

# Ss Michael & John's Parish

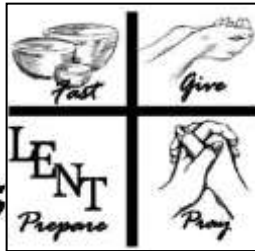
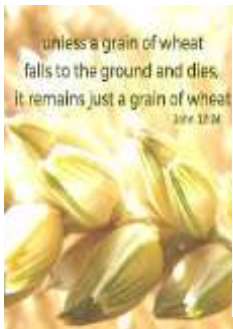
Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill



## BULLETIN



### 5th Sunday of Lent - 18th March 2018



#### 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

### HOLY WEEK begins with Passion Sunday March 25

- ◆ At Palm Sunday Masses we gather outside the Church before Mass for the blessing and procession of Palms
- ◆ Mass of the Oils at St Patrick's Cathedral Monday March 26 at 6.30pm.
- ◆ Anointing Mass with the newly blessed Oils on Tuesday March 27 at 2pm. Cuppa in Parish Centre after Mass.
- ◆ Lenten Reconciliation Service on Tuesday March 27 at 7pm in SMJ.
- ◆ Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of Feet at 7.30pm, with Adoration after Mass in the Church from 8.45 to 10pm.
- ◆ Good Friday Ceremony of the Lord's Passion at 3pm.
- ◆ Holy Saturday Easter Vigil and Mass of the Resurrection at 7.30

#### Parish Seder Meal

to commemorate the Passover of the Lord  
**Wednesday March 28th at 7pm in the Parish Centre.**

**The meal is \$8 a person or \$30 per family**

Please fill in the sheet in the Foyer, and please indicate if you can bring a salad or a dessert. Leave your form at the Office. Numbers to be in by 26th March. Thank you

#### PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust all who are sick to your loving care.

We pray your blessings upon those who care in their own homes, and those who work in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care.

May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain, their source of hope in times of despair, sorrow, woundedness. Be their inspiration and solace when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them 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.

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, to walk the sick in pain and sadness.

Bless the **ministry** of those who take Holy Communion to the sick, elderly, and those in Homes and in Hospital.

We welcome in Baptism to the Family of God:

Tayla Kathleen Mannes  
 daughter of Anton & Leah

#### Articles for our Parish Magazine Easter Edition THE FISHERMAN

Articles of interest, including photos, on Parish, family, Church life, please have at the Parish Office by this Friday March 23rd.



### Rosters for HOLY WEEK and Easter are in the Foyer. Please sign for a Ministry you can assist with during Holy Week. We seek more adults for the Washing of Feet on Holy Thursday



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
 Friday at **5pm** in SMJ Church

We welcome Fr John today

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

Monday 19th Mar	11am	Dick Walsh Funeral Mass. St Joseph
Tuesday 20th Mar	5.30pm	
Wednesday 21st	11am	Chris Velthuis Funeral Mass
Thursday Mar 22nd	<b>AWC</b> 9.30am	
Friday Mar 23rd	9.30am	
Saturday Mar 24th	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:** Chris Velthuis, Dick Walsh

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Bunny O'Connor, Annie Elizabeth Ryan, Fr Paul Gardiner, Bishop Oscar Romero, John Baviello, Kerry Hartigan,

**SICK:** Corey Panozzo, Ruby Spasic, Kobe Davidson, Peter Kelly, Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joy Flynn, Jean Ivess Joan Glen, Debbie Nolan, Lorrain Holland, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christine Higginbottom, Maureen Ryan, Fleur Armstrong, Heather McPhee, Rachel O'Connor, Maurice Brennan, Daryl Dreher, Felicity Taylor, Una Bartlett

**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  
Palm Sunday 25th March 2018**

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

Nhill **Sunday Mass 10.00am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

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

• **Our Schools appreciate your collecting Coles coupons, please place them in the box in SMJ Church foyer.**

**Plenary Council - Towards 2020.** The official launch for Towards 2020 will be on Pentecost Sunday May 20th. From 21st April to 7th May, 12 Redemptorist Priests will lead a 'mini mission' throughout the Diocese - with 4 of them in the Northern Zone. ALL Catholics, active, and disaffected in any way, are invited to help plan and have a say in the future of our Australian Church.

◆ If you are between 16 and 29 you are invited to participate in a Pre-Synod meeting. A summary will then be presented to Pope Francis. The closing date to sign up to the Facebook group is 16th March. The questions to be asked during the Pre-Synod meeting will be available on the Facebook group this Monday. To sign up: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pre.synodal/>

**ROSTERS**

17/18 Mar	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Bob Hayes Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Geoff Simpson Anthony Amor Ann Hermans Anne Newton	Alison McKinnon Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dalgleish Sr Manuela
<b>Commentator</b>	Sr Jacinta Rice	Kingsley Dalgleish
24/25 Mar	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
<b>Readers</b>	Peter Gutteridge	Bob Pritchett
<b>Commentator</b>	Garry Heinrich	Michael Connellan
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Micky Robarts Joan Parker Tess Hayes Maree Plazzer Sr Tirsia Anthony Amor Simon Lynch	Zita Cannane Anna Robertson Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor
<b>Projector</b>	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
<b>Welcomers</b>	Pat Williams Joan Whiley	Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Ange/Sharon
<b>Prayers</b>	John & Joan Parker	
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>25th March</b> Josie Phelan Pauline Irwin Joan Butler Mary Dowsley	<b>1st April</b> Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi

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

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 92.50
Horsham	\$ 1069.00	Dimboola	\$ 96.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 1257.50</b>

**2nd Collection (Parish Account)**

Envelopes	\$ 960.00	Loose	\$ 65.00
Credit Cards	\$	Direct Debit	\$
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$</b>

**Making Connections:** Make choices for others this week. Die to yourself a little. Repeat this prayer often: Lord, may I die to myself in Jesus so that through him I may have new life.

**Sharing the Tradition:** Death is a part of life. For Christians death holds no fear. Because of Christ, Christian death has a positive meaning...through Baptism, the Christian has already 'died with Christ' sacramentally, in order to live a new life; and if we die in Christ's grace, physical death completes this and completes our incorporation into him in his redeeming act.

**Living the Word:** 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.' John uses the term 'the hour' to refer to the salvific death and exultation of Jesus. In this story, Jesus proclaims that his hour has come. His death is imminent.

**Marriage Tip:** What do you owe your kids? Toys? An allowance? A mobile phone? No, these are not entitlements. Love, time, food, clothing, shelter, and safety are the essentials: focus on these.

**Daily Prayer:** Deep within our hearts, O God, you have written your law, and high upon the cross you have lifted up our salvation, the Savior made perfect in suffering. From the death of that single grain sown in the weary earth, bring forth in this Lenten springtime a rich harvest of life. As the hour of his passion draws near, may we glorify your name.

**A Vocation View:** Unless a seed first dries out and dies, it cannot be planted in the earth to grow. Unless we die to our selfish ways, we can never expect to be people who will 'lay down their lives for their friends.'

## Country Mass Times:

Sunday Mar 25: Palm Sunday: **Murtoa Saturday 6.30**  
Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10.  
Easter Sunday April 1: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.  
Murtoa 8.30am  
Sunday April 9: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa 8.30am



## Project Compassion Boxes and Sets of Envelopes are in Church foyers



Ditosa, a young girl from Mozambique, is cared for by her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, Ditosa faced a challenging future with food scarcity, little education and few job prospects. In 2018, thanks to Caritas Australia's support Ditosa has graduated from school and hopes to go to university and secure an even brighter future. **Project Compassion 2018 helps young people like Ditosa to grow up with education, confidence, hope, providing them with a just future.**

## Wimmera Filipino Australian Club

The installation of officers of Wimmera Filipino Australian Club at SMJ Parish will take place on **Saturday May 12th at 1pm** in the Parish Centre. Invited guest speaker Mayor of Horsham. All welcome.

◆ This Thursday March 22nd the Principals and Priests of the Northern Zone meet in Hopetoun with the Catholic Education Office. Issues on the Agenda: Governance and Codes of Conduct. The day begins with Mass at Hopetoun at 9am.

◆ Today's Gospel reading reminds us that we are closing in on the events of the Passion that we will remember more closely over the next couple of weeks. Although the Gospel of John appears to have Jesus in and around Jerusalem quite often, the events described in this week's reading take place in the preparation for Passover, immediately before the final days leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. It is a fitting culmination to the Sunday gospels of Lent. It prepares us for the account of the Passion, the Gospel next week.

### ◆ Schools Easter Liturgies:

**SMJ:** Thursday March 29th in the Church at 11am.

**SBC:** Thursday March 29th at 11am in the College Gym. The students walk to the Weir and back for Project Compassion.

◆ **SHARED TABLE.** Forms for you to support the Shared Table Project in Lima are in the Foyers. Please fill these in and return with your money to the Office. Thank you. All money collected goes directly to the Projects of The Shared Table in Lima, Peru.

◆ **Mass of the Oils on Monday, March 26,** is a celebration of the whole Church on the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. Oils are blessed for use in 2018 for the ordained, the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed. All are invited to this celebration.

## LENTEN REGULATIONS – 2018

### Good Friday - A day of Fast and Abstinence from meat.

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others, as the whole Church prepares for Easter

- ◆ Catholics are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, between Ash Wed and Trinity Sunday
- ◆ 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 turned 14yo.

Bishop Paul Bird has appointed Fr Kevin Moloney, PP Redan, as the new Diocesan Vicar General, to replace Fr Justin Driscoll who has completed his five year term

## GREENERY FOR EASTER FLOWERS and Donations of Flowers for Easter

The ladies are looking for greenery to use for the Easter flowers, and donations of flowers. If you are able to help could you please bring it to the back of the church in a bucket of water by **Wednesday 28th March.**

Thanking you in anticipation



## Parish and School SACRAMENT PROGRAM

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

#### Children's First Reconciliation times in SMJ Church:

Thursday April 26th at 5pm and 7pm.

Wednesday May 2nd at 5pm and 7pm

### Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist

#### Confirmation and Eucharist Parent Meeting:

Tuesday June 5th at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

#### Confirmation and Eucharist Mass Times:

Saturday August 11th at 6.30 Mass

Sunday August 12th at 10.30 Mass

Saturday August 18th at 6.30 Mass

Sunday August 19th at 10.30 Mass

◆ Sacraments at Murtoa on Sunday Oct 14 at 10.30



Palms Australia

### Volunteer with Palms Australia

Communities seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity and immerse themselves for skill exchange. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, share them with our global family! The Catholic Bishops Conference has agreed to support those who take up a global mission placement by providing a payment of \$2,500 for each year of mission

Contact Christine at Palms on 02 9560 5333

or go to [www.palms.org.au/volunteer/](http://www.palms.org.au/volunteer/)

**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: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-4. 12-15**

Create a clean heart in me, O God. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

**2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9**

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

**Acclamation: John 12:26**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel: John 12:20-30**

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from

Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. 'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

**Gospel Reflection - 5th Sunday Lent  
Veronica Lawson rsm**

Today's gospel tells us that among those who go up to Jerusalem to worship at the feast of Passover are some "Greeks". The reference is probably to a group known in the early church as "God-fearers", although that designation is found only in Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles. These people were a bit like RCIA candidates in relation to Judaism. They were certainly interested in Judaism and, because of their active interest in the Jewish faith and traditions, were possibly better informed about many of the Jewish traditions than those who had been members of the Jewish community all their lives. God-fearers seem to have been among the first Gentiles (non-Jews) to join the early Christian Jewish movement, i.e. the Jews who accepted Jesus as Messiah (or Christ). For Jesus, the arrival of these God-

fearing Greeks signals his "hour". Earlier in John's gospel, Jesus has insisted that his "hour" had not yet come. Now that his message receives global acknowledgement, or in the words of the Pharisees, now that "the world has gone after him" (John 20:19), he can announce that the hour of his glorification has come. Characteristically, Jesus uses a potent agricultural image to capture the transformative nature of his imminent death: like the grain of wheat, he must go into the earth and die in order to bear fruit. The same is true for his followers: to be concerned only with self-preservation is to "lose" one's life; to give one's life is to "keep it for eternal life". Although the language is more explicit in John, the grain of wheat image echoes some aspects of the first reading from the prophet Jeremiah (31:31-34). Jeremiah presents the God of Israel as One who forgives and who is even prepared

to forget the sins of the past. The people will be God's garden: the seed planted within them is God's Law. They will be God's own billboard: the law of forgiveness and mercy will be written in their hearts. John uses the "eternal life" metaphor in much the same way as the other gospel writers use the "reign of God" or "kin-dom" image. To keep one's life for "eternal life" has to do with living God's transformative vision for creation in the present so that it might one day be fully realised. In John's gospel, Jesus' death is also his being lifted up in glory. The moment of his death becomes the moment of drawing "all" to himself. The "all" includes all people, but is not restricted to the human community. It also allows for an ecological interpretation: in his death and exaltation, Jesus gathers the whole Earth community into the mystery of God's redemptive and transforming love.

**Next Sunday's Gospel: Passion of Christ according to Mark**

**HOLY WEEK begins with Passion Sunday March 25 next Sunday**

◆ At Palm Sunday Masses we gather outside the Church before Mass for the blessing and procession of Palms. Please take home a piece of blessed palm as a symbol of God's peace in the home.



Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect, belonging for everyone.

Bishop Paul Bird has asked our Parish to have a Seminarian for Holy Week. **Matthew Westall**, a 3rd year Seminarian, will be with us from next Saturday March 24th until Easter Sunday. We look forward to welcoming Matthew and having him join us in our Holy Week Ceremonies. He looks forward to meeting us and visiting us. We pray for him in his studies for the Priesthood.