



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26th August 2018



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
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Diocesan Website:
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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
Principal: Cathy Grace
Phone: 5385 2526



We welcome Bishop Paul Bird to our Parish for his Visitation. We offer Bishop Paul

our prayers, support and our blessings as he leads our Diocese, and cares for and responds to the needs of all, especially those suffering in any way.

All Parishioners are welcome to the Parish Lunch with Bishop Paul TODAY Sunday 26th August at 11.30 in the Parish Centre. Lunch is supplied. You can chat with and meet the Bishop.

Bishop Paul had a wonderful visit to SBC on Friday morning, spending Prayer with the Vinnies Group, met with Peter Gutteridge, Principal, visited Class rooms, morning Tea with the Staff, and a Q & A session with Year 11's, the students prepared some inspiring and challenging questions. Had lunch and a fruitful discussion with the Finance Committee - Jill Coutts, Catherine Robertson, Rodney Clark, Heath Watson, Anita and myself. Celebrated an Anointing Mass with 50 parishioners and a cuppa after. Met the PPC over tea. At each Group, Bishop Paul responded to the Reports prepared for him by the Diocesan Finance, Protocols Saturday visited sick and homebound. Bishop Paul will visit SMJ School, OLHC Murtoa on Monday and conclude meetings

PRAYER : SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust the sick to your loving care. We pray your blessings upon those who do care in their own homes, those who work in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. O God be the source of comfort to those in pain, be 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 in need 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 with 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.



Welcome to visitors, Officials, competitors

this weekend for the World Junior Motorcross Championships. Safety and success to you all.

Blessings on all in local Sporting Finals; on the 19;14 Ecumenical event at Soawyer Park on Sunday; and all other activities. Our prayers are for the best efforts to all involved



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP 7pm to 8pm.

All welcome every Monday at 16 George St.

Eileen McManus 5382 4745

A time of prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom to guide our Church to the Plenary Council



We welcome SPRING next

Saturday, and pray for good seasonal rain for our crops, gardens, trees, dams etc.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 28th August	5.30pm	St Augustine. Frank Delahunty anniv.
Wednesday 29th Aug	10.30am	Bill McGrath Funeral Mass. Passion of John the Baptist.
Thursday 30th Aug	9.30am	SMJ Yr 5 attend 9.30 Mass. Charles Rowe
Friday 31st August	9.30am	Frank Lloyd, Alec Smith, Princess Diana anniv
Saturday 1st Septem	10.00am	We welcome Spring

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: Bill McGrath, Corey Panozzo, Hans Gruber (Austria - friend of Ann McKinley),

ANNIVERSARIES: Barry Lattanzio, Ellen Frewster-Hynes, Evelyn Duffus, Frank Delahunty, Gino Panozzo, Jens Waowicz, Terry Moroney, Paul Connors, Megan O'Neill, Eunice Taylor, Peter Menz, Frank Lloyd, Princess Diana, Ramon Schaefer, Charles Rowe

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Jean Ivess, Joan Glen, Peter Kelly, Debbie Nolan, Ken Dowsley, Una Bartlett, Cathy Mintern, Jill & Christine Higginbottom, Rosetta Cafarella, Betty Fitzgerald, Heather McPhee, Maurice Brennan, Carmel Hemon, Sr Geraldine Stapleton,

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

Saturday Devotions: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9am. Rosary 9.20. Morning Prayer of the Church. Mass 10am. CONFESSIONS 10.25am

**Next Sunday 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Sunday of the Month 2nd September 2018**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am. Nhill Mass 10am.**

**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: Mondays in the Meeting Room. Mornings 9.30 - 11.30 Evening - *Contact the Parish Office* - BYO Craft - Gold Coin .

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. Contact Parish Office 53821155.

Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group meets in Winter at Eileen's home, 16 George St, every Monday from 7pm- 8pm

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

Bill McGrath. We offer Ivy and family our deepest sympathy and prayerful support on the death of Bill. Rosary on Tuesday at 6.30pm in SMJ Church. All are welcome to the Funeral Mass which will be a State Funeral in SMJ Church on Wednesday at 10.30am. Fr Justin Driscoll will be the Homilist. **We thank God for Bill's faith, family, public and community service, Legacy work, sport, interest in all people. Bill: "We only have one life and if we live it well, one should be enough. I have had a good life"**

Fr Robert McCulloch, a Columban who worked 34 years in Pakistan, will celebrate the SMJ Masses and Murtoa next weekend September 1st & 2nd.

Feast of Mary Mackillop. Bishop Paul Bird has given permission for our Diocese to donate to the ongoing work of our first Australian saint. **Envelopes will be available for this.**

ROSTERS

25/26 August	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Tirsia Bale Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Anne Newton Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz	Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dalglish Sr Manuela Zita Cannane Anna Robertson
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Dianne Noy
1/2 September	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Kevin Dunn	SMJ Children
Commentator	Tess Hayes	SMJ Children
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Jacinta Rice Geoff Simpson Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anthony Amor	Kingsley Dalglish Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Andrea Cox Alison McKinnon
Projector	Gerard Natividad	SMJ Children
Musicians	Filippino choir	SMJ Children
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	SMJ children
Prayers	Alison McKinnon & Anna Robertson	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	2nd September Carolyn Boseley Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Anna Carberry	9th September Pauline Barber Pat Williams Louise Guest Kate Hernon-Spasic
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):		
Natimuk:	\$	Murtoa \$ 106.00
Horsham	\$ 1231.00	Dimboola \$ 59.00
		Total \$ 1396.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)		
Envelopes	\$ 928.00	Loose \$ 103.40
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$
		Total \$ 1031.40

Making Connections: Have you ever been tempted to walk away? What has kept you on the journey? During this week make Peter's act of faith your own: Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life and we believe. We know that you are the Holy One of God.

Living the Word: The disciples are at a crossroads; they must make a choice to stay or go. Life in faith is not always easy. It offers a challenge to accepted ways of thinking and behaving.

Daily Prayer: In Jesus, your Holy One, you have given us the words of eternal life, O God, but you leave your household free to choose whom we will serve: the gods of the lands in which we live, or you, the living God. Far be it from us to forsake you! To whom shall we go? Nourish us with Christ's flesh and blood. May we have life ourselves, and bring life-giving love to others.

Marriage Tip: One version of the marriage vows states, "to have and to hold from this day forward." Pay attention to that little word, "hold," today. When times are tough or emotions raw, sometimes firmly and lovingly holding each other is the best comfort.

Vocational View: Jesus teaches us about life everlasting. "Your words Lord are spirit and life ..." It is this that gives us hope when we despair, a way of living when we stray from God's way. "The words I have spoken are spirit and they are life." It is God's words that we need to hear to lift our spirit and give life. Pray for vocations.

COUNTRY MASS TIMES:

Sunday Sept 2: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10.
Sunday Sept 9: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10.
Sunday Sep 16: Dimboola AWC 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30
Sunday Sep 23: Natimuk 8.30. Nhill 10. **Dimboola 11.30**
Murtoa 8.30.
Sunday Sep 30: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30

Fr Damian will be here next weekend September 8/9
Fr John will be back with us on September 22/23.

To all CWL members. Will we continue as a branch or not? Attend the meeting on Tuesday 4th September at 1.30pm and have **your say** on this decision. The **CWL Annual General Meeting** on October 2nd.

Refugee & Migrant Week 20th - 26th August.

WELCOMING-PROTECTING,
PROMOTING AND INTEGRATING
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



Our Parish is made up of parishioners from many cultures: Ireland, Scotland, England, India, Italy, China, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Philippines, Nigeria South Sudan, South Korea, Poland, Vietnam, Colombia....
Pope Francis: "Every person who seeks a home here is an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with them". The Holy Father says this "encounter" is fourfold - welcome, protect, promote, integrate. Throughout the first years of my pontificate, I have repeatedly

expressed my particular concern for the lamentable situation of many migrants and refugees fleeing from war, persecution, natural disasters and poverty. This situation is undoubtedly a "sign of the times" which I have tried to interpret, with the help of the Holy Spirit, ever since my visit to Lampedusa on 8 July 2013. I hope a greater number of countries will adopt private and community sponsorship programs, open humanitarian corridors for particularly vulnerable refugees.



BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND **Collection for Sick/Retired Priests** **a LEAVING COLLECTION will be** **at all Masses on the weekend of** **September 8/9**

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. 15 retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised \$1.8 million since it started in 1991, including nearly \$48,000 in 2017. Along with the Priests' own contribution of \$37,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience .

Contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE
CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Australian Bishops say to us EVERYTHING IS ON THE TABLE as we discern and pray for the needs of our Church, what we keep, what we need to change or adapt



Plenary Council 2020

'Listen to what the Spirit is saying...' Mt 27

Lana Turvey Collins, the Australian Bishops' Plenary Council Facilitator, will be in Horsham on Thursday October 11th for a Parish Meeting, and will stay here for Friday morning to meet with us.

When Fr Damien is here next weekend September 8/9 he will speak about "the signs of the times" approach to the Plenary Council so that we can respond as a Parish in an organised and systematic fashion, and give us the process as to the most beneficial way for us to understand what the Plenary Council means, how our input is welcomed and vital to its outcomes, and how to express our input to know that we are being heard. What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

SS. MICHAEL AND JOHN'S PRESENT:

FAITH ON TAP

Monday September 3
at the Vic Hotel Beer
Garden. Tea at 7,
speaker at 7.45.

Topic: "Among the many counterfeits: a case of demonic possession..." Testimony and discussion
For all over 18 yo. Contact Ema-Lee & James Rowe

Pope Francis Prayers for Victims of Kerala Floods
Pope Francis prayed with pilgrims gathered for the Angelus in St. Peter's Square for the many victims of the floods in Kerala, India. As many as 350 are feared dead, with many more missing and thousands trapped by the flood waters. "Over the last days, intense rains which have caused flooding and landslides, with heavy losses of human lives, numerous people dispersed and displaced, and great damage to crops and homes have harshly tried the inhabitants of Kerala. May they know our solidarity and the concrete support. **We will have an appeal for the Kerala families.** We keep them and people in Australia suffering from the drought, in our prayers and thoughts.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

Child Safety Standards.

Bob Pritchett is our Parish 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 is always child safe

1st Reading: Joshua 24:1-2.15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-3. 16-23

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-

hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks

after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Acclamation: cf John 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Gospel Reflection. 21st Sunday Ordinary Yr B - Veronica Lawson

If we have trouble understanding and coming to terms with the teachings of Jesus in the gospel, then we can take some comfort from the reaction of the disciples in John's community some decades after the death of Jesus. Not only the members of the Jewish synagogue were offended by his teaching, but those Jews who had accepted Jesus as Messiah and had joined the community of believers. "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" They are referring to his teaching on the "bread". Once again, Jesus' response is a new teaching that can only raise more questions. He links "spirit" with "life". Having used the term "flesh" of his body and of the life that he offers to those

who eat of his flesh, he now introduces an element of doubt: flesh is now "useless"! We must be careful not to interpret this literally. It is typical of John to use the same word in a variety of ways. Here "flesh" refers to human weakness and sinfulness in contrast with "spirit" which evokes the creative spirit of God that moved over the waters at creation and the spirit of God that informed the word of the prophets. The Johannine Jesus offers deeper insights into his identity and destiny and into the meaning of the Christian life. The reference to his "ascending" recalls where he is presented as the one who comes from God and has already ascended to God (John 3:13). After his death, Jesus will tell Mary Magdalene that he has not yet ascended and

instructs her to tell the disciples that he is ascending to God (20:17). It seems that John wants to keep emphasising the origins of Jesus as the eternal Word and the Wisdom of God. Many refuse the implications of his teaching and they turn away. Jesus asks his closest followers if they too will desert. Peter speaks for himself and his companions when he declares their undying allegiance: "To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life." Eternal life is the Johannine equivalent of the "kingdom of God" or "of the heavens" of the other gospels. Peter's declaration is a sobering one for us in times of doubt and an encouragement for those of us who seek to understand more deeply and to keep believing despite the challenges.

Next Week's Gospel: Mark 7:1-8. 14-1

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other

observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are

only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within