

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill



BULLETIN

Feast of Christ the King - 26th November 2017



Today we end the 2017 Liturgical year. Today we see that the kingdom of God is as comprehensive as is the embrace of God. We show our belonging based on the bonds of our love, care and concern. What we do for others, we do for Christ, because Christ is identified with those in need. Having entered into the frailty of human nature, Christ identified himself with the needy, and handed himself over to death. At the end of time Christ will have conquered all. Christ won for us our hope. He has shown that it does take the strength of the Holy Spirit to overcome our own selfishness in order to serve. Christ taught us and won for us a kingdom of love, care, justice and peace.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
 Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
 10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400
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 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: Cathie Grace
 Phone: 5385 2526

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.

We welcome Fr John



Next Sunday December 3, we welcome SMJ School as they lead our Ministries at SMJ Church 10.30 Mass

Next Sunday December 3 is the First Sunday of Advent and the start of a new Church Liturgical Year. Sunday Readings will be from Year B, and Weekday Readings from December 4th will be from Year 2

Christmas Mass Times 2017

Horsham Sunday Dec 24th:
 7pm: Children's Christmas Story
 Carols 10pm. Mass 10.15pm,
 Monday Dec 25: Mass at 9am
 Sunday December 24th:
 Murtoa 5pm. Dimboola 7pm. Nhill 5pm
 Horsham: Saturday Dec 23: 6.30pm
 Sunday Dec 24: Horsham 10.30am
 Sunday Dec 24th: Murtoa 10.30am
 Sunday Dec 24th: Natimuk 8.30am

**Advent Reconciliation Service
 Tuesday December 19th at 7pm in
 SMJ Church.** Scripture, Prayer,
 Examination of Conscience, Hymns,
 2 Priests for Individual Absolution.

Anointing and Reconciliation at
 Dimboola and Murtoa Masses on
 Sunday December 17th.

**Anointing Mass SMJ Church on
 Thursday December 7th at 2pm.**



We welcome in Baptism to
 the Family of God :
 On Saturday night:

Lily Madeleine O'Dwyer

daughter of Michael & Madeleine

At Sunday Mass:

Myra Russell

daughter of Andrew & Amanda



Horsham at Sawyer Park next
 Sunday December 3rd,
 5.30 for children, 7.30 for Adults.

Natimuk Nursing Home Friday
 December 15th at 7pm.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 28th Nov	9.30	Mary Lawson Holy Souls
Wednesday 29 Nov	9.30	McManus Family Holy Souls
Thursday 30th Nov	10.30	Bob Arnott Funeral Mass . St Andrew Apostle.
Friday 1st Dec	9.30	Rawlings, Gibsons, Mathesons, Hennessys
Saturday 2nd Dec	10am	Lorraine & Tom Clancy Holy Souls

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: Fran Morris- Esperance (Noreen O'Connor's sister), Bob Arnott,

ANNIVERSARIES:

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 1st Sunday of the Month
First Sunday of Advent. December 3rd 2017**

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

Dimboola **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

Daily Prayer: How wonderful a king, Lord God, you have given us in Jesus your Son: neither a monarch throned in splendour nor a warrior bent on revenge, but a shepherd who seeks and rescues the flock, bringing them back, binding them with justice. Prepare us for the Day of Christ's coming in glory by shaping our lives according to his teaching that what we have done for the least, we have done for him.

A Vocation View: We proclaim Christ as King because we sense our vocation as being members of Christ's Family.

Christ the King: When the Son of Man comes in glory, may we be among those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and clothed the naked. Jesus tells us that it is those who have been good stewards, sharing their gifts with the less fortunate who will inherit God's kingdom.

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

ROSTERS

25/26 Nov	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 9.30am*
Eucharistic Ministers	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
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Kingsley Dalgleish
2/3 Dec	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	John Parker	SMJ
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	SMJ
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Plazzer Bob Hayes Joan Parker Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Silvanna Foster Anthony Amor	Cate Rigby Bob Pritchett
Projector	Gerard Natividad	SMJ
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Chris Robarts with SMJ
Welcomers	Judy Bryan, Gary Coutts	SMJ
Prayers	Mary Brown & Anita Masiero	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	3rd December Josie Phelan Pauline Irwin Joan Butler, Margo Hogan Mary Dowsley	10th December Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 164.00
Horsham	\$ 840.00	Dimboola	\$ 69.00
Total			\$ 1165.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1465.00	Loose	\$ 52.40
Total			\$ 1517.40

Making Connections: We may not know people who are literally hungry, thirsty, naked, sick or in prison, although billions of our brothers and sisters fall into these categories. But we all know people who are in need —emotional, financial, spiritual. This week, make a point of doing what Jesus urges in this gospel —tend to someone in need.

Did you Know?: Service has always been at the heart of the Church's work. Traditionally, the 'corporal works of mercy' are based on Jesus' words in this gospel and include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead. The church also identifies 'spiritual works of mercy' (see CCC §2447) as 'instructing, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently.'

Living the Word: Join in an activity highlighted in today's gospel; for example. Taking Holy Communion to the elderly, joining the St Vincent De Paul Society?

Sharing the Tradition: This feast marks the completion of the Church's liturgical year. Next Sunday begins Advent and the reading of Mark's Gospel.

Exploring the Word: During his life, Christ was not a king in a political or autocratic sense. Far from it. The subjects of his kingdom are called to service with the marginalised, the poor and the powerless.

Marriage Tip: It is natural to be proud of our children's success and take blame for their failures. Remember that they need your encouragement and support, but allow them to be independent in their life choices.

Country Mass Times:

Sunday Dec 3: Dimboola 8.30.
Murtoa 10.30. Nhill 10am
Sunday Dec 10: Dimboola 8.30.
Murtoa 10.30am
Sunday Dec 17: Dimboola 8.30am
Murtoa 8.30am
Sunday Dec 24: Natimuk 8.30
Murtoa 8.30

Christmas Eve Sunday Dec 24th: Murtoa 5pm. Nhill 5pm Dimboola 7pm

Sunday Dec 31: Dimboola 8.30
Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am



The Year of Youth

The Australian Bishops have made the Liturgical year of 2018, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent (3rd December 2017), as a national Year of Youth. **The Year of Youth theme is Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy, Anointed and Sent.** How might we celebrate locally?

Year of Youth information is on the Ballarat Diocese website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/Youth and Young Adult pages, or email youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

The Year of Youth aims:

- To prayerfully discern the vision for ministry with young people,
- Authentic, personal engagement in the challenges and successes in young people's lives;
- acknowledging the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of young people, and young people acting upon the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church;
- upholding the dignity of young people, ensuring a safe environment from physical, emotional and spiritual harm. The Year of Youth is focused on local renewal and engagement.

If interested please see Fr Peter.

ADVENT PROGRAM 2017

- Eileen McManus 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. Contact Lesley on 0408 369 487.
- **Sr Jacinta will run a Group too.**

If you wish to do the Program at home you can collect a booklet from the parish office at \$5 per booklet.



Jesse Tree Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2017 from next Sunday First Sunday of Advent

will again be distributing Christmas hampers to those less fortunate than most of us. Over the years as a Parish you have been extremely generous when we have sought your assistance. Last Christmas over 130 families and individuals received hampers/gifts as a result of your generosity. We again ask that you support our Jesse Tree Appeal through donations of non-perishable food items, and gifts for children (*please state gender and age on the gift*). Thank you.

Advent is a busy time of the year and we can forget that - at its heart - it is meant to be a time of preparation, waiting and hope for the coming of Jesus into our world and lives. Try to be still each day, listen to God and hear him declare to us, as he declared to his Son - *you are my beloved; my favour rests on you.* May this Advent and Christmas deepen the meaning of Christ's birth in our lives and an opportunity to grow in discipleship.



Children's Story at 7pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

We invite children to participate in this story. Please contact Alison McKinnon at SMJ School if your child can participate.

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>.

End of the Year School Masses and Graduations

St Brigid's College Tuesday December 12th at 6pm in SMJ Church.

OLHC School Murtoa Monday December 18th at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church Murtoa.

SMJ School Wednesday December 20th at 12 noon in SMJ Church.

St Patrick's School Nhill at 6pm Wednesday December 20th in St Patrick's Church.

Srs Manuela and Tirsia pray the Rosary in the Church each Thursday and Friday at 4pm. You are welcome to join them anytime



Next Sunday December 3rd is International Day for the Disabled.

Fr Peter will be at OLHC School this Tuesday from 4pm and on Wednesday from 5pm for Parents who wish to talk about the changes at the School. Cathy Grace began as Acting Principal this week for 2018, and Heather Bush has been appointed as a Teacher from 2018.

OLHC School Advisory Council will meet on Wednesday at 7.30.

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. Please inform dietary requirements. All welcome **Mass in SMJ Church at 11am**

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Chris Robarts (Chair), Peter Gutteridge, Andrea Cox, Fr Peter, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon, Daryl Wren, Bob Pritchett, Garry Heinrich, Marg LKingham, Joan Lane-Storey, Anita Masiero (Secre)

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: Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest - it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22:1-3. 5-6

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for

ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in the proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Acclamation: Mark 11:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 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.'

**Gospel Reflection – Christ the King
Veronica Lawson rsm.**

"It has long been a common custom to give to Christ the metaphorical title of King." These are the words of Pope Pius XI who established this feast between two world wars hoping to counteract the growing secularism "in public affairs and politics" and finding a way towards global peace. Peace would never be achieved, wrote Pope Pius XI, until and unless individuals and nations accept the "rule of our Saviour". In some ways, hope for the global reign of the Prince of Peace seems more remote than ever. For many peace-loving people, the rise of the so-called Islamic State and of Boko Haram marked new low points in more than a century of violent and ongoing conflict which has claimed the lives of some 160 to 180 million people across the globe. From a Christian perspective, the world needs the sort of leadership that Jesus

of Nazareth advocated in first century Palestine, the kind of leadership that Pope Francis is offering our world. The gospel for today provides a blueprint for Christian living and leadership. Matthew presents Jesus as both shepherd and sheep: as judge and king on the one hand and as suffering humanity ("the least") on the other. Works of mercy are the measure of justice or righteousness. Those who feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, and set the prisoners free are "the righteous/the sheep" who will inherit God's empire or kin-dom and have life. Those who fail in these respects are the unrighteous/the goats who fail to recognise the presence of the shepherd/king in the suffering of "the least". Why sheep and goats? While goats grazed with the sheep, they were never imaged as God's people, somewhat unfairly, I suggest. "Sheep", on the other hand, is a frequent biblical

designation for the people of God's fold. This gospel story is replete with mixed metaphors. It is the gospel source of the seven spiritual and corporal works of mercy that have informed the Christian way of life for centuries. It focusses on suffering humanity. In proclaiming an eighth work of mercy, care for our common home, Pope Francis has asked us to expand our horizons and to extend our concern to the suffering of the whole Earth community. The Feast of Christ the King brings the church year to a close. It invites us to consider ways to achieve the things that make for peace. If we wish God's reign of peace to be realised on planet Earth, then we might heed the invitation of Pope Francis to care for our common home: to engage in "grateful contemplation of God's world" on the one hand and in daily gestures that "break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness" on the other.

Next Week's Gospel: Mark 13:33-37
Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told

the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

**Rupanyup Cemetery Mass this
Tuesday November 28th at
6.30. Tea to follow at Sue Tyler's**