



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup -

BULLETIN

6th Sunday of Easter – 26th May 2019



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 and thank
Fr Bill Melican with us
this weekend.

The Diocesan Mass Count
concludes this weekend
Collectors please take the
count at each Mass or
AWC and please fill out the
sheets in the Sacristy, with
numbers at Mass.



We welcome to the

Family of God in

Baptism today

Milla Jenna Seers

daughter of

Andrew and Jenna

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion Mass Times:

Saturday June 15th: 6.30pm Mass.

Sunday June 16th: 10.30am Mass.

Saturday June 22nd: 6.30pm Mass.

Sunday June 23rd: 10.30am Mass.



Catholic Education Week 2019

May 26th to 31st.

The theme is

Listen with the Ear of Your Heart.

St Benedict told his monks to
“Listen by inclining the ear of your
heart.” His poetic language asks us to
listen, not just with our ears, but with
our hearts to all that comes our way.
While we might hear the words with
our actual ears, with our hearts we can
deeply reflect, discern, and take
action if necessary.

Catholic Education Week Mass in SMJ Church this Monday May 27th at 11.30am.

SBC, SMJ, OLHC, St Patrick's Nhill
will attend.

There will be lunch for the children and
Staff in SMJ School grounds after Mass.

All families are welcome.

The Winter Edition of Australian Catholics is in the Foyers for you to take

Our children for the Sacraments of
Confirmation and Eucharist will be
presented to us at SMJ Masses next
Saturday and Sunday

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, their source of hope in times 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
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 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.

The Parish Magazine The Fisherman

will be printed for Pentecost.

We welcome articles,
photos, poetry from
Parishioners.

Please have these into Anita
at the Office by Wednesday
June 5th

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



WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 28 May	5.30pm	Ray Reinsma, Pauline O'Connor, Norma Hickey annivs.
Wednesday 29 Ma	9.30am	SMJ Lillie Walker's Yrs 3/4 will attend.
Thursday 30 May	9.30am	Volunteers. St Joan of Arc.
Friday 31st May	1.30pm	Joan Vincent Funeral Mass. Visitation of the Mary
Saturday 1 June	10am	St Justin. Theo Buwalda, Michael Kierce

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS: Joan Vincent, Cecile Close, Darrel Prigg, Lang Dean (Ballarat).

ANNIVERSARIES: Norma Hickey, Ray Reinsma, Brian Dunn, Pauline O'Connor, Theo Buwalda, Patrick Murphy, Michael Kierce, Sharon Aron, Martin Ryan

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Debbie Nolan, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Betty Fitzgerald, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Rachel O'Connor, Shilpa Joe Sr Geraldine Stapleton, John McNamara, Owen Duncan.

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

**Next Sunday 1st Sunday of the Month
The Ascension of the Lord 2nd June 2019**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday AWC 8.30am**

**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. 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30pm. For appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.



**National
Volunteers
Week
May 20-26**

**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.'*

Sharing the Tradition: The situation of the church has changed again and again through its 2000-year history. In the beginning were periods of persecution and violence; these gave way to a settled period and gradual growth. The church has enjoyed times of strong political support and political power, and times, like now, of threat and decline. At times it has engaged in war to safeguard its position of dominance, and it has distanced itself from political power at other times. The ebbs and flows of the church's understanding of itself and its role in the world are fascinating. Vatican II spoke of how God, who spoke in the past, 'continues to converse' with the church (Dei Verbum §8). Through the Plenary Council 2020, the Catholic Church in Australia hopes to enter more intensely into that divine-human dialogue. What are the challenges facing the church today, and where do you think the guidance of the Spirit is needed now?

ROSTERS

25/26 May	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Geoff Simpson Tess Hayes Micky Robarts Cathy Taylor John Parker	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Anthony Amor	Anna Robertson
1st/2nd June	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Peter Gutteridge	Angela Murphy
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Dianne Noy
Eucharistic Ministers	Peter Gutteridge Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Robert Sartori
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Pat Williams Gary Coutts	Marina Manserra Zita Cannane
Prayers	Lesley Price & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	2nd June Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney	9th June Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 176.00
Horsham	\$ 796.00	Dimboola	\$ 68.00
Total			\$ 1040.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 893.00	Loose	\$ 64.55
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$957.55.

Making Connections: Stand up for someone who may be in need of a defender. Take on the role of an advocate. Alternatively, you could try to bring the gift of peace to someone whose heart is troubled or afraid.

Did You Know?: The meaning of the word advocate is 'one who is summoned to help another' used for the Holy Spirit as Paraclete, a Greek term meaning 'called to the side of'. **Exploring the Word:** Disciples should live out their faith in Jesus' absence: they must keep his word, the word of God. Jesus has promised to send the Advocate or the Holy Spirit, who will continue to unfold the word as the church grows and meets new situations and challenges. In conferring the gift of peace on his disciples, Jesus is preparing them for his absence. This will be a trial for the disciples, but the peace of Christ and the Holy Spirit will help them to understand his return to the Father and to be confident that they too will one day make that journey. In what way do you experience Christ's presence? How do you experience the Spirit in life? **Daily Prayer:** You have promised, O God, to make your home with those who hear your word and put it into practice. Send your Spirit to remind our hearts of all that Jesus has taught us and to make us effective witnesses to your saving plan for all the world. **Marriage Tip:** When talking to your spouse, make your tone and language reflect love. Avoid accusatory or defensive language and use language that lets your spouse know she/he is special. **Vocational View:** It is not that talents add up to a vocation; but rather a Vocation brings talents. The Spirit of God lives within you!

Country Mass Times:

May 26: Natimuk 8.30, Murtoa 8.30, Nhill 10, Dimboola 11.30
June 2: Murtoa Mass 8.30am, Dimboola AWC 8.30.
June 9: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am
June 16: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am
June 23: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am. Dimboola AWC 8.30



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2019 27 MAY - 3 JUNE
GROUNDING in TRUTH
WALK TOGETHER WITH COURAGE

This Sunday marks National Sorry Day, when we remember our country's troubled history with First Nations peoples. It is the start of National Reconciliation Week. The theme of the week this year is, 'Grounded in truth-Walk together with courage'. The campaign this year calls for a comprehensive process of truth-telling about Australia's colonial history - understanding the past so that we can build a future together. In the Gospel reading this week, Jesus tells his disciples, 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him.' There's a challenge there for Jesus' followers, to turn their love for Christ into action to keep Christ's message alive in the world. Reconciliation Week is a reminder that if we are able to keep Christ's word - if we are to make a home with God - then we need to reach out with love to our First Nations peoples.
Michael McVeigh (Australian Catholics Editor)

Next Sunday June 2nd is the Feast of the Ascension. It begins a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, leading up to Pentecost Sunday June 9th.
Prayer resources available next Sunday

We pray for a safe and blessed SMJ Year 6 Camp this week.
We pray for God's blessings on our new Government.



SBC Students are asking you to save the BREAD TAGS from your plastic bread bags, please. You can leave these in the box in the Church marked "Bread Tags". These tags are recycled and made into seeding trays, the proceeds from their sales will help to provide wheelchairs for people in need in South Africa.

ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE
PARENT FORUMS
Your opinion matters to us!


FRI 31 MAY 2019
THU 13 JUNE 2019
DAY & NIGHT FORUMS

We have engaged the services of "Parent Engagement in Learning" consultant Tony Dalton who will facilitate a number of Parent forums regarding the work of our College in the education of your children, an opportunity for parents to speak up about what we, as a school, are achieving but also areas which require improvement.
Dates: Friday 31st May 2019 at either 9.00am, 1.45, 7pm. Tuesday 13th June 2019 at either 9am, 4pm, 7pm

**Ss Michael and John Parish FAITH ON TAP
Monday June 3rd**

in the Beer Garden at the Vic Hotel.

Come for a meal at 7pm, then a talk.

We talk things faith and theology, to help us live as a Christian in our society.

Contact James & Ema-Lee Rowe 0431053345

All over 18yo are welcome

The Victorian legislation on Voluntary Assisted Dying and physician assisted suicide will come into effect in June. Those involved in Catholic health care have been looking at this issue and have made some statements about their approach. St John of God Health Care has issued the Statement below to assist us.

St John of God Health Care does not support assisted suicide or euthanasia.

The full Statement will be in The Fisherman at Pentecost

Please pray for our Bishops and Priests whose Ordination Anniversaries occur in this past week.

- May 17 Bishop Paul Bird CSsR 1975 Newcastle
- May 18 Fr Eric Bryant 1974 Ballarat Cathedral
- May 19 Fr Patrick Mugavin 1974 Warrnambool
- May 20 Fr Tom Brophy 1972 Ballarat Cathedral
- May 21 Bishop Peter Connors a Bishop 1987 Melbourne
- May 22 Fr Peter Hudson 1971 Ballarat Cathedral
- May 22 Fr Michael Linehan 1971 Ballarat Cathedral
- May 23 Fr (Bishop) Brian Finnigan 1970 Port Fairy
- May 23 Fr Eugene McKinnon 1975 Timboon
- May 24 Fr Michael O'Toole 1974 Koroit

Appointment: I am please to announce the appointment of Carole Gan as our new Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator from June. Carole succeeds Amanda Smith who we thank for her 8 years in this. I welcome Carole to her new role of service in our diocese. Carole is currently living in Sydney. She will have an initial visit to Ballarat for a few days in early June and hopes to move to Ballarat to take up her new role in late June. Carole is looking forward to getting to know the people of our diocese and working with us in developing the life of our community. *Bishop Paul Bird*

Sr Florintina returns to the Philippines on June 6th. After 10.30 Mass next Sunday June 2nd we will have morning tea in the Parish Centre to farewell Sister.

SBC, SMJ, OLHC welcome 2020 enrolments now.

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 & Tirsa, 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: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders. Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication.

Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8
O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him.

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10-14, In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel or crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which

bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father. The Father is greater than I. I have told you this, before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

Gospel Reflection – Ascension - Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

"Take from my heart all painful anxiety." This is the prayer of the first Sister of Mercy, Catherine McAuley, echoing the words of the Johannine Jesus, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid." It is all a matter of love. Disciples of Jesus know that they need not be anxious or afraid "for perfect love casts out fear" (1 Jn 4:18). Today's gospel makes it clear that "love" finds expression in the keeping of God's word. In the prologue to his Gospel, John presents Jesus as the Word, the Logos who has been with God from the beginning. Jesus is the word of God in human form, the embodiment of God's communication with us. Jesus keeps God's word. Disciples demonstrate their love for Jesus by keeping the word that he both embodies and proclaims, they are

to live as Jesus has lived and be faithful to what he has taught in God's name. They will thus become a dwelling place for the divine. The implications of this teaching are overwhelming. If we truly believed and "kept" the words of Jesus, we might be more inclined to treat each other and "our common home" with the utmost reverence and respect. Jesus refers once more to his imminent departure. When he is no longer physically present, God's Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will be with them. The Greek word translated as "advocate" literally means "one called alongside to help" whenever necessary. The disciples need not be troubled or afraid because they are never alone. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, is always with them to defend them, to intercede for them, to comfort them, as well as to keep them focussed on all that Jesus has said to them. Earlier in this

chapter, the Advocate is called the Spirit of Truth who remains with them and is actually in them. Only through the power of the Spirit will the disciples be empowered to "keep the word" of Jesus. Jesus gifts his friends with peace, a peace "that the world cannot give." In John's gospel, the "world" is foremost the tenting place of God's Word: it is God's creation. Occasionally, it refers to whatever is opposed to Jesus as God's Word. The gift of peace that Jesus brings is a peace that casts out fear. It carries all the weight of the Hebrew shalom: it brings total well-being and peace of mind. True peace comes from being centred in God and gathering in all of God's creation. As Jesus leaves them, the proper stance for the disciples is joy in the knowledge that, although he is going away, he is also "coming to them" since the "Father" will send the Spirit to be with them always.

Next Week's Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power

from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.



St Brigid's College
OPEN DAY
& PARENT INFORMATION
EVENING

Wednesday 5th June 2019
2.00pm - 7.00pm