Wednesday, August 8th from 10.00am - 3.00pm.** All are welcome to attend.

PRAYER : SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust the sick to your loving care. We pray your blessings upon those who care in their own homes, those who work in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain, their source of hope in times of despair, sorrow, woundedness. Be their inspiration and solace when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them with the courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and your 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. Give them patience as they manage their time, to best serve those who are in need of their care. Give them courage 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, to walk with the sick in pain and sadness. Bless the **ministry** of those who take Holy Communion to the sick, elderly, and those in Homes and in Hospital.



CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

7pm to 8pm.

All welcome every Monday
Now moved to
16 George

Street, Horsham during the winter months.

Eileen McManus 5382 4745

A time of prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom to guide our Church to the Plenary Council

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 26th June	5.30pm	Jean Carracher anniv. Pauline O'Connor anniv
Wednesday 27 June	9.30am	Francisco See Yung Hui anniv
Thursday 28th June	9.30am	St Irenaeus. SMJ Yrs 1/2 attend 9.30 Mass
Friday 29th June	9.30am	Sts Peter & Paul. Ellie Mooring, Sharan Keating ann
Saturday 30th June	10.00a	First Martyrs of the Church in Rome

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: Maureen Delahunty, Dawn Conroy

ANNIVERSARIES: Pauline O'Connor, Molly Whiley, Harry Perrett, Ellie Mooring, Sharan Keating, Peg Byrne, Lucy O'Neill, Betty Walsh, Sharon & David Sinn, Elena Rossi, George Jovarovich, Francisco See Yung Hui,

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Jean Ivess, Joan Glen Debbie Nolan, Lorrain Holland, Ken Dowsley, Felicity Taylor, Fleur Armstrong, Peter Kelly, Una Bartlett, Heather McPhee, Maurice Brennan, Sr Geraldine Stapleton, Kobe Davidson, Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Rosetta Cafarella, Carmel Herson, Betty Fitzgerald, Bill McGrath

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

Saturday Devotions: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9am. Rosary 9.20. Morning Prayer of the Church. Mass 10am. CONFESSIONS 10.25am

**Next Sunday 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4th Sunday of the Month 1st July**

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

Dimboola **Sunday AWC 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

**Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
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

Craft Group Every Monday - Parish Meeting Room. Mornings - 9.30 - 11.30 Evening - *Contact the Parish Office* - BYO Craft - Gold Coin Donation.

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.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Group meets in Winter at Eileen's home, 16 George St, every Monday from 7pm - 8pm. For further information contact Eileen McManus on 5382 4745

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

◆ Maureen Delahunty Funeral Mass at Murtoa on Monday at 11am. Rosary tonight Sunday at Murtoa 6pm

◆ **Available today in the Foyer** is a letter from Bishop Paul on the Response of our Diocese to the directives of the Royal Commission and the Redress Scheme on The Safe Guarding of Children.

◆ SMJ Foundation Class Liturgy this Wednesday 12.15

Interested in learning more about
the Catholic faith?

We invite inquiries from those interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith. The RCIA is the program that guides this journey. If interested or if you

know someone who is interested, please see Fr Peter, Leslie Price, Sr Manuela. The Program will begin in August

ROSTERS

23/24 June	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Anthony Amor Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Joan Parker Cathy Taylor	Kingsley Dagleish Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Anna Robertson Andrea Cox Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Kevin Dunn	SMJ School
30 June/1 July	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Garry Heinrich	Michael Connellan
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	Bob Pritchett
Eucharistic Ministers	Peter Gutteridge Sr Jacinta Rice Sr Tirsa Bale Micky Robarts Maree Plazzer Bernadette Trounce Anne Newton	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dagleish Sr Manuela Zita Cannane
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Choir
Welcomers	Gary Coutts Pat Williams	Alistair Castle Sharon Creasey
Children's Liturgy		
Prayers	Mary Brown & Anita Masiero	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	1st July Carolyn Boseley Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Anna Carberry	8th July Pauline Barber Pat Williams Louise Guest Kate Herson-Spasic
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):		
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa \$ 87.00
Horsham	\$ 694.00	Dimboola \$ 89.00
Total		\$ 870.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)		
Envelopes	\$ 2610.00	Loose \$ 53.80
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$ 480.00
Total		\$ 3143.80

Living the Word: In Luke's Gospel the annunciation and birth of the Baptist is paralleled with the annunciation and birth of Christ. In both cases, Luke goes to great pains to stress that the parents of both children are faithful Jews who follow all the commandments and observations of their faith. Zechariah's doubt is sharply contrasted with Mary's absolute and unquestioning willingness to cooperate in God's plan for the salvation of the world.

Daily Prayer: God of the covenant, whose promises can never fail, in every age you place your words on the lips of the prophets and a thirst for justice in the hearts of your people. As we celebrate the birth of John the Baptist, preacher of your word and herald of the Savior, challenge us with the conversion John proclaimed and comfort us with the salvation he announced.

Marriage Tip: Why" questions are fine for inquisitive minds but can be an obstacle during marital arguments. Why? It can sound accusatory. "Why did you do that?" "Why don't you just..." Be careful of "Why" questions disguised as innocent queries.

Vocational View: Wealth does not buy happiness: but neither does poverty. Depending upon the Lord can give us true security and happiness. We are looking for people to proclaim that even the wind and sea obey this man who brings calmness to life and direction to living.

COUNTRY MASS TIMES:

Sunday July 1: Murtoa Mass 8.30. Dimboola AWC 8.30
Sunday July 8: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am
Sunday Jul 15: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am
Sunday Jul 22: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Dimboola AWC 8.30
Murtoa AWC 9am.
Sunday Jul 29: Murtoa Mass 8.30. Dimboola AWC 8.30
Sunday Aug 5: Dimboola Mass 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am.

Fr John will be on holidays and helping in Stawell from July 20th to September 20th. Our Country Mass Times and AWC will be printed on the Bulletin each week. Fr Damian is still coming on 2nd weekend



St Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal

Envelopes available at the Piety Store in the Church for donations. This year we have had 80 calls for assistance from people in distress - this takes many forms,

eg: financial, homelessness, with requests for help with bills, medication and food.

We welcome donations of quality clean clothing, clean second-hand fridges, washing machines (in working order). Donations can be left at the Centre or call 5382 4003. *Pat Strachan President.* **Donations of non-perishable food can be left in the Church at any time.**

◆ *Food donations at Gifting Mass totalled 1959, amounting to \$4950, thank you Schools. In the envelopes provided over \$300 received, thank you*



Next Sunday, July 1st, is National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday.

The NATSICC Logo depicts a willy willy, the wind force in the centre a symbol of God's Spirit. The round concentric circles at the top symbolize God and Life,

the base depicts men and women receiving the Holy Spirit. The logo was designed by Mrs Olive Boddington, from Western Australia.



Joy+ Youth Festivals!

The Ballarat Diocese is holding three Sunday Festivals called **Joy+** for youth and young adults 15 to 30
Sunday 5th August in Robinvale,
Sunday 2nd September in Warrnambool West,
Sunday 25th November in Ballarat

Free! With Genevieve Bryant and band, Mass, workshop, worship, food and friends

This is an initiative for the **Year of Youth - Opening New Horizons for Spreading Joy!**
Info and rego on: youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

• 50 students from SBC will join other Secondary Students in Ballarat on July 27 for a Year of Youth Schools Festival at Federation University.

The Australian Bishops say to us EVERYTHING IS ON THE TABLE as we discern and pray for the needs of our Church, what we keep, what we need to change or adapt



Plenary Council 2020

'Listen to what the Spirit is saying...' Mt 22

The role of the 2020 Plenary Council is to provide for the pastoral needs of us and our Church in Australia and how we can fulfil our mission of sharing the good news of Christ with all ages, backgrounds etc.

The Plenary Council website for more information: plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

'The Staging Post'

A documentary film by Jolyon Hoff following the experience of two Afghan Hazara refugees, Muzafa and Khadim. Jolyon, Muzafa and Khadim will be in attendance. 7.30pm Friday, 29th June. Marian College, Barkly Street, Ararat
Cost \$10 (supper included) All proceeds to Refugee Support Groups in Melbourne. Ph 0427 762 582 for information
Grampians-Gerwerd Branch of Rural Australians for Refugees

FAITH ON TAP

in the Victoria Hotel Beer Garden
Monday July 2nd. 7pm meal,
talk 7.30. Speaker will be

Fr Paul Chandler from Melbourne

We talk all things faith, theology and living as a Christian in our society.

**Contact James and Ema-Lee Rowe
0431053345**

All over 18yo are welcome.



Corpus Christi College Seminary Raffle 2018

There are 6,000 tickets. **Each ticket is \$10**
The Raffle supports vocations to the priesthood

Prizes: 1st. \$15,000 Travel thanks to Ashmore and James Travel Associates.

2nd: \$500 gift voucher from The Good Guys

3rd: \$200 gift voucher from The Good Guys.

4th: \$100 gift voucher from The Good Guys

(Prizes are valid until August 2019)

TICKET ORDER FORMS ARE IN CHURCH FOYERS

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

Child Safety Standards. Bob Pritchett is our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** for the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** exists for all who work with children in the Parish. Our Parish is always child safe.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.' I said, 'Ah, Lord; look, I do not know how to speak: I am a child!' But the Lord replied, 'Do not say, "I am a child." Go now to those to whom I send you and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to protect you—it is the Lord who speaks!' Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me: 'There! I am putting my words into your mouth. Look, today I am setting you over nations and over kingdoms, to tear up and to knock down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17

Since my mother's womb, you have been my strength.
In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from my mother's womb you have

been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still.

Since my mother's womb, you have been my strength.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:8-12

You did not see Jesus Christ, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls. It was this salvation that the prophets were looking and searching so hard for; their prophecies were about the grace which was to come to you.

The Spirit of Christ which was in them foretold the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would come after them, and they tried to find out at what time and in what circumstances all this was to be expected. It was revealed to them that the news they brought of all the things which have now been announced to you, by those who preached to you the Good News through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, was for you and not for themselves. Even the angels long to catch a glimpse of these things.

Acclamation: cf John 1:7; Luke 1:17
Alleluia, alleluia! He came to bear witness to the light, to prepare an upright people for the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:5-17

In the days of King Herod of Judaea there lived a priest called Zechariah who belonged to the Abijah section of the priesthood, and he had a wife, Elizabeth by name, who was a descendant of Aaron. Both were worthy in the sight of God, and scrupulously observed all the commandments and observances of the Lord. But they were childless: Elizabeth was barren and they were both getting on in years. Now it was the turn of Zechariah's section to serve, and he was exercising his priestly office before God when it fell to him by lot, as the ritual custom was, to enter the Lord's sanctuary and burn incense there. And at the hour of incense the whole congregation was outside, praying. Then there appeared to him the angel of the Lord, standing on the right of the altar of incense. The sight disturbed Zechariah and he was overcome with fear. But the angel said to him, 'Zechariah, do not be afraid, your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth is to bear you a son and you must name him John. He will be your joy and delight and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord; he must drink no wine, no strong drink. Even from his mother's womb he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, and he will bring back many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah, he will go before him to turn the hearts of fathers towards their children, the disobedient back to the wisdom the virtuous have, preparing for the Lord a people fit for him.'

Gospel Reflection. Nativity of St John the Baptist Yr B - Veronica Lawson

Today's gospel is a good news story. Most of us respond with joy to the birth of a child, especially when the odds are stacked against the parents conceiving. As the child grows to maturity, friends and family might look back and interpret later achievements in the light of childhood expectation and promise. Stories of birth and childhood are often told in the light of later events. The story of the birth of John the Baptizer is told with hindsight and against the background of Jewish expectations. The gospel writers reflect on the role John played in recognising the significance of Jesus of Nazareth and in pointing to Jesus as the unique prophet of God's empire over against the Roman Empire. Luke is the only gospel writer to reflect on John's "pre-history" and to hint that his birth belonged within the biblical

tradition of the "wondrous" births of remarkable people. He interprets the birth of John as an expression of God's "great mercy". Luke narrates the childhood story of John in parallel and in relationship with the story of the child Jesus, whose identity and mission represent the ultimate revelation of Israel's God. Luke uses the language of fulfilment: "the time came" [for Elizabeth to give birth] is literally "the time was fulfilled". The birth of this child is a time of the fulfilment of God's word, as previously announced by the angel Gabriel to his father Zechariah (Luke 1:13- 17). Zechariah had been told not to fear, for his wife Elizabeth would give birth to a son and "you will name him John". Joy and gladness would be the response to the birth of this child who was to be "filled with Holy Spirit even before his birth". John's destiny was "to make ready a people". Jesus, the one

for whom John is "preparing the way" will later refer to him as "a prophet" and "more than a prophet" (Luke 7:27). Zechariah, who refuses to believe that he and Elizabeth will have a child in their advanced years, is told that he will be mute "until the day these things occur" which encompass the birth of the child, the joy-filled response of the faith community and the naming of the child eight days after birth. John's name, meaning "YHWH (the God of Israel) has shown grace", foreshadows the extraordinary mark that this child, the son of Elizabeth and Zechariah, will make on his world and consequently on ours. Like John, we are called to "make ready a people", to prepare the way for Australian Catholics to participation in the forthcoming Plenary Council preparations might be a fitting way to celebrate this feast.

Next Week's Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come

and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him. Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she had spent all she had without being any the better for it, in

fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch his clothes,' she had told herself 'I will be well again.' The source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone