

## SS MICHAEL AND JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS NEW STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Ss Michael and John's Catholic Church, Horsham celebrated the installation of a unique set of artworks earlier in the year. The set of fourteen sculptures, which depict the Stations of the Cross, were created by American artist Lynne Kobylecki for the church.

The Stations commemorate the death of Jesus Christ according to scripture. Parish Council Chair Chris Robarts said the sculptures were commissioned to better depict the Stations.

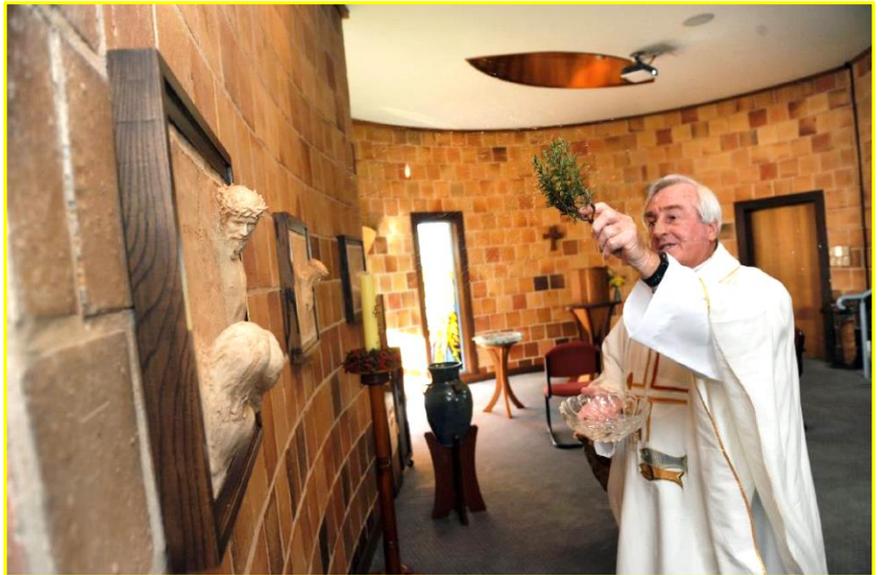
"In our church we had a series of Stations built when the church was built in 1987", he said. "They were quite abstract and there was concern people couldn't understand them, so there was a move to replace them."

Mr Robarts said the parish searched for a new set and came across a series of sculptures created by Kobylecki. "Someone found out who the artist was and we commissioned her to make our sculptures," he said.

Mr Robarts said the parish worked with Kobylecki to create something to suit the church. "The church is a very earthy building with brick inside and out and a lot of timber," he said. "The church has a warm feel to it and the new Stations are in keeping with that."

The sculptures are made of clay with wooden frames to match the church's interior. Mr Robarts said the sculptures arrived before Easter and were installed in June. He said the original Stations were re-installed in another section of the building. "They are beautiful and they are still part of the church," he said. Mr Robarts said an anonymous donor paid for the commissioned art pieces.

*Article courtesy of the Wimmera Mail-Times. Text by Stephanie Azzopardi and photos by Paul Carracher*



Parish priest Peter Hudson led a formal blessing of the sculptures at the church.



Rilby Joy and Aibel Joy, 2, admire the new statues at Ss Michael and John's Church in Horsham.