



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

BULLETIN

4th Sunday of Advent - 20th December 2015



We light the 4th Candle on our Advent Wreath - a **Candle of Love**

May God fill your life with love, joy and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year. Happy Christmas, safe travels.

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Red and White flowers and greenery welcomed. Please leave in the Church by Thursday. *Thankyou.*

We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism: **Leroy Ward** son of Bernard & Tegan

We welcome Fr Damien today and thank him for his help this year. Fr John will be here for Murtoa and Dimboola Christmas Masses and next Sunday Masses.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
Phone: 5382 1155.

Blessed is she who believed

Gospel Reflection - 4th Sunday of Advent Mercy Sister Veronica Lawson.

Today is the gospel story of Mary of Nazareth, travelling from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea, some 130 ks to the south, to be with her cousin Elizabeth. Mary enters "the house of Zechariah". Elizabeth's openness recognises and affirms the living presence of God in their midst. The two women embrace and the Spirit-filled life within Mary encounters and physically affects the life that is coming to birth in Elizabeth, whose words resound throughout the ages in the Hail Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb..." Elizabeth recognises that Mary is blessed by God because she believed that God's promise to her

would be fulfilled. As God's prophet, Elizabeth gives expression to the faith that is to be embraced by all those who accept that Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Miriam of Nazareth, is the Holy One of God (Luke 1:35). The lives of both women have been transformed through the power of God's Spirit, their children will bring to birth an unprecedented event in human history. Elizabeth's proclamation of the blessing of God on Mary is said daily by countless faith-filled Christians. It echoes the blessing prayer of Moses to the Israelites (Deut 28: 2-4): "May you be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. Blessed is the fruit of your womb. We ponder the various ways God sustains life, and like Elizabeth, we clear the paths and open

our doors and hearts for God to enter in.

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Making Connections: This week try to visit someone who is in need of some attention. Make the time to reach out to another. **Daily Prayer:** God of the everlasting covenant, as your servant David leapt and danced before the ark, so John the Baptist leapt in the womb of Elizabeth when Mary came bearing within her the promised One. Let Christ stand in our midst today, and feed us in the strength of your name.

Prepare us, O God, to be a people to do your will, a nation to believe that your promises will be fulfilled. Mary trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled. Step out in faith and God will be there to guide you.

CHRISTMAS MASS COLLECTIONS. 1st Collection is for the Parish and Presbytery. 2nd Collection the Bishop's Christmas Appeal

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: Thursday December 24th:

Horsham: 7pm - Children's Mass and Play
10pm - Carols with Choir
10.30pm - Mass with Choir.

Murtoa : Mass 6.30pm. **Dimboola:** Mass 8.30pm

Christmas Day: Horsham: Mass 9am

CHRISTMAS DUES ENVELOPES

are in the Foyers, to support our sick and retired Priest and needy Parishes. Please place your envelope on the Collection or leave at the Office. *Thanks*

WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 22nd Dec **9.30.** Olive Tobin
Wednesday 23rd **5.30pm**
Thursday 24th Dec 9.30am
Friday 25th Dec **9am**
Saturday 26th Dec **No 10am**

Advent Reconciliation Service

Monday December 21st at 7pm in SMJ Church

Scripture, Examination of Conscience, Individual Absolution at the end.

Individual Confessions this week: Tuesday 10am, Wednesday 6pm.

Safe travelling for those who will be away for Christmas, New Year and holidays
Congratulations to VCE students on results, to Tayla Dux of SBC, Carl at HS etc

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: Pat Neri (Melb), Shirley Willetts (grandmother of Lyndel Carbone), Kerry Hogan (Ben

ANNIVERSARIES: Olive Tobin, Terry Wallis, Agnes Hudson, Ronald Leslie Edgar, Ronald Mark Edgar, Eugene Gillard, Michael & Martin Ryan, Fr Con Ryan,

SICK: Kobe Davidson, Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Renee Kerr, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, Warren Strauss, Eileen Finnigan, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Jill Higgenbottoms, Christie Higgenbottoms

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 5382 6688

No 10am Mass, Confessions Saturday 26th

**Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month
Feast of the Holy Family - 27th December**

Horsham Saturday - 6.30pm

Sunday - 10.30am

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 10.30am**

No Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet on Wednesday

ROSTERS

Dec 19/20	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Ministers of Holy Communion	Anthony Amor Joan Parker Ann Hermans Chris Velthuis Cathy Taylor Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes	Tim Lannen Mary Dalglish Zita Cannane Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan
Dec 26/27	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Garry Heinrich	Bob Pritchett
Commentator	John Parker	Anthony Dowling
Ministers of Holy Communion	Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer Maureen Ervin John Parker Sr Jacinta Rice Marie McMillan	Kingsley Dalglish Lesley Lannen Karen Hill Lynda Hutchinson Shirley Hoffmann Andrea Cox Faye Wills
Projector	Anita Masiero	Alison McKinnon
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Gavin Hyman Gary Coutts	Mary Dalglish Nanette Freckleton
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	

Church Cleaning, Flowers:

27th December: Anna Robertson, Jenny Clarke, Bernie Lakin, Rhonda Tursi

3rd January - Helen Hunter, Margaret Fischer, Dianne Quinn, Maureen McInerney

1st Collection last Sunday: Total \$1095

Horsham: \$815. Murtoa: \$180. Dimboola: \$100.

2nd Collection (Envelopes) last Sunday:

Envelopes: \$3278. Loose: \$64.15 **Total: \$3342.15**

1st Reading: Micah 5:1- 4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face we shall be saved

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who

wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!



Gospel: Luke 1:39-

Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

SMJ Ministries at Christmas Masses

<u>7pm Children's</u>	<u>10.30pm Mass</u>	<u>9am Christmas Day</u>
Reader: Children.	Commentator:	Commentator:
Offertory Procession	Bob Pritchett	John Foster
Children from Play	Reader:	Reader:
Eucharist Ministers:	Kingsley Dalglish	Mary Marshall
Anne Newton,	Offertory Procession	Offertory Procession
Ann Hermans, John &	Dalglish Family	Anna & Gary Robertson
Joan Parker,	Eucharist Ministers:	Eucharist Ministers:
Cate Rigby, Alison	Bob Pritchett, Maree	Bob Pritchett,
McKinnon, Noreen	Plazzer, Cath Taylor,	Lynda Hutchinson,
O'Connor	Eileen McManus, Mary	Silvana Foster,
Welcomers: Sudholz	and Kingsley Dalglish,	Anna Robertson
& Dowling Families	Welcomer: Pat Strachan	Projector: Shayne
Projector: Gabby Mills	Computer: Anita Masiero	Keenan.
Music: Chris Robarts	Music: Choir	Music: Chris Robarts

Christmas edition of Parish Magazine **Fisherman** in the foyers

Parish Christmas Raffle \$1 a ticket or 3 for \$2. Many prizes. Hamper 1st prize value \$165. Drawn Childrens Mass

WELCOME TO FAMILY AND VISITORS OVER CHRISTMAS