

# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

## BULLETIN

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19th November 2017



### Parish Appreciation Dinner for Sr Jacinta TODAY Sunday at Coughlin Park 12nn

*Our Dinner is in appreciation of the wonderful Ministry of Jacinta to our Parish over many years, it acknowledges her retirement from many Parish activities, and her continued caring and loving presence and ministry among us, living with us the spirit of the Brigidine charisms. All are welcome today*

#### PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust our sick brothers and sisters to your loving care. We pray your blessings upon all in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain, their source of hope in moments of despair, sorrow, woundedness, 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 **caregivers**, as channels of your love, they are your very hands on earth. Give them gentleness as they help the sick, to respect their dignity and value to You. Give them patience as they manage their time, to best serve those who are needful of their care. Give them courage to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands and when they need your enduring help. 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, and those in Homes and in Hospital.

#### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson  
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero  
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400  
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402  
Phone: 5382 1155. Fax: 5382 3016  
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  
Acting Principal: Les Butler  
Phone: 5385 2526

### New Planned Giving Envelopes begin today November 19th

We welcome Fr John



We welcome to the Family of God in Baptisms at Murtoa:  
Jack Leo Delahunty,  
Son of Thomas and Lisa  
Patrick Vincent Smith  
Son of Daniel and Emily

**Anointing Mass Lutheran Home this Friday 24th November at 10.30am**



Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Faye and Brian Wills on their 60th Wedding Anniversary



### WORLD DAY OF THE POOR – TODAY SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER:

Theme: "Love not in word, but in deed". Next Sunday

is the "Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe" who identified with the poor and marginalised. Pope Francis: "poverty is at the heart of the Gospel and that while Lazarus lies at the door of our homes (Lk 16:19-21), there can be no justice or social peace.

**Prayer Cards are available today on this Theme.**

**Quote from Pope Francis' message:** We know how hard it is for our contemporary world to see poverty clearly for what it is. Yet in myriad ways poverty challenges us daily, in faces marked by suffering, marginaliza-on, oppression, violence, torture and imprisonment, war, depriva-on of freedom and dignity, ignorance and illiteracy, medical emergencies and shortages of work, trafficking and slavery, exile, extreme poverty and forced mi-gra-on. (Pope Francis, Message for World Day of Poor)  
**Ways to observe the World Day of the Poor :** Practice the Corporal Works of Mercy drawn from Jesus' life and teachings: feed the hungry, give to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick and imprisoned, give alms to the poor, to care for God's creation.

#### WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 21st Nov 5.30pm Presentation of Our Lady. Gavan Merrett  
Wednesday 22 Nov 9.30am St Cecilia. Wayne Mills, Dave Marshall ann  
Thursday 23rd Nov 9.30am St Columban  
Friday 24th Nov **10.30 Lutheran Home.** St Andrew de Lac  
Saturday 25th Nov 10am Marion Hudson anniv.

#### 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:

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mark Fernandez, Marion Hudson, Pat James, Wayne Mills, Dave Marshall, Gavan Merrett,

**SICK:** Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Kobe Davidson, Peter Kelly, Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joy Flynn, John Coleman, Joan Glen, Judy Francisco, Xavier Reicha, Jean Ivess, Terry Turvey, Debbie Nolan, Lorrain Holland, Jill & Christine Higginbottom, Maureen Ryan, Ken Dowsley, Peter Oakley, Felicity Taylor, Fleur Armstrong, Heather McPhee, Rachel O'Connor, Maurice Brennan

**Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688**

**Confessions on Saturday after 10am Mass (10.25)**

### Each Saturday Morning:

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20  
Rosary 9.30. Prayer of the Church 9.40. Mass 10am**

**Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Month  
Feast of Christ the King 26th November 2017**

Horsham **Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am**

Dimboola **Saturday Mass 6.00pm**

Natimuk **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Nhill **Sunday Mass 10.00am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

**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

**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.

**CWL Meetings** 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm. Meeting Room.

**Men's Group** Meeting will be at the 3rd Thursday of the month in the Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428847455

**St Vincent de Paul Conference.** Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm for assistance. Phone 53812371

**BAPTISM PREPARATION.** 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30pm. For appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

**Affordable Counselling** from Centacare Ballarat, for families, individuals. **Free Call** 1300 303 988 for appointment

### November is Holy Souls Month

**Holy Souls Mass Envelopes are in the Foyers, if you wish to have a Mass offered for the Holy Souls.**

**Holy Souls Remembrance Book in the Foyer.**  
**Please add names of loved ones who have died in the past twelve months, or names you wish remembered in our Holy souls Month Masses**

**Columban Calendars \$8 and Christmas Cards available in Piety Store.**

## ROSTERS

18/19 Nov	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 9.30am*
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Silvanna Foster Anthony Amor Geoff Simpson Ann Hermans Lorraine Clancy Micky Robarts Rosie Taylor	Tim Lannen Mary Dalglish Russell Reid Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon Anna Robertson Bob Pritchett
<b>Commentator</b>	Betty Heinrich	Dianne Noy
25/26 Nov	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
<b>Readers</b>	Micky Robarts	Louise Kemp
<b>Commentator</b>	Garry Heinrich	Kingsley Dalglish
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Sr Jacinta Rice Simon Lynch Joan Parker Anne Newton Cathy Taylor Pat Glaubitz Bernadette Trounce	Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Judy Reid Andrea Cox Faye Wills Bob Pritchett
<b>Projector</b>	Gerard Natividad	Shayne Keenan
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Robarts	Teresa Bottoms
<b>Welcomers</b>	Garry & Betty Heinrich	Angela Stephens Lyn Starr
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Robert
<b>Prayers</b>	Alison McKinnon & Anna Robertson	
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>26th November</b> Lynda Hutchinson Silvanna Foster Helene Bush	<b>3rd December</b> Josie Phelan Pauline Irwin Joan Butler, Margo Hogan Mary Dowsley

### FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 144.00
Horsham	\$ 728.00	Dimboola	\$ 45.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 917.00</b>

### 2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 2812.00	Loose	\$ 56.90
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 2868.90</b>

**Making Connections:** What are your talents and gifts? How do you use them? This week, use your talents explicitly for the good of others.

**Did you Know?: Points of interest and Catholic lore.** The 'talents' are not equally distributed. In God's plan, all are endowed with different 'talents' so that we will recognise our need for each other and practice generosity, kindness

**Living the Word:** Try to identify the particular gifts or talent which are needed in the various ministries of the parish. Can the gifts and talents be matched to these needs?

**Sharing the Tradition:** From the earliest times the Church men and women have made their unique contributions to the life of the Church. Even the simplest person has a contribution to make - remember the apostles!

**Marriage Tip:** Do you know what romantic gestures your spouse loves the most? Is it candlelight, a shoulder rub, flowers, written notes, a favourite dessert or meal? Surprise him/her with a special gesture sometime this week.

**A Vocation View:** Don't just bury your talents. Dream your best dream about your life, live it to the full. God calls you to live in happiness.

**Daily Prayer:** Give us the will and wisdom to multiply the gifts your providence has bestowed, and make us industrious and vigilant as we await your Son's return, so that we may rejoice to hear him call us "good and faithful servants" and be blest to enter into the joy of your kingdom.

**Country Mass Times:**

Saturday Nov 25: Dimboola 6pm.  
 Sunday Nov 26: Natimuk 8.30  
 Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am  
 Sunday Dec 3: Dimboola 8.30.  
 Murtoa 10.30  
 Sunday Dec 10: Dimboola 8.30.  
 Murtoa 10.30am

**Cemetery Masses:**

**Nhill:** This Monday Nov 20 at 6pm, with Tea after Mass.  
**Dimboola:** This Thursday Nov 23rd at 6pm, shared tea at Church after.  
**Rupanyup:** Tuesday Nov 28 at 6.30.



**SMJ School  
 Year 6 RACV  
 Challenge  
 Students and  
 Staff invite Parishioners to**

**the School this Tuesday Nov 21st from 10.30 to 12.30, to hear about their preparations for the RACV Challenge.** Mix FM Radio will do a live broadcast of this day. Morning Tea at 10.30, and the different groups will speak at 11.30, 11.45, 12nn 12.15 and 12.30 on what they are doing for the Challenge.

**The Finance Committee presents to us these Reports on our Parish Finances.** We are very grateful for the support of those who pledge, who give loose money  
 Explanations: School subsidy is to pay for Convent demolition. Property Costs: rates, electricity, gas, insurances.

**SMJ Parish Profit & Loss Statement  
 Nov 2016 - Nov 2017**

**Income**  
**Pledged Envelopes:** \$168,049.87  
**Loose Money:** \$ 4,082.85  
**Parish Centre hire:** \$ 350.00  
**Sacraments:** \$ 1,597.00  
**Sundry Income:** \$ 427.45  
**Total Income:** **\$170,424.32**

**Expenses:**  
**Liturgical:** \$6,197.65  
**Adult Faith:** \$ 240.00  
**Parish Mission:** \$4,325.05  
**Pastoral Groups:** \$ 355.45  
**Diocesan Levies:** \$35,720.94  
**Administration:** \$32,357.11  
**Capital Expenses:** \$ 1,440.46  
**Property Costs:** \$27,005.40  
**Maintenance:** \$ 5,951.55  
**Salaries:** \$70,675.20  
**Associated Costs:** \$ 8,149.01  
**School subsidy:** \$ 6,000.00  
**Total Expenses:** **\$198,417.82**

**33rd Sunday** Good stewards are the industrious and reliable servants in today's Gospel, prudently using and multiplying the gifts entrusted to them by God The "worthy wife" in today's first reading is a perfect example of active stewardship, reaching out her hands to the poor and extending her arms to the needy.



Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to these Couples on their Weddings:

Belinda Bottoms / Bryce McBride on October 28th.

Lillia D'Agostin and Chris Hallam on November 19th.

Srs Manuela and Tirsia pray the Rosary in the Church each Thursday and Friday at 4pm. You are welcome to join them anytime We welcome with them this weekend Sr Justine from Chile.

Bishop Paul Bird will make an official Visitation to our Parish from August 24th to 27th 2018.

Christmas Mass Times 2017:

Horsham Sunday Dec 24th: 7pm & 10.15pm, Monday Dec 25: 9am

December 24th: Dimboola 7pm Nhill 5pm, Murtoa 5pm.

Horsham: Saturday Dec 23: 6.30pm. Sunday Dec 24 10.30am Sunday 24th: Murtoa 8.30am

**SMJ Parish Planned Giving from November 2016- November 2017**

Pledge Period	Number of Givers	Amount Pledged	Giving Amount	Giving per Week	Giving Percentages
Weekly	106	\$69,746	\$58,371	\$1,122.52	83.69%
Fortnightly	14	\$10,400	\$8,125	\$156.25	78.13%
Monthly	93	\$60,340.37	\$56,263.37	\$1,081.99	93.24%
Quarterly	20	\$9620	\$10,600	\$203.85	110.19%
Half Yearly	16	\$12,060	\$10,060	\$193.46	83.42%
Yearly	78	\$29,231	\$21,962	\$422.35	75.13%
No Pledge	3	\$400	\$0.00	\$0.00	00.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>\$191,797.37</b>	<b>\$165,381.37</b>	<b>\$3,180.41</b>	<b>86.23%</b>

**ADVENT PROGRAM 2017**

• Eileen McManus will be running a Advent program in the Church meeting room starting on Monday 27th November at 10am Contact Eileen on 5382 4745  
 • Lesley Price will run a group on an evening agreeable to those who are interested. Contact Lesley on 0408 369 487  
 If you wish to do the Program at home you can collect a booklet from the parish office at \$5 per booklet.

**Leadership for Mission 2018-2019  
 A Graduate Program for Young Catholic Women aged 25-35.**

Combines theological education, faith formation and preparation for mission in a multi-faith world. Applications close Sunday, November 26. For more info and an application form go to <http://www.opw.catholic.org.au/young-women-s-interfaithfellowship/leadership-for-mission-2018-2019>.

**CWL Christmas Dinner**

White Hart Hotel Tuesday 5th December at 12 noon. Cost \$20 per person. Contact Marina on 5382 1047 or Frances on 5382 1546 by December 1st with numbers. Please inform about any dietary requirements also. All welcome

**Parish Pastoral Council Members:**

Chris Robarts (Chair), Peter Gutteridge, Andrea Cox, Fr Peter, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon, Daryl Wren, Bob Pritchett, Garry Heinrich, Joan Lane-Storey, Margaret Lingham. Anita Masiero (Secretary)

**Child Safety Standards.** Ss Michael & John Parish has 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. Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish

**1st Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20.**

A perfect wife - who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:1-5**

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

**2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6**

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times

and seasons,' since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is,' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

**Acclamation: John 15:4. 5**

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came

forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

**Gospel Reflection – 33rd Sunday**

**Veronica Lawson rsm.**

As the end of the church year nears, the liturgy invites us to consider the big questions of life and death, including the day of reckoning that will inevitably confront each one of us. Matthew's parable of the talents is part of a discourse about the final realities. It is sandwiched between the parable of the ten lamp-bearers, five of whom are unprepared for the bridegroom, and the end time judgement of the nations (next week's gospel), which concluded with the warning: "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." This is usually interpreted as a reference to the second coming of Christ. Today's

story continues this motif. It opens: "For it is as if a man going abroad summons his slaves and entrusts his property to them...." The slaves are entrusted with phenomenal wealth: ten talents, five talents, and one talent respectively. A talent was a measure of weight rather than a coin and one silver talent was the equivalent of 1000 days wages for an ordinary labourer.

The slaves receive no instructions, but later events indicate that the man expects a good return on his wealth. The first two slaves deliver and are invited into the joy of the master, another possible reference to the end time when God will embrace those who are faithful to their mission. The third slave buries

his talent and provides a reasonable rationale: the master is a hard man who inspires a fear-ridden response in the slave. The master does not resile from this description. The unproductive slave loses even what he has and is banished to a place "where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Is the master an image of God? There are some elements in the story that may point to this; the Gospel can challenge the violence and exploitative ways of the master. Parables are open to multiple interpretations and the eternal verities cannot be encapsulated in one story or one image. They bear ongoing reflection and call us to responsible action.

**Next Sunday's Gospel: Matt 25:31-46**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you

gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire

prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'