

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk

BULLETIN

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 16th August 2015



PARISH CONTACTS

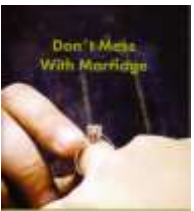
Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
 Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
 10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400
 PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
 Phone: 5382 1155.
 Fax: 5382 3016
 Email: horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Diocesan Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

Don't Mess With Marriage

is a Pastoral Letter from the Catholic Bishops of Australia to all Australians on the 'Same-sex Marriage' Debate. There are limited number of copies available in the foyer **TODAY**



A Pastoral Letter from the Catholic Bishops of Australia to all Australians on the 'Same-sex Marriage' Debate.



LOOKING FORWARD
 GATHERING IN HORSHAM
 This Tuesday 18th August in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm
 Fr Justin Driscoll and Amanda Smith will chair the meeting.

This meeting is open to all parishioners, school staff, parents.
 Please let the Parish Office know if you are intending to come along.
 Thank you to all who have let me know that they are coming along.

The Shared Table

In the *Year of the Eucharist 2005*, Fr Mick McKinnon issued an invitation to parishioners to share one plate of food a day from your table with a child living in the poverty of a barrio in Lima. You gave very generously and again in the years following.


Fr Mick writes:
 "You are invited to make a commitment of \$1.00 a week out of your household grocery budget, amounting to a donation of \$52.00 each year. This money will be directly used solely for the purpose of the Shared Table.

Forms are now available in the Narthex
 Facilities have now been made that you can pay via direct debit and credit card. These are attached to the forms.

We welcome Fr Damien this weekend for all our Masses in Horsham. Fr. John will visit the country areas for Mass.

PRAYER for SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source of all healing power. We entrust our sick brothers and sisters to your loving care. We pray that your blessings be upon all those in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, 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 those who are **caregivers**, as channels of your tender love, for they are your very hands on this 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 in need of their care. Give them courage to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands, and when they need your enduring help and strength. 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, those in Homes and in the Hospital.




We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism on Sunday:
 Maddison Harper
 Barnes daughter of Darren and Kelly

WEEK-DAY MASSES:		
A Funeral Mass may replace a Weekday Mass time		
Tuesday 18th August	1.30pm	Funeral for Margaret Niehus
Wednesday 19th Aug	9.30am	
Thursday 20th August	9.30am	St Bernard
Friday 21st August	9.30am	St Pius X
Saturday 22nd August	10.00am	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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: Anne Downes, Margaret Niehus, Kit Crawford—aunt of Rose Pritchett and Helen Hunter	
ANNIVERSARIES: Robert Robertson, Edith Turnbull, Norman Blakeley, Hugh Byrne, Les Jones, Walter McPhee, Eliza McPhee, Carmel Howe, Roma Bouma, Margaret Braiser, Monica McPhee, Alan Tunks, Neville Ely, Monique Wren	
SICK: Kobe Davidson, Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Renee Kerr, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Kevin O'Connor, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, Marge Whitehead, Warren Strauss, Tom Murphy, Eileen Finnigan, Madeleine Cameron, Joy McDonald, Lyn Couper	
Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator Betty 5382 6688	
Confessions after Mass on Saturday (10.25)	
<u>Each Saturday Morning:</u> Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20 Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church 9.40. Mass 10am	
Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23rd August 2015	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am
Natimuk	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Dimboola	Sunday LLA 8.30am
Murtoa	Sunday LLA 9.00am
Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet Including the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary 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	
Ss Michael & John's Playgroup Tuesday's in school terms 10am to 12 noon - Parish Hall. Contact 0428 119 234	
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. Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807	
CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm in Meeting Room.	
Men's Group Meet 3rd Thursday of the month, breakfast 7.30am-8.30, in Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428 847 455	
St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm, for assistance. Phone 5381 2371	
RELATIONSHIP & INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING Michael Grimes , a professional counsellor from Centacare Ballarat visits Horsham every Wednesday . Cost \$30 concessions available. Phone appt 1300 303 988 or contact the Parish Office	
BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS 3rd Thursday of each Month at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Forms to be filled in with the Parish Office prior. Contact is the Parish Office 53821155.	
Piety Stall in the Church has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, cards, medals etc., lovely Peru crosses.	
Children's Liturgy at 10.30 Mass in School Terms. Children leave at start of Mass, and return at Offertory.	

ROSTERS		
August 15/16	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Simon Lynch Ann Hermans Maureen Ervin John Parker Marie McMillan Tess Hayes Anne Newton	Russell Reid Faye Wills Andrea Cox Marina Manserra Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Julie Antonoff
August 22/23	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Geordie Butler	Angela Murphy
Commentator	Lyn Hutchinson	Michael Connellan
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvana Foster Rosie Taylor Lorraine Clancy Joan Parker Maree Plazzer Chris Velthuis Cathy Taylor	Noreen O'Connor Zita Cannane Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Lesley Lannen Karen Hill Shirley Hoffmann
Projector	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
Children's Liturgy		Ange Stephens
Musicians	Chris Roberts	
Welcomers	Carolyn Boseley Louise Guest	Sharon Creasey Beth Johnson
Prayers	Anna Robertson, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	23rd August Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy	30th August Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan Barbara Gloury Kath Atkins
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):		
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa \$ 83.00
Horsham	\$ 915.00	Dimboola \$ 118.00
Total		\$ 1116.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)		
Envelopes	\$ 1645.00	Loose \$ 75.60
Total		\$ 1720.60
Making Connections: Find ways this week of bringing life and nourishment to others. Provide them with what they need. Celebrate as a family.		
Marriage Tip: Treasure each moment with your beloved spouse. We know neither the day nor the hour when our loved one will be taken from us		
Daily Prayer: Here in our midst, O good and gracious God, Wisdom has built herself a house, she has set her table and mixed her wine: The flesh and blood of Christ become our food and drink. Fill us with your Spirit, with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, so that we may be a canticle of praise to you, and for our brothers and sisters a feast of joyful love.		
A Vocation View: John's Gospel reveals God's promise of the Word made flesh. This is revealed through the sacrifice made by Christ: "I am the living bread, come down from heaven ... the bread I give is my flesh for the life of the world ...". Do this in memory of Him.		

1st Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table. She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights: 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.' To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-3. 10-15

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him. Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Come, children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from evil and

your lips from speaking deceit. Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acclamation: John 6:56

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down

from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'



Gospel Reflection -Veronica M. Lawson RSM

In this week's gospel passage, we continue our reflection on John 6. John's gospel was written towards the end of the first century. The Bread of Life discourse probably reflects the interpretation of the gospel writer rather than the actual words of Jesus. This is important for making sense of statements in the discourse that would seem to be out of place from the lips of Jesus during his lifetime. The hearers of these words have lived and worshipped as followers of Jesus for some decades. They have gathered each week for the breaking of the bread and reflected deeply on the mystery of life in Christ, on the Word made flesh. If the eucharistic overtones were subtly present in last week's gospel passage (John 6:41-51), they become quite overt as the Johannine Jesus responds to yet

another objection from his opponents in this week's gospel. Like the Israelites of old in the desert wanderings, they are more than ready to grumble: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" (6:52). Jesus does not really respond to the question "How....?" Rather, he goes on to tell his hearers that "life" for them depends on their eating his flesh and drinking his blood. The Johannine Jesus uses the present as well as the future tense. The life they experience in eating his flesh and drinking his blood is a present reality for them as well as a promise of on-going life. Life for the Israelites was in the blood: blood poured out meant life poured out. Clearly "life" is being used in John 6 for the quality of life the believers have come to experience through their incorporation into the community of the baptised, the sort of life that is not destroyed by death. Life in the community unites the believers intimately

with Jesus as well as with the God of Israel, whom the Johannine Jesus generally calls "Father". The first reading for today reminds us that other metaphors such as Wisdom were available to those of Jewish heritage for portraying the divine. Wisdom is a female way of imaging the divine. In John's discourse, Jesus becomes Wisdom extending an invitation to the banquet of life. We keep accepting that invitation. It is well to remember that one never enjoys a banquet alone. It is always shared with others who accept the same invitation. In the strength of the sustenance we receive in this banquet, we are also invited to bring a quality of life to all beings that struggle to exist. The potential for this is as boundless as the generosity of our God "enfleshed" in Jesus.

NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL: JOHN 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to

where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to

me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'