



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk - Rupanyup

BULLETIN



6th Sunday Easter - 1st May 2016



Men of Mercy



Men's Retreat

Sunday
May 22nd
9.30 to 4
in the Parish
Centre

*followed by Mass
for participants.*

Come and join other men in a relaxed and peaceful environment designed to refresh the soul, and explore our spiritual well-being in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Leader on the day is Paul White a qualified spiritual director, member of the Campion Outreach Team and St. Brendan's Parish Men's Group, Shepparton.

Cost : \$20 (or what you can afford)

**Lunch and cuppas provided
Please register by May 15th
with Patrick Ellis 0428847455.**

All men and sons are invited.

Mother's Day Stall for SMJ School is this Monday May 2nd in the Parish Centre. Students bring along \$5.00 and hand it to their classroom.

Next Sunday May 8th is Mother's Day. SMJ School will lead our ministries at 10.30am Mass. The children will give a gift of a flower to mother, grandmothers, special friends after each Mass next weekend.

Coughlin Park Community Centre will be blessed and open on Saturday June 25th at 11am.

Our Diocesan Community Book is in the Foyers today for your taking

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.

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 Typuszkak

Phone: 5385 2526

National Catholic Church and Diocesan Mass Count.

Over the month of May we will take a count of those attending Mass and LLA.

We ask the collectors to take the count and write numbers on the forms provided.

Thank you.

"Mercy is not a virtue that you choose to put on one day. Mercy has to be your deepest way of seeing, a generosity of spirit that draws from your deepest identity, which is love. It is basically a worldview of abundance, wherein I do not have to withhold, protect, or hoard myself."



We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism:

Nicola Amella Perera

daughter of Gihan & Marian

Anita will be on holidays for the month of May.

Parish Office hours in May are:
Monday - Office closed.

Tuesday to Friday - Office open from 9am to 3.30pm each day. Angela Stephens on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Lyndel on Thursdays & Fridays.

WEEK DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 3rd May	5.30pm	Joanne van de Ven anniv
Wednesday 4th May	9.30am	Fr Tom Brophy anniv
Thursday 5th May	9.30am	Michael Reinsma. Sr Veronica Carr
Friday 6th May	9.30am	Walter Hudson anniv
Saturday 7th May	10.00a	

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: Renee Kerr, Alex Shanahan, Walter Deseu, Mary-Angela Hutchinson,

ANNIVERSARIES: Sr Veronica Carr, Michael Reinsma, Terrence Keenan, Walter Hudson, Fr Tom Brophy, Joanne van de Ven,

SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Corey Panozzo, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Jill & Christie Higgenbottom, Roma Magee, Joy Flynn, Peter Kelly, Fred Webb, Frances Mitchell

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 2nd Sunday of the Month
The Ascension of the Lord - 8th May 2016

Horsham Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am
Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Murtoa **Sunday LLA 9am**

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 in
the Church

Free counselling, support offered by Centacare Ballarat
for families, individuals affected by the drought and other
issues. **Free call 1300 303 988** 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

April 30/May 1	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer Maureen Ervin John Parker Marie McMillan Tess Hayes Anne Newton	Mary Dagleish Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett Noreen O'Connor Neville Strachan
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May 7/8	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
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Readers	Les Butler	SMJ
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Commentator	John Foster	SMJ
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvanna Foster Lorraine Clancy Micky Robarts Rosie Taylor Sr Jacinta Rice Peter Gutteridge Joan Parker	Julie Antonoff Karen Hill Kingsley Dagleish Shirley Hoffmann Judy Reid Andrea Cox Faye Wills
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Projector	Gabby Mills	Alison McKinnon
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Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
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Welcomers	Pat Williams Joan Whiley	SMJ
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Prayers	Mary Brown & Anita Masiero	
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Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	8th May Josie Phelan Claire Irwin Joan Butler Mary Dowsley	15th May Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi
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FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)

Natimuk	\$ 25.00	Murtoa	\$ 189.00
Horsham	\$ 917.00	Dimboola	\$ 86.00
Total			\$ 1217.00

2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)-Wk 24

Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals

Envelopes	\$ 1462.00	Loose	\$ 38.45
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 1500.45

Making Connections: Try to stand up for someone this week who may be in need of a defender. Take on the role of an advocate. Alternatively, you could try to bring the gift of peace to someone whose heart is troubled or afraid.

Marriage Tip: Love needs care and cultivation; it can't grow on its own. Talk with your spouse about areas where your love needs some growth.

Daily Prayer: Send your Spirit to remind our hearts of all that Jesus has taught us and to make us effective witnesses to your saving plan for all the world.

A Vocation View: It is not that talents add up to a vocation; but that a Vocation brings talents. The Spirit of God lives within you!

Confirmation
Alone we are a spark, but in the Spirit, we are a fire.
Alone we are only a string, but in the Spirit, we are a Lyre.
Alone we are but an anthill, but in the Spirit, we are a mountain.
Alone we are a drop, but in the Spirit, we are a fountain.
Alone we are a feather, but in the Spirit, we are a wing.
Alone we are a beggar, but in the Spirit, we are a King.

Country Mass Times in May:

May 8th: Dimboola Mass 8.30am. Murtoa LLA 9am
May 15th: Dimboola Mass 8.30am. Murtoa Mass 10.30
May 22nd: Dimboola LLA 8.30am. Murtoa Mass 8.30
May 29th: Natimuk Mass 8.30am. Dimboola LLA 8.30
Murtoa LLA 9am.

* With Fr John away, and the uncertainty of Fr Damien's health, Mass times on May 15th are subject to change

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion

The families have begun their preparation for the Sacrament of confirmation, and will be followed by preparing for First Communion. Mass times for the Sacraments in SMJ Church are: Saturday May 28th 6.30 Mass.

Sunday May 29th 10.30am Mass.

Saturday June 4th 6.30pm Mass.

Sunday May 5th 10.30am Mass.

Saturday June 18th 6.30pm.

Photo displays of the children will be placed in the Church. You are invited to write your name on these sheets to indicate your prayerful support for the children.

The candidates will be presented to the Parish at SMJ



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

8 - 15 May, 2016

from the Feast of the Ascension next Sunday
May 8th to Pentecost Sunday May 15th.

The Week of Prayer for

Christian Unity is a special experience for Christians around the world to celebrate diversity in unity, to make Christian unity a visible part of the call for justice and peace.

Prayer sheets, for each day, available next Sunday.

Ecumenical Christian Unity Week Prayer Service on Thursday May 12th in SMJ Church at 7pm.

Supper after. All welcome.



Saturday 14th May at 7.00pm
in the Horsham Town Hall
Music, Prayer, Scripture
to celebrate Pentecost

Guest Speaker: Kameel Majdali, Vision Radio
Organised by the Horsham Ministers as
an Ecumenical experience

All welcome Supper following the evening



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Sunday May 15th from 11.30 to 2pm

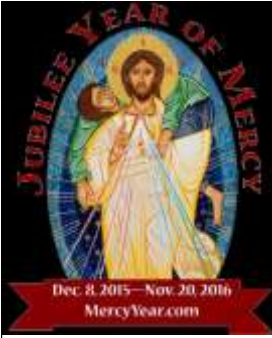
Students and Staff will conduct tours of the College and speak to you about it.

2017 Year 7 Information Evening.

Wednesday May 18th at 7.30pm in the College Library. Encourage families to come.

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.



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

EASTER GRACE: *Jesus' Resurrection affects the whole cycle of our life. It colours everything. Because of his Resurrection we can say that the whole of our lives have experienced a wave of God's grace flowing within us. For Christians, without the Resurrection, there is nothing - no hope, no life, no future.*

On Friday 8th April 2016, Pope Francis published a new papal document called, Amoris Laetitia, 'The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family' at the Vatican in Rome. It is about marriage and family life. The papal document is also known as an 'Apostolic Exhortation'. It is available to read and download on the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website: <https://www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015/home> If you cant read all 256 pages of the Exhortation, there is a summary on the bishop's conference website.

Bishop Paul Bird invites the priests and people of the Ballarat Diocese to a Memorial Mass for Bishop Mulkearns on Monday May 16th at 12.05pm in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

CWL May Meeting this Tuesday May 2nd at 1.30pm in the Meeting Room.

CWL WUCWO Mass - World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations - on Friday May 13th at 9.30.

Our Horsham branch of the CWL will host the Annual Diocesan CWL Conference on Wednesday May 18th in the Parish Centre. Bishop Paul Bird will be celebrant at the Conference Mass in the Church at 12 noon.



Catholic Education Week in the Ballarat Diocese is from May 20th to 27th

Our Parish Schools' Catholic Education Week Mass is on Friday May 20th at 11.30am in SMJ Church

1st Reading: Acts 15:1-2. 22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders. Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from

fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

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: Revelation 21:10-14. 22-

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel or crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve

apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now, before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

Gospel Reflection - 6th Easter Yr C, Sr Veronica Lawson rsm.

To be asked to keep someone else's word is an accepted value. Today's Gospel, calls for a shift in our usual patterns of thinking and acting. Jesus is the Word, the word of God in human form, the embodiment of God's communication with the world. Jesus also speaks God's word. The disciples are to demonstrate their love for Jesus by keeping the word that he both embodies and articulates. They are to live as Jesus has lived and be faithful to what he has taught in God's name. Each will thus become a dwelling place for the divine. The implications of this teaching are overwhelming. If we truly believed the words of the Johannine Jesus, we would consistently treat each other with the utmost reverence and

respect. Jesus refers once more to his imminent departure. When he is no longer physically present, God's Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will be with them. The Greek word translated as 'advocate' carries a range of meanings. It literally means 'one called alongside to help' whenever necessary. In other words, the disciples need not be troubled or afraid because they are never alone. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, is always with them to defend them, to intercede for them, and to comfort them. Once again, Jesus gifts his friends, this time with the gift of peace, a peace 'that the world cannot give.' In John's gospel, the 'world' often refers to whatever is opposed to Jesus as God's Word. True peace comes from being centred in God. Earlier in this chapter of John's gospel, the Advocate

is called the Spirit of Truth who remains with them and is actually in them. Only through the power of the Spirit will the disciples be empowered to 'keep the word' of Jesus.

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The 'Word became Flesh' so that God should become accustomed to living in us, and that we become accustomed to living in God. Over these next two weeks the Readings make reference to the Holy Spirit, the promised Helper, Comforter, leading up to Pentecost Sunday. The Spirit comes to remain with us, to become our Comforter, 'to strengthen us'. The Holy Spirit gives us comfort (strength) and makes us robust. The peace God gives is not what the world gives, but a peace deep in the spirit of each of us, to draw upon at all moments of our daily lives.

Next Week's Gospel - Luke 24:46-53

Feast of the Ascension
Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be

preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of

Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.