



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

BULLETIN

1st Sunday in Lent—14th February 2016



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

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting this Thursday February 18th at 5.30pm.

Please have reports into Anita tomorrow, Monday February 15th, thank you.

The first **Men's Breakfast** for 2016 is **this Thursday February 18th** from 7.30 to 8.30 in the Parish Centre. Fathers, sons, single men welcome, a free brekky, talk and prayer.

Mass at Natimuk Nursing Home this Thursday 18th 4.15



Opening of the Year School Masses:

SMJ: this Tuesday February 16th at 12 noon in SMJ Church.

SBC: Tuesday February 23rd at 9.30am in SMJ Church.

All families and parishioners are welcome to each Mass.



40 is a significant number traditionally honoured as a time of preparation for something great in the Bible.

1. Moses spent 40 days and nights on Mt. Sinai before God gave him instructions on temple worship (Exodus 24:18)
2. Moses and the Israelites wandered for 40 years in the desert preparing to enter the promised land (Exodus 16:18).
3. Elijah wandered for 40 days and nights in the desert in preparation to Meeting God (1 Kings 19:8)
4. Jesus prepared for his public ministry by prayer and fasting in the desert for forty days and nights (Matthew 4:2).
5. Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection for forty days before he ascended into heaven (Acts 1:3).

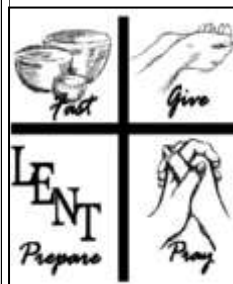
In imitation of Jesus we enter a spiritual desert for 40 days in which we withdraw from the pleasures of life as in a physical desert to prepare for the Easter Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday when Jesus rose from the dead.

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, 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.

Stations of the Cross in Lent

With the new Stations in SMJ Church a new booklet will be used. Stations will be held during Lent on each Friday. Next Friday Stations of the Cross will be at 7pm



Project Compassion Boxes or Sets of Envelopes are in the Foyers. Use envelopes weekly or return at the end of Lent.

WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 16th Feb	12 noon	SMJ School Opening of the Year Mass
Wednesday 17th Feb	9.30am	Nathan Mangiameli, Keiran Watt annivs.
Thursday 18th Feb	9.30am	Dorothy Shalders anniv.
Friday 19th Feb	9.30am	Baby Hugh Lane.
Saturday 20th Feb	10.00am	

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: Fr Patrick Negri SSS (grew up in Rupanyup)	
ANNIVERSARIES: Agnese Masiero, Len Hogan, Adrian Ryan, Joan Coffey, Evelyn Schaeffer, Nathan Mangiameli, Keiran Watt, Brendan J Walsh, Jean Mary O'Brien, Barbara Francis, Dorothy Shalders, Albert Willetts.	
SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Corey Panozzo, Renee Kerr, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, , Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Jill and Christie Higgenbottom, Roma Magee, Joy Flynn, Peter Kelly, Rodney Clarke.	
Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator Betty 5382 6688	
Confessions Saturday after Mass (10.25)	
Saturday Morning Devotions: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20 Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church. 10am Mass	
Next Sunday 3rd Sunday of the Month 2nd Sunday of Lent—21st February	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am
Dimboola	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	
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, 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 . Free Sessions. 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.	
CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm.	

ROSTERS		
Feb 13/14	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvana Foster Lorraine Clancy Micky Robarts Rosie Taylor Anthony Amor Joan Parker Ann Hermans	Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan Kingsley Dalgleish Lesley Lannen Karen Hill Lynda Hutchinson
Feb 20/21	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Micky Robarts	Lise Eagan Bales
Commentator	Betty Heinrich	Bridget Bales
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Chris Velthuis Cathy Taylor Peter Gutteridge Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch	Judy Reid Shirley Hoffmann Andrea Cox Faye Willis Cate Rigby Mary Marshall Tim Lannen
Projector	Anita Masiero	Alison McKinnon
Children's Liturgy		Emily Hobbs
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Josie Phelan Gavin Hynam	Angela Stephens Lyn Starr
Prayers	Alison McKinnon & Anna Robertson	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	21st February Lynda Hutchinson Silvana Foster Helene Bush Mary Ward	28th February Josie Phelan Claire Irwin Joan Butler Mary Dowsley
FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)		
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa \$ 75.00
Horsham	\$ 1012.00	Dimboola \$ 177.00
Total		\$ 1264.00
2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)-Wk 12 <i>(Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals)</i>		
Envelopes	\$ 1330.00	Loose \$ 349.00
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$
Total		\$ 1679.00
Making Connections: Spend time in contemplation this week on the difficult periods of your life and how they lead you to new understanding of yourself, others and God. Reach out to someone who may be experiencing a difficult time in their lives.		
Marriage Tip: Research suggests that couples need five affirmations to balance out one negative comment. Go above and beyond today – give your spouse ten, fifteen, twenty+ affirmations and kind words!		
Daily Prayer: Hear the voice of your church as we cry out to you from the wilderness of this world. Come to our aid with mighty hand and outstretched arm; so that, nourished by the bread of your word and strengthened by your Spirit, we may conquer every test and each temptation of the evil one.		
A Vocation View: The world tempts us to grab all we can. Even food becomes more when it is given than when it is taken. Follow Jesus: be a giver.		
For our Community: That we will support each other in selflessness and humility, so that we can be true disciples of Christ during this Lenten season.		

Country Mass Times in February/March:

February 21: Dimboola Mass 8.30. Murtoa Mass 10.30
February 28: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
March 6th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
March 13th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
March 20th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
Easter Saturday: Murtoa 7.30. Easter Sunday: Dim 8.30

Murtoa Inter Church Council Harvest Thanksgiving Service next Sunday February 21st at OLHC School at 5pm, followed by a shared meal. Perishable goods (jams, fresh fruit and vegetables etc) will be auctioned. Non-perishable goods given to the Food Centre. All welcome to the service, meal and auction.

Dates for the Year 3 Sacraments in 2016

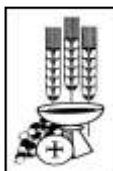


This Wednesday February 17th: Parent Meeting for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 6pm in the Parish Centre.

Thursday March 10th or Wednesday March 16th: Yr 3 First Reconciliation in SMJ Church either 5pm or 7



Tuesday April 26th: Parent Meeting for Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion, at 6pm in the Parish Centre. Materials for the Sacraments given out, and Cluster Groups will be formed.



Confirmation and First communion Sacrament Masses at SMJ Church: Saturday May 28 at 6.30pm. Sunday May 29th at 10.30am. Saturday June 4th at 6.30. Sunday June 5th at 10.30. Extra Mass June 18th

Murtoa Sacrament Mass: Sunday June 19th at 10.30

St Brigid's College Advisory Council Meeting at 7.30pm this Wednesday February 17th.

World Day of Prayer 2016 will be hosted by our CWL in SMJ Church on Friday March 4th at 10am. Other Churches will be involved in the Service, composed by the Women of Cuba. Morning Tea afterwards. All welcome.

+ We mourn with Greg and Felicity Lane, Greg is Principal of St Mary's Primary School, Swan Hill, on the tragic death of their 9 month old grand son, Hugh, Lane, son of Tim & Kate

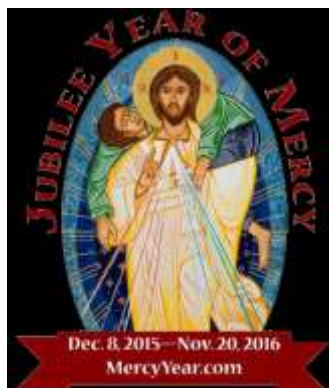


Sr Veronica Lawson, Mercy Sister, whose reflections are on our weekly Bulletin, has written a Book for the Year of Mercy "The Blessing of Mercy"

Sr Veronica will come to Horsham on Thursday March 17th from 10am to 3pm to lead us in a Reflection Day on the Year of Mercy. Copies of her book will be on sale at the Piety Stall or Parish Office at a reduced price. Please keep this date free.

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, 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.



Pope Francis' Year of Mercy Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you see Him. Show us your face and we shall be saved. Send your Spirit, and consecrate every one of us with the Spirit's anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy, may be a year of grace from the Lord, and we your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor.

Let your Church be your visible face in the world. We ask this of you, God of mercy and forgiveness, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy. **We will pray this prayer each week at the end of the Prayers of Intercession.**



First Sunday of Lent Malawi people of East Africa

1st Sunday of Len Story Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's

community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future. **Please donate to Project Compassion boxes or envelopes, and help people in remote areas**



St Valentine's Day. He was a Priest at a time of the emperor Claudius II who persecuted the Church with an edict that prohibited the marriage of young people, based on the hypothesis that unmarried soldiers fought better than married soldiers because married soldiers might be afraid of what

might happen to them or their wives or families if they died. It was a permissive society in which Valentine lived. Polygamy was popular, yet many were attracted to Christian faith. The Church said marriage was sacred. Valentine proclaimed this. He secretly married them because of the edict. Valentine was eventually caught, imprisoned, tortured, beheaded for performing marriage ceremonies against the emperor.



**End poverty
Promote justice 50 Years
Uphold dignity**

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90:1-2. 10-15

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you

has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

2nd Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Acclamation: Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word

that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him, 'throw yourself down from here, for Scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him to return at the appointed time.



Gospel Reflection - 1st Lent Yr C, Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Lent is a time for personal and group reflection, a time for entering into the "wilderness" or "desert place" to grapple with the mysteries of life.

While deserts are often depicted as uninhabited or desolate regions, the desert supports a rich diversity of other-than-human life. Human retreat to the wilderness is an opportunity to meet God in the unfamiliar, self, the world. It can reveal to us our capacity for right

relationship with God, with each other. Right relationship resides in "power-with" rather than "power-over". In Israel's story, the wilderness is the place of testing for God's people: "Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart" (Deut 8:2). Jesus is "filled with the Holy Spirit" is "led by the Spirit" into the wilderness to be "tested" there. The three-fold testing of Jesus in the wilderness is about the proper exercise of power and about trust in a loving God. In refusing to turn the stones of the wilderness into bread, Jesus shows that he is not prepared to exercise power over the other-than-human Earth. By refusing to accept the "glory of all the

kingdoms of the world", he shows that power over others and the Earth is not "of God" and that worship belongs to God alone. In his refusal to cast himself from the parapet of the Jerusalem Temple, he makes it clear that he is not prepared to test the power of God to rescue him from a self-inflicted death or to use God's holy place to such ends. Jesus passes the tests that the people Israel failed in the wilderness of Sinai. Luke's Gospel today has these ecological ethical principles: 1) Earth is to be cared for and treated respectfully, not ravaged through greed; 2) The ecology and environment are grounded in and enhanced by our communion with God; 3) Earth's resources are to be respected by all and not usurped

Next Week's Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which

he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As

he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.