

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill



BULLETIN

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 20th August 2017



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
Email: 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: Gary Typuszak
Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting this Thursday 24th August at 5.30pm.
Please have reports into Anita by this Tuesday.

COUGHLIN PARK BOARD MEETING this Wednesday 23rd at 5pm in Coughlin Park Board Room.

Anointing Mass at the Lutheran Home at 10.30 this Friday August 25th.

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick / Retired Priests ANNUAL COLLECTION Weekend of SEPTEMBER 2/3

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the Diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. 18 retired priests are currently supported by the Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly \$1.7 million since 199, including \$54,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$38,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

Envelopes will be in Foyers next weekend

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible



SMJ SCHOOL GRANDPARENTS and SPECIAL FRIENDS MASS this Friday August 25th at 9.30 in the Church.

All grandparents and special friends of our children are welcome. You are then welcome to Morning Tea in the School after Mass. Parents, a plate please.

PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust our sick brothers and sisters 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. May You be their source of hope in moments of despair, woundedness and sorrow. May You be their inspiration and solace 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 your healing love. Bless **caregivers**, as channels of your love, they are your very hands on earth. Give them gentleness as they help those who are sick, that they respect the dignity and value of the sick to You. Give them patience as they manage their time, to best serve those who are needful 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, as they walk 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.



We welcome in Baptism to the Family of God :
Aysha Louise Lang
daughter of Heath and Emma

The Spring edition of **Australian Catholics** is in each Foyer today.
Theme: *No one is an Island - The Parish of the Highway*

WEEKDAY MASSES (A funeral Mass will replace a week-day Mass)

Tuesday 22nd Aug	5.30pm	The Queenship of Mary
Wednesday 23rd Aug	9.30am	Josh Velthuis anniv.
Thursday 24th Aug	9.30am	St Bartholomew, Apostle
Friday 25th Aug	9.30am	SMJ Grandparents Mass.
Saturday 26th Aug	10am	

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: Sr Aileen Vear csb,

ANNIVERSARIES: Monique Wren, Mary Rabl, Gino Panozzo, Josh Velthuis, Bill Couch, Bartley Diver,

SICK: Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Kobe Davidson, Peter Kelly, Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joy Flynn, John Coleman, Madeleine Cameron, Joan Glen, Lynn Cooper, Francis Mitchell, Judy Francisco, Xavier Reicha, Jean Ivess, Jill & Christine Higginbottom, Lorrain Holland, Terry Turvey, Maureen Ryan, Ken Dowsley, Peter Oakley, Felicity Taylor, Fleur Armstrong, Fr Paul Mercovich, Heather McPhee

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
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 27th August 2017**

Horsham Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Natimuk **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 10.30am**

**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 - 9.30am 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 Breakfast meetings 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30am in the Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428847455

St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-2pm 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

Church Piety Stall. Gifts for all Sacraments, cards, medals

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

PARISH DATES:

Parish Mission with Fr Richard Leonard SJ from October 28th to November 1st. Theme: *Living a contemporary Church life of faith, hope, love.*

Parish Acknowledgement Dinner for Sr Jacinta Sunday November 19th at Coughlin Park at 12nn.

Sunday November 12th: SMJ School Spring Fete

Diocesan Liturgy Formation Day: Sunday 18th February 2018 with Bishop Paul Bird and others.

Sacrament Masses: Nhill Sunday September 17th
Murtoa Sunday October 15th.

ROSTERS

19/20 August	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Silvana Foster Anthony Amor Ann Hermans Lorraine Clancy Micky Robarts Rosie Taylor Sr Jacinta Rice	Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dagleish Russell Reid Zita Cannane Bob Pritchett Anna Robertson
27/28 August	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Garry Heinrich	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	Bob Pritchett
Eucharistic Ministers	Simon Lynch Joan Parker Anne Newton Cathy Taylor Pat Glaubitz Bernatette Trounce Maree Plazzer	Bob Pritchett Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Judy Reid Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Shayne Keenan
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Teresa Bottoms
Welcomers	Judy Bryan Gary Coutts	Angela Stephens Lyn Starr
Children's Liturgy		Cassie Kelly
Prayers	Joan & Joan Parker	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	27th August Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney	3rd September Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 128.00
Horsham	\$ 744.00	Dimboola	\$ 48.00
Total			\$ 820.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1644.00	Loose	\$
Total			\$

Making Connections: All the readings for this week speak of foreigners who have accepted faith in the one God. The gospel tells of a great learning moment for Jesus. He ignores the pleas of the gentile woman but ultimately, she forces him to recognise that salvation is available to all people who have faith. This would have been a salient message for those in Matthew's community who struggled to come to terms with gentiles entering their community.

Did you Know?: Points of interest and Catholic lore. Israel despised the Canaanites. It loathed the Canaanite religion with its pagan gods and fertility cults and found many of their practices abominable.

Marriage Tip: What has been a low point in your relationship with your beloved? How did you get through it? If you're still in a desert, ask for help – from your spouse, God, or from a counsellor (no shame in that).

Daily Prayer: Let people of every race, language and way of life find our assembly to be a house of prayer for all peoples, where foreigners are welcomed as friends, where strangers are called sisters and brothers.

A Vocation View: It's so easy to push people out of our lives. But the Lord knows no boundaries or races or colours. Spread the Good News that we are all God's people.

Living the Word: Pray for Christian unity, understanding between all people of goodwill who search for God's truth.

Pope's Prayer Intentions for August: Artists. That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone.

Country Mass Times:

Sunday Aug 27: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30.
Murtoa 10.30

Sunday Sept 3: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa 8.30

Sunday Sept 10: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30

Sunday Sept 17: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa 8.30

Sunday Sept 24: Dimboola AWC 8.30. Murtoa 8.30

Parish Emergency Care Catering

The trolley in the Church Foyer has plates and containers people have not picked up after bringing food for past Catering. Please check to see if you have a plate or container on the trolley. *Thank you, Betty Heinrich*



DEMENTIA

You are not alone

Lecture by Assoc Professor Mark Yates,
from Ballarat Health Services.

**Wednesday September 6th
in Ss Michael and John Parish Centre**

Registration and Expo in Centre 1.30pm – 5pm
Professor Yates Lecture: 3pm to 4pm.

Cost: Free. Afternoon Tea supplied.

You need to register online at:
horsham2017.eventbrite.com.au

Contact Anita in our Office for any help to register.
All welcome.

103rd WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



This week, August 21 to 27 is Migrant and Refugee Week.

Next Sunday August 27th we will celebrate Migrant and Refugee Sunday

The Church in Australia has migrant Catholics from many countries; Mass is celebrated in more than 30 languages every Sunday. **The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's World Day is "Child Migrants, the vulnerable and voiceless."**

Did you know our Parish is made up of parishioners from many cultures? India, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Italy, Philippines, England, Scotland, Ireland, Nigeria, South Sudan, Poland, China

Next Sunday we will celebrate Migrant Sunday. You are invited to bring memorabilia of the country of your birth to display. Perhaps there may be parishioners willing to come dressed in traditional dress and / or share a 'special' dish from their homeland following 10.30 Mass?

As Christians, we are called to reach out to and pray for all migrants to emphasise the unity of the human family and the Gospel values of acceptance, hospitality

Interested in learning more about

the Catholic faith?



If you wish to learn more about our faith, or to inquire into becoming a Catholic, please contact Fr Peter.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

is on Sunday September 24th

This Year's Statement is titled:

"Everyone's Business: developing an inclusive and sustainable Economy"

The Bishops call for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. Australia has had a long period of economic growth, but the benefits of this have not come to everyone. Pope Francis calls for a world economy that places people at the very centre, and meets their basic needs

Child Protection Sunday

In response to a request from Pope Francis, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has set aside **Sunday September 10, Child Protection Sunday**, as a Day of Prayer and Penance for Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse.

We will have prayer Resources for that Day.

We will have a **HOLY HOUR on Sunday 10th from 1pm to 2pm**

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program

offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. A wide range of subject areas are offered: Scripture, Sacraments, Social Justice, Leadership skills, Youth Ministry, many more. Registration for the September study cycle closes on 28 August - or you can start later in October. There are 6 study cycles each year, you can start at any one. Study one subject or do more – it's flexible! Details on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (link is on home page), or contact Amanda, ph: 5337 7125

How to defeat the proposed euthanasia bill (circulated by Diocesan Office) The Victorian Government should be spending its time tackling important issues like law and order, not pursuing radical social policies like euthanasia.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Chris Robarts (Chair), Mary Marshall, Peter Gutteridge, Andrea Cox, Fr Peter, Gary Typuszack, Alison McKinnon, Lesley Price, Daryl Wren, Bob Pritchett, Garry Heinrich, Joan Lane-Storey, Margaret Lingham, Gary Coutts, Anita Masiero (Secretary)

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has appointed 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. We have uploaded onto the **Parish Website the Code of Conduct** that complies with Child Safety Protocols, for Parish staff, volunteers, Parish Council, Liturgical Ministers, Children's Liturgy, contractors.

Our Parish is committed to be a child safe community

1st Reading: Isaiah 56:1. 6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

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!

2nd Reading: Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Acclamation: Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

**Gospel Reflection – 20th Sunday
Veronica Lawson rsm.**

The gospels are written in Greek and much of the language of the gospels has to be understood against a Greek philosophical background.

Today's gospel story culminates in the healing of a "daughter" who may be a little girl or even a young woman. Her mother, the main character in the story, is known to Matthew's community simply as a Canaanite woman, or in other words an indigenous woman. To some early Christian communities, she is Justa, so we might reasonably call her daughter Justina. Justa comes to Jesus as he moves from Jewish territory into or close to non-Jewish territory. In the language of liturgy, she laments loudly and persistently for her daughter, for Justina is "severely tormented by a demon".

For the ancient Greeks, the antithesis of demonic possession or

torment is human flourishing or well-being (eudaimonia). Eudaimonia means having a good guardian spirit as opposed to a malevolent spirit that impairs a person's well-being and sense of self. Justina's well-being is in jeopardy. Her distraught mother is an outsider to the "house of Israel" who is nonetheless familiar with Israel's prayer of lament. She is a woman alone in public space, risking ridicule and rejection to find healing for her daughter. The immediate response to her plea is silence: Jesus "does not answer her a word". Is he ignoring her cry for help? Is he simply stunned, taken aback at the vehemence of her request? Is he rendered speechless by the simple fact that she would cross the boundaries of gender and ethnicity in this way? Is he in awe at her courage and faith from the outset? All we know is that he says nothing and that the disciples tell him to send her

away. He responds by defining the limits of his mission rather narrowly: he was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Justa is not deterred from her mission. She begs Jesus to help her and receives an explicit refusal in a confronting image that names his people as "the children" and hers as "the dogs". She accepts his statement as a challenge and bests him in the exchange: "even the dogs eat the crumbs...." Jesus' horizons are expanded by the persistence and insight of this woman. Justa's great faith is affirmed and her daughter is healed. Justa is vindicated and Justina restored to a state of well-being. Justina has her counterparts across the globe. The challenge for us is to be Justa in our times for the sake of all in the Earth community, whose well-being or eudaimonia is impaired by violence or war or lack of access to the means to flourish.

Next Sundays Gospel: Matt 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that

revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

SBC Year 9 Mass in SMJ Church this Wednesday 23rd at 12noon. All welcome.

Fr Peter will celebrate Mass with St Patrick's School Nhill this Thursday 24th at 2.15pm.

OLHC Murtoa School Advisory Council Meeting this Wednesday 23rd at 7.30pm

The **Sisters of Mercy** in Australia / Papua New Guinea ask our prayers this week for their General Chapter in Sydney, their first gathering since uniting in 2011.