

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time—11th February 2018



Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

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: Cathy Grace
Phone: 5385 2526



Project Compassion Boxes and Sets of Envelopes are available in our Churches

**Ash Wednesday Mass Times
Wednesday February 14th**

Horsham: 9.30am, 5.30pm
Nhill: 12noon at the Church
Murtoa: 2pm at OLHC School
Dimboola: 6.30pm
Rupanyup: Tuesday 13th at 6.30pm at Weidemans.

SBC: Liturgy at 9am in the College Gym.

All welcome to the Masses or Liturgy. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at each Mass and at the Liturgy.

**Burning of Palms for
Ash Wednesday** at SMJ School on Tuesday February 13th at 11am



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 back Fr Peter
I thank you for your prayers, best wishes and support. I will continue my cardio rehab here in Horsham

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

this Thursday February 15th at 5.30pm
Please have any reports in to Anita by Wednesday.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Friday at 7pm in SMJ Church

MEN'S BREAKFAST

this Thursday February 15th 7.30am - 8.30 in Parish Centre
All men, those with sons, are welcome to our first gathering this year

SBC Opening Mass on Tuesday Feb 27th at 9.30am in SMJ Church

WEEKDAY MASSES: (A funeral Mass will replace a week-day Mass)

Tuesday 13th Feb	5.30pm	Marie McIntyre anniv.
Wed 14th Feb	9.30am	Ash Wednesday and 5.30pm Mass
Thursday 15th Feb	9.30am	Eileen Moroney & Dorothy Shalders annivs.
Friday 16th Feb	9.30am	
Saturday 17th Feb	10.00am	

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: Celso Marcial (Philippines) father of Dr Franklin Marcial. Barbara Melican (mother of Nano Magee)

ANNIVERSARIES: Pat Oakley, Agnese Masiero, Marie McIntyre Dorothy Shalders, Jessie Garwood, Clarie Keenan, Eileen Moroney

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

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 3rd Sunday of the Month
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th February 2018**

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. **Please Note: there will be no preparation during the month of March**

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

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

Pope Francis declared 8 February to be the world day of prayer and action against human trafficking. He chose this day because it is the feast day of st Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of Sudan and of victims of slavery.

- **The Rite of Election** will take place at the Cathedral next Saturday at 12.30pm for Adults preparing for Baptism.
- **Our Schools appreciate your collecting Coles coupons, please place them in the box in SMJ Church foyer.**
- **Days of Fasting and Reparation** in support of victims of Abuse, February 14-17. Srs Manuela & Tirsa will lead Prayers in the Church from this Wednesday to Friday at 4.30pm. **There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday from 4.30 to 5.30.**

ROSTERS

10/11 Feb	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Bernadette Trounce Ann Hermans Anne Newton Bob Hayes Joan Parker	Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Andrea Cox Faye Wills
Commentator	Betty Heinrich	Dianne Noy
17/18 Feb	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	John Parker	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Maree Plazzer	Andrea Cox
Eucharistic Ministers	Tess Hayes Sr Tirsa Silvana Foster Anthony Amor Geoff Simposon Ann Hermans Lorraine Clancy	Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dalgleish Sr Manuela Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon
Projector	Gerard Natividad	Shayne Keenan
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	Alistair Castle Sharon Creasey
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	18th February Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McLnerney	25th February Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 77.00
Horsham	\$ 706.00	Dimboola	\$ 96.00
Total			\$ 879.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1249.00	Loose	\$ 108.65
Total			\$ 1357.65

Making Connections: How powerful that action of Jesus is "Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him". The love and compassion behind that gesture is almost palpable. It is unlikely that the leper had experienced the intimacy and acceptance of human touch for a long time. This week, reach out and touch someone who needs a sign of acceptance or a gift of compassion.

Sharing the Tradition: Jesus' dealings with the leper and with all those who came to him for healing, is the Church's attitude to those who find themselves isolated and excluded from the community for whatever reason. The mission of the Church is to be with the sick, the marginalised, the suffering, the excluded. What ministries have we to help those in need?

Marriage Tip: In marriage, arguments are seldom black and white, "I'm right and you're wrong." Look for the golden mean when you're on opposite sides.

Daily Prayer: In Jesus you stretch out your hand, O God, to touch the unclean, to love the unlovely and to draw even the most despised and excluded into the circle of your beloved disciples and friends. Embraced by such love, make us eager to herald a Saviour whose kingdom includes all.

A Vocation View: Today's Gospel says that: "Jesus was moved with pity, when He saw a leper." Are you moved with love or pity when you see the outcast of today's society? Who will come forward to minister Christ today?

Country Mass Times:

Sunday Feb 18: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am
Nhill Mass 10am

Sunday Feb 25: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
Dimboola AWC 8.30

Sunday Mar 4: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10a

Sunday Mar 12: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am

DIOCESAN LITURGY FORMATION DAY IN HORSHAM Sunday 25th February

Program for the day:

10.30am Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul Bird

12.00noon **Welcome in the Parish Centre**

12.05pm Introduction by Bishop Paul

Introduction of Diocesan Sacramental Program,
"Let the Children Come"

1.00pm Lunch – supplied by parish

1.45pm – 2.45pm Workshop

2.45pm – 3.45pm Workshop

3.45pm – 4.30pm Plenary & Prayer of the Church

Funeral Ministry Workshop presented over the two workshop sessions:

•**Funeral Ministry:** *This workshop is a detailed presentation of resources for use for those involved in funeral ministry, and for those wishing to learn more about it. Website links and some hard copy material will be available to participants.*

**Diocesan Sacraments
of Initiation Program and Formation for
Lectors workshops are offered twice so
you can attend both:**

•**Diocesan Sacraments of Initiation Program,
"Let the Children Come":** *In this session we will look at the key features of the recently revised booklets in the "Let the Children Come" collection, to help us in preparing children for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.*

•**Formation for Lectors:** *The ministry of Lector (often called reader) is that of proclaiming the Word of God. The quality of the proclamation determines whether the assembly is helped or hindered in its listening to the Word. This workshop explores the practicalities of proclaiming the Word.*

REGISTRATION FORMS

ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER

Registrations are required for materials and catering purposes.

They can be handed into the Office.

LENTEN REGULATIONS – 2018

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any of the following:

(a)Prayer: Mass attendance; family prayer, a visit to the church, reading the Bible, making the Stations of the Cross, praying the rosary.

(b)Self-denial: not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reduce time for TV or other entertainments.

(c)Helping others- taking the family to visit the elderly in old people's home or the lonely in the parish.

Catholics are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday. ♦ Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year.

Lenten Discussion Groups

Using the Wollongong Program "Surrender"

Eileen McManus on Thursdays after Mass at 10am

Lesley Price starting Wednesday 14th at 7.30pm

Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in being a part of either group or run your own group. There are 30 in other Groups.
Lenten Books \$10 each if you wish to do it alone.

St Vincent de Paul is looking for a donation of a large working family washing machine. If you are able to assist contact Pat on 53824003.



NATIMUK MEN'S HEALTH NIGHT

Sponsored by the Natimuk Men's Shed

Thursday 22nd February at The Pavilion,
Natimuk Showgrounds.

Begins at 7pm with a BBQ tea

- Main speaker will be Stuart Willder, a Men's Health Nurse Practitioner
- Guest speaker will be **David Parkin**, former AFL coach and an advocate for men's health and fitness.
- Michelle Barber, a Community District Nurse, will be available to conduct blood pressure testing. **All men and youth welcome.**
- RSVP by 16/2/18 to Robert Niehus (0407 484 472)

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has Bob Pritchett as our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** for the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** exists for all who work with children in the Parish. Our Parish will always be child safe.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

1st Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy those whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. Happy those to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile.

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin.

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart.

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Acclamation: Luke 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

Gospel Reflection – 6th Sunday

We all seek to be part of family and community because we are social beings who need to engage with others and with our environment. Some are deprived of choice in this respect, in our times as in ancient times. Repeated name-calling and labelling is an age old strategy of exclusion. "Illegals" is a label that excludes some of the most vulnerable people in today's world. "Leper" is a label that is used metaphorically of those who are not welcome, of those deemed to be "infectious". Today's gospel about a man with leprosy invites us to reflect on the pain of exclusion. To be a leper in the world of early Judaism was to have some sort of skin disease that excluded a person from community and in particular from public worship. There were very strict regulations regarding such lepers (see the first reading from Leviticus, dating from several centuries before the time of Jesus). Their condition

required ritual cleansing by a priest and an offering that cost money. That seems horrifying from our perspective, and it was. In Mark's story, the man with leprosy approaches Jesus of Nazareth who is not one of the priests. This afflicted person thus cuts across the established procedures. Jesus is "moved with compassion", literally "moved in his gut, or in the depths of his being". In other words, Jesus empathises deeply with the suffering person. He has a physical reaction in the face of suffering. Some manuscripts have "moved with anger". A later scribe probably considered that expression too harsh as an emotion for Jesus and softened the text. Jesus speaks and acts. He declares that he wills the cure of the man. He actually reaches out and touches him: a bodily encounter brings healing. He then sends the man back to tell the priests "as a proof to them". The verb used for "send back" suggests that the priests had

already been approached without success. Jesus, the Galilean healer, succeeds in mediating the power of the God of Israel and so restores this outcast to life in the community and the community itself to greater wholeness through this healing. The widespread report of Jesus' healing activity will incur the anger of some of the authorities. For our part, as followers of Jesus, we might reflect on the fact that sickness and disability are not only physical phenomena. They also have social and emotional impacts on individuals and the communities to which they belong. Healing enables people to live again, to be with others, to do the things they want to do. It brings new life and integrity to community. Jesus demonstrates that the combination of a compassionate word and a healing touch can work wonders. That was true in the ancient world. It is equally true for us today.
Veronica Lawson RSM

Next Sunday's Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

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Plenary Council 2020 Australian's Catholic Bishops have announced it will be a plenary council of the entire Catholic Church in Australia. **In our Dioceses** a special time of prayerful preparation for the synod will take place from Saturday 21 April to Monday 7 May. More on this after PPC this Thursday.

Year of Youth 2018 Prayer

Come Holy Spirit of this Great Southland
Inspire our entire faith community, As we prayerfully discern new horizons for spreading joy in the lives and communities of the People of God.

Come Holy Spirit of Youth
Fill the hearts of young people with the hope and love of Jesus Christ. Enliven our community with the creativity, energy and joy of youth. Guide us together, as we strive to offer God's mercy to those who feel abandoned or outcast.

Come Holy Spirit of Faith
Empower our community to be courageous. Unite your people as witnesses of love. Walk with us, as we blaze new trails of discipleship, Accompanying young people as we renew the Church together.

Come Holy Spirit of Vocation

Stir within young people an awareness of God's call. Reveal to us the graces of young people. Guide us all, in finding our place and raising our voices to build a civilisation of love. **Amen**
Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, friend of the young, pray for us.

