

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

BULLETIN



5th Sunday in Lent - 13th March 2016

Lent



HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday next weekend, March 19/20.

At each Mass we gather outside the Church for the Blessing & Procession of Palms. Branches are available at each Church. The palms symbolise Christ's triumph, while the cross is the symbol by which his triumph is achieved.

MASS OF THE OILS: Monday March 21st at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30 p.m. A celebration of the whole Church of the Ballarat Diocese, the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. Oils of the Sick and Baptism will be blessed and Chrism consecrated. *All members of the Diocese are invited to attend the Mass.*

ANOINTING MASS Tuesday March 22nd at 2pm in SMJ Church.

We will be anointed with newly blessed Oil of the Sick. Cuppa in the Hall after.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday March 22nd at 7pm in SMJ Church.

Hymns, prayers, scripture, examination of conscience, **individual absolution of sins at the end.**

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday March 24th at 7.30pm in SMJ Church.

Reception of the New Oils, Washing of the Feet. Mass ends with the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose in the Church at the Tabernacle

All are invited to pray before the Blessed Sacrament to 10pm.

"Could you not pray one hour with Me" said Jesus.

Children for the Sacraments this year are invited to have their feet washed. Fr Peter will come to the children in their family seat for this washing.

Jesus washed his disciples' feet as a call to service of others.

GOOD FRIDAY CEREMONY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Friday March 25th at 3pm in SMJ Church.

The Passion of John is read, Intercessions prayed, Collection for the Holy Places, Holy Communion, and the Altar is stripped.

EASTER VIGIL AND MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Saturday 26th at 7.30pm in SMJ Church.

We begin outside the Church with the Lighting of the Easter Fire, and Process the Easter Candle into the Church. The Exultet is sung. Readings from the OT. Mass of the Resurrection. Renewal of our Baptismal Promises. Blessing of the people with Easter Water. *At the end of Mass you are invited to take home a bottle of blessed Easter Water, to bless your family and home.*

+ Easter Mass on Holy Saturday March 26th at Murtoa at 7.30pm.

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES March 27th : Horsham 10.30am.

Natimuk 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400

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Phone: 5382 1155.

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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

This Tuesday March 15th and Wednesday March 16th we welcome Bishop Paul Bird, the Parish Priests of our Diocese, the School Principals with the Catholic Education Office, for two days of In Service on governance in our Schools, and the report on the update of "Awakenings" on the teaching of Religion in our Schools.

On Tuesday Bishop Bird will be celebrant at Mass at 5.30 in SMJ Church for the Induction of New Principals.

All welcome to Mass.

WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 15th March **5.30pm**

Wednesday 16 March **4.30pm**

Thursday 17th March 9.30am St Patrick

Friday 18th March 9.30am

Saturday 19th March 10.00am St Joseph

SEDER MEAL

Wednesday March 23rd at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

\$8 or \$30 maximum a family

Please bring a salad or dessert

Please return the Form in the Church to the Parish Office by this Friday March 18th

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: Paul Couch (Geelong), Rose Inglis (Winchelsea)

ANNIVERSARIES: Harold Ballinger, Nora Eichner, Jim Ryan, Kath Magee, Lesley Butler, Nellie Colling, David Mills, Michael Michaelides, Phil Eckel, Henry Eckel

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, Fred Webb, Charles Moore.

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
Palm Sunday- 20th March**

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

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.

Free counselling, support offered by Centacare Ballarat for families, individuals affected by the drought and other issues **Free call 130303988** to make an appointment. Centacare can visit your home; they use our Parish Interview Room. Totally confidential, there is much Government money available, so don't hesitate to ring this number, times arranged to suit you and your needs. Support open to any family member.

ROSTERS

March 12/13	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Chris Velthuis Cathy Taylor Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer	Cate Rigby Russell Reid Mary Marshall Tim Lannen Mary Dalglish Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon
March 19/20	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Peter Gutteridge	SMJ School
Commentator	Anthony Amor	SMJ School
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Maureen Ervin John Parker Sr Jacinta Rice Marie McMillan Tess Hayes Anne Newton Silvana Foster	Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Lesley Lannen Karen Hill
Projector	Shayne Keenan	Alison McKinnon
Children's Liturgy		Amanda Carracher
Musicians	Chris Robarts	SMJ School
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	SMJ School
Prayers	Darryl & Maree Wren	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	20th March Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker	27th March Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan Barbara Gloury Kath Atkins

FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 74.00
Horsham	\$ 1242.00	Dimboola	\$ 131.00
Total			\$ 1447.00

2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)-Wk 18
Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals

Envelopes	\$ 1472.00	Loose	\$ 69.90
Credit Card	\$ 3392.50	Direct Debit	\$ 1904.67
Total			\$ 6839.07

Making Connections: Is there someone who is on the outer to whom you can offer support this week?

Marriage Tip: Studies show that arguing/fighting is helpful for the growth of a couple when both persons feel understood. Keep a listening ear open when disagreements arise, and be gentle.

Daily Prayer: Before you we stand in our sin and guilt, our misery and your mercy, face to face. Pardon our every fault and forgive all our sins, that, in this Lenten springtime, there may burst forth in the wilderness of our hearts a song of gratitude and joy.

A Vocation View: Lent is six weeks of being serious about forgiveness and knowing we are loved. Who will step forward to tell of God's great love for us?

"The love of God inspires the love of our neighbour, and the love of our neighbour serves to keep alive the love of God." - St. Gregory the Great.

"It is not enough to pray, thy kingdom come, but to work, so that the kingdom of God will exist among us today."

Country Mass Times in March/April:

March 20th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
 Easter Saturday: Murtoa 7.30pm
 Easter Sunday: Dimboola 8.30am. Natimuk 8.30am
 April 3rd: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
 April 10th: Dimboola LLA 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30am
 April 17th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
 April 24th: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30

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.

Articles for the Easter edition of our Parish Magazine "The Fisherman" are welcome. Please have them into the Office by this Friday 18th

STATIONS OF THE CROSS this Friday at 10am.

We welcome Fr John for our Horsham Masses this weekend. Fr Peter will be at Dimboola and Murtoa. Fr Peter is celebrant at Paul Couch's funeral on Tuesday.



We welcome to the Family of God in
 Baptism: Hope Anne Hofmaier
 daughter of Timothy & Jessica

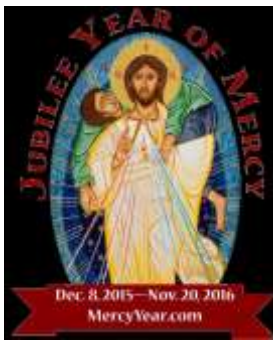
MAKING OF PALM CROSSES

Volunteers are needed to help with the making of Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday **this** Tuesday 15th March at 7pm in the Meeting Room. If you are able to help please contact Anita in the Parish Office.

SMJ School will lead the Ministries and the Passion at 10.30 Mass next Sunday, Passion Sunday, in SMJ Ch.

FILLING OF EASTER WATER BOTTLES

If you are able to take a packet of the bottles and fill them, could you please come to the Parish Office any time during Office hours. Thank you.




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 pray this prayer at the end of the Intercessions



Sr Veronica Lawson rsm
will give a Reflection
on the Year of Mercy, and
her book 'Blessings of Mercy'
at the Parish Centre
this Thursday March 17th
from 7pm to 9pm.
 All welcome
 Supper after.



Fifth
Sunday
of Lent

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION



Before enrolling in the Mondulkiri Community Health Program, supported by Caritas Australia, young midwife Sreymom lacked the practical experience necessary to safely assist childbirth. With the skills and knowledge gained through the program, Sreymom is a trusted midwife who is helping to improve the health of indigenous women and children in her region. **Donate to Project Compassion** to help healthcare workers in isolated areas of Cambodia gain training to improve the health and wellbeing of the region's indigenous people

CWL Raffle at Masses next weekend. 50c a ticket

EASTER FLOWERS - can you help with native flowers for use for Easter? If you are able to please contact Cheryl Howard on 0408 250 643. Cheryl will be preparing the flowers on Wednesday 23rd March.



Today's Gospel combines the themes which have been emerging during Lent: the goodness and mercy of God and the need for repentance. Jesus neither condemns nor condones. He simply accepts the woman as she is and invites her to a new life. It is acceptance and love which allows repentance and change to occur in others.





Next weekend, March 19/20, at Penola, the Josephite Sisters celebrate 150 years of their Foundation there by St Mary MacKillop. **Mass at 10.30am on Saturday** in the Mary MacKillop Stable School Park, Bowden St. 12noon: Light Lunch in Mary MacKillop Memorial School Hall.

2:00pm: Opening and Blessing of the Cameron Home adjacent to the Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre, Portland Street, and the unveiling of the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop statue. All welcome.

Best wishes to the "Relay for Life" next Friday night and Saturday to noon, at Taylor's Lake Oval. Your support in kind and presence is valued. Candle Service at 9pm Friday

1st Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of

tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

Acclamation Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

Gospel Reflection -5th Lent Year C, Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

On Ash Wednesday, we were reminded to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel. Turning away from sin means different things for different people. Some are sinners like the woman in today's gospel who finds forgiveness. Others are like her critics: not even recognising that they are sinners, they are less inclined to turn away from sin. Every woman in first century Palestine was the possession of a man: of her father initially; and then of her husband or successive husbands. Slaves, both men and women, were the property of the head of the patriarchal household and were expected to be sexually available to the master who was also husband and father. Even free women had fewer choices than men in regard to such matters as choice of life partners and social contact outside the family. In

the context of Second Temple Judaism, a woman's sexual liaison with another man was a sin against her husband. Her shame was of less consequence than her husband's loss of status and honor. We are told nothing of the circumstances of the woman "taken in adultery". We do not even know her name. We know that she could not have been alone in her adultery: there is a man involved who is at least as guilty as the woman. But only the woman is "brought" to Jesus in the public arena, as a spectacle for the assembled crowd. Ironically, the lawyers have little interest in the woman or in her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. They want to test him and catch him out on his attitude to the Law of Moses. They objectify the woman in the interests of their legal debate. In other words, Jesus is the one on trial in this public setting, and the woman is no more than a dispensable object in

the process, a means to a sinister end. Her life is of little concern to her accusers who ask Jesus for a legal opinion on her case. Should the full force of the law be exercised? Should she be stoned to death? Jesus does not dignify their manipulation with a response. Rather, he takes away their power over the woman by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. What does he write? We can never have an answer to that question. Her accusers keep asking Jesus to provide a ruling. He subverts their ploy by confronting them with their own sinfulness: let the one without sin cast the first stone. They move off one by one and the woman is finally accorded the dignity of responding for herself. She is freed from the burden of condemnation. She can move forward with a strong sense of her worth and the realisation that she has encountered the mercy of God in the person of Jesus.

MEN'S BREAKFAST
this Thursday March 17 from
7.30 to 8.30 in the Parish Centre.
Fathers and sons, single men,
welcome for free breakfast, prayer
and chat.

**EASTER DUES ENVELOPES and
GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION
ENVELOPES** for the Preservation of
the Holy Land sites, **are in the
Foyers today.** You can return these
to any Mass. Thank you.

School Holy Week Liturgies:
OLHC Murtoa - Mon to Thurs at 9am
SBC - Holy Thursday in the Gym at 11.
SMJ -Holy Thursday in the Church 12nn

EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE at
Masses this weekend. **\$1 or 3 for \$2**