



St Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk

BULLETIN

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23rd 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

Fr John will celebrate a
Syro-Malaba Mass on
Sunday 30th August at 5pm.
Everyone is welcome to attend

Australian Catholics

Spring Edition is out NOW. It has been written and edited entirely by High School Students. The topic is "Count your blessings and make your blessings count"
Get your copy today.

WEEK-DAY MASSES: A Funeral Mass may replace a Weekday Mass time

Tuesday 25th August 5.30pm
Wednesday 26th Aug 9.30am
6.30pm
Thursday 27th August 9.30am
Friday 28th August **10.30am**
Saturday 29th August 10.00am

**LOOKING FORWARD
GATHERING IN HORSHAM**
Thank you to the 21 people who attended on Tuesday night. The focus of the meeting was Looking back/Looking Forward.

We looked at what was happening and what was not. Discussion took place in groups and each group identified areas. Fr Justin asked us all to do a creative visualization about how the future of our Church would look in 5 years time.

Questions that all parishioners can reflect on:

- What is positive, realistic and best for our parish in 5 years from now?
- How do we reach the positive outcomes?
- What steps do we take?

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.

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.

Fr Peter's Sabbatical

Fr Peter has finished his time in Ireland and has been in Rome. He will now travel to London before joining a Pilgrimage "In the Footsteps of St Paul" before he returns to Horsham on Saturday 19th September

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: Doreen Brooker (Grandmother of Maree Wren), Victims of the Bangkok bombing	
ANNIVERSARIES: Barry Lattanzio, Evelyn Duffus, Oscar Jacobs, Peter Forster, Mary Rabl, Bernie Nolen.	
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, John Coleman	
Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator Betty 5382 6688	
Confessions after Mass on Saturday (10.25)	
Each Saturday Morning: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20 Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church 9.40. Mass 10am	
Next Sunday 5th Sunday of the Month 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 30th August 2015	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am
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 22/23	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvanna 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
August 29/30	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Lyn Hutchinson	Michael Connellan
Commentator	Betty Heinrich	Anna Robertson
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch Ann Hermans Maureen Ervin John Parker	Julie Antonoff Lynda Hutchinson Russell Reid Faye Wills Andrea Cox Marina Manserra Volunteer
Projector	Anita Masiero	Shayne Keenan
Children's Liturgy		Ange Stephens
Musicians	Chris Roberts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Bob Hayes Gavin Hynam	Mary uebergang Mary Dalgleish
Prayers	Mary brown & Anita Masiero	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	30th August Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan Barbara Gloury Kath Atkins	6th September Pauline Hinch Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Anna Carberry Carolyn Boseley
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):		
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa \$ 78.00
Horsham	\$ 817.00	Dimboola \$ 92.00
Total		\$ 987.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)		
Envelopes	\$ 1927.50	Loose \$ 52.00
Total		\$ 1979.50
Making Connections: This week spend time in reflecting on your journey so far. What are you finding a challenge? Are you able to freely make the commitment to the Holy One of God?		
Marriage Tip: Teach your children the importance of the Eucharist. Celebrate their first Holy Communion and ensure that your family is always prepared to receive the Eucharist at church.		
Daily Prayer: In Jesus, your Holy One, you have given us the words of eternal life, O God, but you leave your household free to choose whom we will serve: the gods of the lands in which we live, or you, the living God.		
A Vocation View: Jesus, teach us about life everlasting: "Your words Lord are spirit and life ..." It is this that gives us hope when we despair, a way of living when we stray from God's way. "The words I have spoken are spirit and they are life." It is God's words that we need to hear to lift our spirit and give life. Pray for vocations.		

Sunday Country Mass Times in August & Sept:

August 30: Dimboola LLA 8.30am Murtoa LLA 9am
Sept 6: Dimboola LLA 8.30am Murtoa Mass 8.30am
Sept 13: Dimboola Mass 8.30am Murtoa LLA 9.00am
Sept 20: Dimboola Mass 8.30am Murtoa Mass 10.30

PARISH CENSES

Over the next two Sundays, we will be conducting our Parish Censes. It has been 4 years since we last did one, which during that time we have seen new people arrive. Every person will be given a card by the welcomers as they enter the Church. During Mass after Homily, time will be given to complete the form. It is important that you all complete the card, so that we can make sure that we have the correct details in our system. During the collection you will place your card onto the plate.

LADIES REVITALISE WEEKEND

Norval, Halls Gap Beginning with tea on Friday 16th October and finishing Sunday 18th October.

Theme "The Song of Sacred Presence"

What is holy? What is Sacred? The answer means different things to different people. We will spend time contemplating the heartbeat of the sacred in all of life. Facilitated by Sr Carmel Cameri
Cost \$220.00 for the weekend.
Forms available in the Foyer.
Contact the Parish Office for further information.

PROJECTOR OPERATORS REQUIRED

Due to changes in peoples circumstances, the Projector operators roster has a total of 8 people to cover both Masses and as you will understand this puts a strain on those people.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in being a part of this valued ministry, please contact the Parish Office on 53821155 for further information or to express your interest. Training will be arranged for you.

Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

- Would you like to know more about the Catholic Religion?
- Have you ever thought about becoming a Catholic?
- Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic?
- Are you a Baptised Catholic, but have not received the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?
- Do you have a Catholic Partner/Children?
- Are you taking the responsibility of the faith education of your children but are not Catholic?

Interested people can contact Lesley Price on 0408 369 487 or the Parish Office for further information

PRAYER FOR RAIN: Loving God, maker of all things and protector of your people, in You we live and move and have our being. In your mercy come to our aid, bless our land with rain, especially in these coming months to nurture crops sown, and to bring them to a head, and for rain to provide sustenance for all towns. Strengthen our resolve in times of trial and difficulty,, and teach us to seek your help on our life journey.

ST. BRIGID'S COLLEGE PROUDLY Presents



When: Thursday 27th Friday 28th Saturday 29th Aug
Where: Wesley Performing Arts Centre
Time: 8.00pm
Ticket prices: Adults \$18 Concession \$15
Tickets can be purchased from the Front Office of St Brigid's College or ph 53823545.

Sacred Heart College Ballarat Reunion - Class of 1965

A gathering is being planned for the Sacred Heart College, Ballarat class of 1965 and anyone who was part of this class from Year 7, 1960 to matriculation in 1965, on November 7, 2015 at the Barkly, Main Road, Ballarat at 12.00noon. For further information contact Jan Mullaly (Favaloro), email janmull65@gmail.com, ph. 0418 522180 or Carmel Frost (Frith) email carmel@frost.net.au or Anne Mibus (Watt) email annemibus@me.com

Reunion - Holy Cross Convent St Michael's, Daylesford 1891— 1973

Friday, November 13—Sunday, November 15, 2015. Three events for our reunion - strictly invitation only. Name tags will be given out. Please contact Christina Andreallo Wagner (email: chrissyandrea@hotmail.com or facebook www.facebook.com/groups/1525321437716689) Program: Friday, November 13 - boarders only, sleepover at Convent; Saturday, November 14 - all students up to the year 1973, strictly invitation only, 10.00am at the Convent Gallery, complimentary tour through the Convent by owner Tina Banitska at 11.00am, afterwards lunch or cuppa at the Convent (ground must be vacated by 3.00pm due to private functions; Saturday afternoon and evening - all past students up to 1973, at Lucinis (the Old Macaroni Factory) 64 Main Road, Hepburn, meet and greet from 3.30pm, dinner till late, \$30.00pp drinks at bar prices. Bookings can also be made by contacting Sue Pearce (Godfrey) on 5348 3171 or 0419 502 979.



Ss Michael and John's PS will be holding a Spring Festival on Sunday 15th November.

We need your help with the following:

Donations of craft items, preserves and pre-loved books, which may be left at the school now.

Just prior to the festival donations of plants, cakes and slices would be greatly appreciated.

With Thanks,

The Parent Community of Ss Michael and John's PS

1st Reading: Joshua 24:1-2.15-18
Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-3. 16-23
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.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;

those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32
Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because

it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Acclamation cf John 6:63. 68
Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

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.'

**Gospel Reflection - Veronica Lawson
rsm**

To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.'

If we have trouble understanding and coming to terms with some of the teachings of Jesus in the gospel, then we can take some comfort from the reaction of the disciples in today's gospel. It seems that it was not only the members of the Jewish synagogue who were offended by his teaching, but also those who had accepted Jesus as Messiah or Christ and had joined the community of believers. "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" they complain. Once more, Jesus' response introduces new teaching, teaching that can only raise more questions in their minds. He links "spirit" with "life". Having used the term "flesh" of his body and of the life that he offers to those who eat of his flesh, he now introduces an element of doubt: flesh is now

"useless"! It is typical of John to use the same word in a variety of ways. Here "flesh" is used negatively and metaphorically to refer to human weakness and sinfulness in contrast with "spirit" which evokes the creative spirit of God that moved over the waters at creation and the spirit that informed the word of the prophets. The Johannine Jesus lays the ground for offering progressively deeper insights into his identity and destiny and into the meaning of the Christian life as the gospel narrative unfolds. The reference to his ascending recalls the earlier part to the gospel where Jesus is presented as the pre-existent one, the one who comes from God and has already ascended to God (John 3:13). Once again, we are confronted with an ancient cosmology that places God in the heavens above. After his death, Jesus will tell Mary Magdalene that he has not yet ascended and instructs her to tell the

disciples that he is ascending to God (20:17). It seems that John wants to keep emphasising the origins of Jesus as the eternal Word and Wisdom of God. There are many disciples who refuse to grapple with the complexities and implications of this teaching and they turn away. Jesus asks his closest followers if they too will desert. Peter speaks for himself and his companions when he declares their undying allegiance: "To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life." Eternal life is the Johannine equivalent of the "kin-dom of God" or "of the heavens" of the other gospels. Most of us have wanted to abandon our commitment at some time or another. Peter's declaration is a sobering one for us in times of doubt and an encouragement for those of us who seek to understand more deeply and to keep believing despite the challenges.

Next Week's Gospel: Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been

handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the

commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a man unclean.'