



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Murtoa - Dimboola - Natimuk - Rupanyup



BULLETIN

Passion Sunday - 9th April 2017



HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday TODAY

We gather outside the Church for the Blessing and Procession of Palms



Branches are available at each Church. You are invited to take a blessed branch home as a symbol of God's peace abiding there.

ANOINTING MASS Tuesday April 11th at 2pm in SMJ Church.

Anointing with newly blessed Oil of the Sick. Cuppa in the Hall after.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday April 11th at 7pm in SMJ Church.

Hymns, Prayers, Scripture, Examination of Conscience, **individual absolution of sins at the end** with Frs Peter and John ministering

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday April 13th 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 April 14th at 3pm in SMJ Church.



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

We welcome Fr John, and thank him for his Ministry

We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism today: Daniel Lupton child of Donald & Mary-Joy

Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes: please return to any Mass over Easter or to Holy Thursday Mass.

Good Friday Collection for Holy Places - to help preserve Our Lord's sites in the Holy Land - **envelopes are in the Foyers.**

Easter Dues Envelopes - for retired Priests and needy Parishes - **in the Foyer today.**

For those going away for Easter have a safe and blessed time, we welcome home family and visitors

EASTER VIGIL AND MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Saturday April 15th at 7.30pm in SMJ Church.

We begin outside the Church with the Lighting of the Easter Fire.

We Process the Easter Candle into the Church. The Exultet is sung.

OT Readings. 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 to bless your family and home.

+ Easter Mass on Holy Saturday April 15th at Murtoa at 7.30pm.

+ Easter Sunday Masses April 16th: Horsham 10.30am. Dimboola 8.30am



Seder Meal this Wednesday 12th at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

The Meal commemorates the Passover Meal that leads to the Institution of the Eucharist.

\$8 a person, \$30 family, please let Anita know on Monday if you are coming, call at the Office or ring 53821155 Booklets provided for us to participate.

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: Elaine Fuga-Hooper, Bro Kevin Tuck, Fr Jim Kierce

ANNIVERSARIES: Phillip Williams, Tom Brophy, Pat Dillon, Bruno Haenel, Audrey Bottoms

SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Peter Kelly, Corey Panozzo, Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joy Flynn, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Frances Mitchell, Judy Francisco, Jill & Christie Higgenbottom, Lorrain Holland, Xavier Reicha, Eileen & Bob Arnott, Joan White, Terry Turvey, Joan Glen, Fr Damian Heath heart valve operation,

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

**Next Sunday - 3rd Sunday of the Month
Easter Sunday - 16th April 2017**

Horsham **Saturday - 7.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Easter Saturday Vigil Mass 7.30pm**

**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

Craft Group Every Monday - Parish Meeting Room Mornings - 9.30am to 11.30am. Evening - 7pm to 9pm. BYO

Meditation Group in Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm. Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807

CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm. 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 held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Contact the Parish Office 53821155,

Piety Stall in the Church has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, cards, medals etc., Peru crosses.

Affordable Counselling, by Centacare Ballarat, for families individuals, **Free call 1300 303 988** to make an appointment.

Ministries for Holy Week

Holy Thursday:

Reader - Sr Jacinta

Eucharistic Ministers - Pat Glaubitz, Bob Pritchett, Anna Robertson, Maree Plazzer, Sr Jacinta + 2

Projector - Anita Masiero

Washing of Feet - volunteers invited to come.

Good Friday:

Readers - Micky & Chris Robarts, Bob Pritchett

Special Ministers - Eileen McManus, Karen Hill + 1

Easter Vigil:

OT Readers - Peter, Tayla Gutteridge

Special Ministers - Joan & John Parker, Bob Pritchett Bob & Tess Hayes, Anne Newton, Pat Glaubitz

NT Reader: Maree Plazzer. **Projector:** Shayne Keenan

Commentator-Tess Hayes

Easter Sunday:

Reader - Eileen McManus

Commentator – needed

Projector -

Special Ministers - 7 needed

Available Ministers please help where you can

ROSTERS

April 8/9	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvanna Foster Ann Hermans Anthony Amor Lorraine Clancy Micky Robarts Rosie Taylor Sr Jacinta Rice	Alison McKinnon Anna Robertson Andrea Cox Bob Pritchett Neville Strachan Karen Hill
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	Holy Week Volunteers to make the Church ready for Easter.	23rd April Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney

FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 99.00
Horsham	\$ 829.00	Dimboola	\$ 77.00
Total			\$ 1005.00

2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)

Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals

Envelopes	\$ 943.00	Loose	\$ 57.40
Credit Card	\$ 3852.50	Direct Debit	\$ 945.00
Total			\$ 5797.90

NAZARETH HOUSE BALLARAT APARTMENTS The new one bed apartments are near completion at Nazareth house. Eight have been sold and there are still two available. Please contact Nazareth house Reception for an appointment to view the apartments Monday to Friday 9.00 am—4.00 pm. Phone 53295100

LIVING WITH CHRIST— HOLY WEEK

The honour of your presence is requested for the Church's solemn commemoration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Monday of Holy Week—Mass of the Oils

THE SACRED TRIDIUM

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Making Connections: Like Simon of Cyrene in today's gospel, help someone carry their cross this week Did you Know: The narrative of the Passion of Jesus—the arrest, trial, crucifixion and death—are the earliest strands of what come to be written down as the gospels.

Marriage Tip: Pope Francis asked married couples: "How are things when it comes to joy at home? Is there joy in your family?" How would you answer the Pope? He said that true joy "comes from a profound harmony between persons."

Daily Prayer: As we near the end of Lent's forty-day journey, take our sin away by Christ's glorious passion, that we, who have so often denied and deserted the Lord, may not yield to despair but repent and renew our discipleship, so that when we proclaim the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend and every tongue proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

A Vocation View: Today's world is so filled with suffering, injustice, anger, depression and loneliness that it cries for people waving palm branches of hope and resurrection, proclaiming new life.

Palm Sunday "The Lord has given me a well-trained tongue, that I may know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them," says Isaiah in today's first reading. The gifts God has given us are likewise given for the good of others. How am I using my gifts?

Country Mass Times

April 15: Easter Vigil and Mass: Murtoa 7.30pm
April 16: Easter Sunday: Dimboola 8.30.
April 23: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
April 30th: Dimboola Mass 8.30am. **Murtoa Mass 8.30am**

Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm this Monday, April 10. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God and Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2017, the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All are invited to this celebration.

Good Friday Way of The Cross



Natimuk: April 14th at 10am
start outside Lutheran Church. Finish at Nursing Home. All Welcome.

Dimboola: 10.00am
Rupanyup: 9.00am
Murtoa: 3pm in the Church

DISCOVER WHAT
SETS US APART
AT OUR 2017 OPEN DAY

OPEN DAY
Sunday
7th May 2017
12.00-2.00pm
www.stbc.vic.edu.au

ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Excelling in Life. Led by Faith

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR PROJECT COMPASSION
Like many of her neighbours in her coastal village in the Philippines, Aloma feared for her family's safety as extreme weather battered their home and environment. But her participation in the Caritas-Australia supported Integrated Community Development Program has offered her a leading role in helping her vulnerable community prepare for extreme weather events and work together to protect their environment.

GIVE HAPPY LIVE HAPPY
Thank you to all who are involved in liturgical ministries, Parish Groups, who volunteer time and talents to these and to community organizations. U are important.

You cannot spell Ch_rch without u.
You cannot spell Ad_It without u.
You cannot spell Yo_th without u.
You cannot spell S_ccess without u.
You cannot spell S_nday Mass without u.
You cannot spell Comm_nity without u.
The Community and Church needs u. **THANK U**

O God, in Autumn, bless our lands with good seasonal rain

SACRAMENT DATES for Children in 2017

Parent Meeting for Confirmation and First Communion: Thursday April 20th from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Parish Centre. **Fr Elio Capra** will speak to our Sacrament Families.

Masses for Confirmation / First Communion:
Sunday May 28th 10.30am Mass
Saturday June 3rd 6.30 Mass.
Sunday June 4th 10.30 Mass
Saturday June 17th 6.30 Mass
Sunday June 18th 10.30 Mass.

Thank you to our Monday Night Craft Group for making our Palm Sunday Crosses for us to take and keep as a symbol of Christ's peace.

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Parish Visit by Fr Elio Capra on Thursday April 20th.

Fr Elio, a dynamic and inspiring speaker, will speak to our Sacrament Families in the Parish Centre from 5.30 to 6.30pm.

Fr Elio will speak to us as a Parish in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

The topic is:

Pope Francis' Approach and Vision for the Church in the 21st Century.

All welcome. Cuppa after.

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On Passion/Palm Sunday the Church gives us the entire passion of St Matthew to meditate upon as our entry into the holiest week of the year. Although the reading of the passion and death forms the basis of the liturgy of the word, nevertheless, it is the triumphal entry into Jerusalem beforehand which provides the context of what follows in the narration of the passion and death of Jesus during the mass. At first glance the entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (the 'city of peace' where Christ finds anything but peace) on a colt, the foal of a donkey, seems nothing more than a gesture of humility while indicating his identity as messiah and Son of David. The gesture of Our Lord is not so superficial. On the contrary, it is a direct parallel of what David did with his son Solomon when he made him ride on his own mule as a sign that he will be the future king at a time precisely when the kingship of Solomon was in dispute in Israel (1 Kg 1,33). God too is upholding the kingship of his son, when it is being disputed. Yet it is not a kingship of this world, hence, the mood changes rapidly and within a few days he is put to death. ■

The new Easter fire that lights up the darkness on Holy Saturday night is a sign of the resurrection of Jesus, and the divine life that Christ won for us, and is our hope of glory to come.

Blessed and happy Holy Week and Easter to you

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has appointed Bob Pritchett as our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** has been adopted for all who work with children in the Parish.

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20.
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend'.

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.'

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler

yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Acclamation Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Matthew 26:14 - 27:66
The Passion of Matthew is in Booklet
We join in the parts marked ALL

Gospel Reflection - Passion Sunday
Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Capital punishment is abhorrent to most of us, particularly when a just person dies for specious reasons or to political ends. Public executions of convicted criminals were part of life in the ancient Roman Empire. That's what confronts us in today's gospel, although the gospel writers pay little attention to the details of the death and suffering of Jesus. They are much more interested in the meaning of these events. The Romans execute Jesus outside Jerusalem when the city is filled with Jewish pilgrims who have come there for the Passover festival. For Jesus' friends and followers, every subsequent Passover is celebrated in the light of his death by crucifixion. They share their memories and reflect on the meaning of his death in the light of their sacred traditions. Every element of the Passover story, the ancient story of God's deliverance of their ancestors from slavery,

resonates with echoes of the experience of Jesus who is now present to them in a new way. It is not surprising, then, that the final events of Jesus' life were probably the first part of his story to be committed to writing. Though Matthew draws much of his material from Mark, he fashions the tradition into a new narrative and adds several distinctive features. "To fulfil all righteousness" is Jesus' stated mission (3:15). He has declared "blessed" those who suffer for the sake of righteousness [justice]" (5:10-12). He now embodies his own teaching as the just or righteous one, the one in right relationship with God. The prayer on his lips as he faces death (Psalm 22) is that of the suffering just Israelite who is utterly faithful to his mission and whose trust in God never fails. There are hints that Jesus' death is not the end, but rather the beginning of the new age of God's empire, a compassionate alternative to the brutality of Rome. In response to the high

priest Caiaphas, Jesus points beyond death to his post-resurrection life "at the right hand of power..." Extraordinary signs follow his death: the tearing of the temple curtain; the trembling of the earth; the recognition of the Roman centurion and his companions that this man is of God; and finally, the opening of the graves and appearance of the dead in anticipation of the final resurrection. The story offers the hope of reversal to all who witness the events surrounding Jesus' death. It offers hope to the women who have followed him all the way from Galilee and "ministered to him". It offers hope to the male disciples who have deserted or denied him, to faithful disciples like Joseph of Arimathea, and even to his Roman executioners. It has the potential to bring hope to their counterparts through the ages such as those who keep watch for the condemned on death row or for desperate seekers of asylum.

Easter Sunday Gospel John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Individual Confession Times:

Wednesday 12th: 10am.

Thursday 13th: 10am.

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Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

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Weekday Masses this week

Tuesday April 11th : 2pm

Anointing Mass with a cuppa in the Hall after Mass.

Wednesday April 12th: 9.30am

Phillip Williams, Tom Brophy snr, Pat Dillon, Bruno Haenel annivs.

No Mass or Devotions Saturday April 15th

Altar Servers' Practices:

Thursday 13th 11am in Church.

Saturday 15th 11am in Church.

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Flowers for Holy Thursday and Easter can be left in the Church by Thursday, thank you for your generosity.

Volunteers to help Teresa prepare flowers are welcome.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

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Diocesan Website (with Mass Times):

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

(select Horsham)