



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

## BULLETIN

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 9th September 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  
Principal: Cathy Grace  
Phone: 5385 2526

### BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests. A LEAVING COLLECTION will be at all Masses THIS WEEKEND

Fr Damien is one of the 15 retired priests supported by the Fund, and still beautifully active in Ministry to us and Coleraine. The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised \$1.8 mill since it started in 1991, including nearly \$48,000 in 2017. Active Priests' give \$37,000 per year. This annual collection allows the Fund to support to our sick / retired priests

### ENVELOPES ARE IN THE FOYERS TODAY

**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**

*Thank you.*

Collection to date: \$325.00

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### DEFIBULATOR Training in SMJ Church Foyer this Monday September 10th at 8pm

Thank you to those who have offered to train to use the Defibulator in the Church. Thank you to Garry for organizing this night. Any more interested please contact Garry Heinrich 0409523182 or Patrick Ellis 0418847455.

*The Defibulator will be set up in the Church foyer this week.*

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### SBC MISSION DAY MASS and FETE Friday September 21st (the last day of Term 3). Mass at 11 in the College Gym,

We welcome Fr Damien.

### Salesian Missions and Caritas Asia

**Appeals to assist the people of KERALA** recovering from devastating floods

**Donations are tax deductible.**

Send to Salesians Mission Office, PO Box 264, Ascot Vale, 3032; Phone 9377 6060 or **the Caritas website** www.caritas.org.au.

Place in an envelope marked **Kerala** on the Collection.

*Thank you for your generosity to Fr Robert last weekend, and in anticipation of your support to the BCSF Appeal and Kerala*

### 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 hope in 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.



### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP 7pm to 8pm.

All welcome every Monday at 16 George St.  
Eileen McManus 5382 4745

**Natimuk Nursing Home Mass** this Thursday 13th September at 4.15pm.

**SMJ School Foundation (Prep) Liturgy at 12.30pm** this Wednesday Sept 12th in the Foundation Learning Area

Yr 3 Sacrament Meal this Wednesday at 2pm in the Hall

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 11th Sept	5.30pm	Kath Delahunty anniv.
Wednesday 12 Sept	9.30am	<b>Holy Name of Mary.</b> Mary Lawson CWL
Thursday 13th Sept	9.30am	<b>St John Chrysostom.</b> Jennifer Coutts 1st ann
Friday 14th Sept	9.30am	<b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross.</b> Jean McManus ann
Saturday 15th Sept	10.00a	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows.</b> Danny Magee 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:** Kath Delahunty, Jean McManus, Danny Magee, Jim White, Bob Neri, Ann Harrison, 9/11 Victims, Dr Tim McArdle

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

**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 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
3rd Sunday of the Month 16th September 2018**

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

Dimboola **Sunday AWC 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:** 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

**A Reflection from the Gospel 22nd Sunday Year B:**

This was a Catechism question of past years: Is it a sin to miss Mass on Sunday? Let us turn the question to this: Is it a sin to go to Mass on a Sunday? This may seem a strange question but its worth pondering on the Gospel of last Sunday. Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah to condemn worship that is just an outward observance, worship that doesn't arise from true hearts James defined religion not in terms of church going but as "coming to the help of orphans and widows" It is a constant danger that practicing Catholics face, the risk that rituals of worship will substitute for living out the demands of the Gospel. The marriage of liturgy and justice sends us out to love and serve the Lord. Worship that does not fire our passion for justice mercy and action is counterfeit. Work for justice and mercy that does not impel us to come to the table of Word and Sacrament (**to Mass**) may end in burnout. How do I answer the questions above in my daily life?

**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**

<b>8/9 September</b>	<b>Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Ann Hermans Peter Gutteridge Maree Plazzer Sr Tirsa Bale Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Mary Dagleish Zita Cannane
<b>Commentator</b>	Tess Hayes	Eileen McManua
<b>15/16 September</b>	<b>Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>
<b>Readers</b>	Garry Heinrich	Alison McKinnon
<b>Commentator</b>	Peter Gutteridge	Eileen McManus
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Anne Newton Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Cathy Taylor	Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dagleish Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Andrea Cox
<b>Projector</b>	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
<b>Musicians</b>	Filipino Choir	Choir
<b>Welcomers</b>	Judie & Hugh Delahunty	Marina Manserra Mary Uebergang
<b>Prayers</b>	John & Joan Parker	
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>16th September</b> Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	<b>23rd September</b> Lynda Hutchinson Helene Bush Bernadette Delahunty

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

Natimuk:	\$	Murtoa	\$51
Horsham	\$ 960.00	Dimboola	\$102
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 1113.00</b>

**2nd Collection (Parish Account)**

Envelopes	\$ 1138.00	Loose	\$
Credit Card	\$ 3261.66	Direct Debit	\$
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 4399.66</b>

**Making Connections:** In this gospel, physical deafness could be seen as a symbol of being closed off from the world around us. Are there voices you do not hear, or do not hear well enough, in your family or workplace; in our nation or our world? Are we always attentive enough to those who have something to say to us?

**Symbols & Images:** Jesus could have healed this man with words alone but he chose to use gestures as well. The actions are a sign of what is taking place. Ritual gestures continue to be a rich means of communication in the Church.

**Living the Word:** Pray for openness to the word and action of God in your life.

**Daily Prayer:** O strong and faithful God, open our eyes to your presence everywhere. Unstop our ears to hear the challenge of your word. Loose our tongues in songs of praise and fearless witness to your justice. Marriage Tip: Psychologically, negative messages are more powerful than positive ones. If you've been hard on yourself lately, list three things you did well today. It'll make you a more pleasant person for your spouse to be around.

**Vocational View:** Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom, to be rich in faith. Take heart, be not afraid, consider your part in God's Kingdom.

**Exploring the Word:** The healing offered by the good news is for all people to access. Jesus' gaze towards heaven, is a sign of his union with God, and the commanding word of Jesus combines actions and the words..

## COUNTRY MASS TIMES:

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 10.30am  
Sunday Oct 7: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am  
**Fr John will be back with us on September 22/23.**



**Australian  
Christian  
Meditation  
Community**

## **Introduction to Christian Meditation**

*This day is open to all people with a practical introduction to the steps of Meditation in the tradition of the teachings of Jesus, and guidance to how meditation can be helpful in one's personal life.*

**Ss Michael and John's Parish Centre  
Saturday 13th October**

10.45 a.m. to 12.45pm. 1.15 p.m.- 3 p.m.  
BYO lunch. Tea, coffee provided

**Presenters: Ruth Fowler and Mirella Pace**  
*who are experienced meditators and members of the Australian Christian Meditation Community, who have taught and lead Christian meditation groups.*

**Enquiries: Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807**

*It is becoming more important for Christians to know that Christian meditation is part of our faith heritage. Many people follow the media and footy think that meditation is only Mindfulness, which is good but limited to a healthy psychological process, with an awareness of God's presence.*

## **CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 9th**

As a Church and as a Nation we have faced the terrible truth that we failed our children but have now embarked on a new path. *"The Church to which Jesus calls us is one whose people speak freely, children play safely, and life is lived transparently"*. We pray for all parish communities that our children are nurtured. May we treasure our children, be vigilant and fearless in protecting them from harm, and live as a community in which all may speak and live safely.

### **The Australian Catholic Church dedicates this Sunday at the end of Child Protection Week**

When the Prime Minister offers the response of the Commonwealth Government in Parliament on 22nd October, we pray it will show how we, Church and Nation, have faced the terrible truth that both failed our children, but how both have now embarked on a new path.



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



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.

### **We welcome Fr Damien here this weekend**

He will speak about "the signs of the times" approach to the Plenary Council so that we can respond in an organised and systematic fashion. Fr Damien will 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 know that we are being heard.

1. What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?
2. What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?
3. Do you have a story of your experience of faith or the Church you would like to share?

Submit your responses to these questions via an online questionnaire. You can send **now** personal or group responses to the website:  
<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>

Responses are read and compiled by the Plenary Team.

**Copies of the Plenary Council Brochure to guide our reflection and response, and Fr Damien's hand out sheet, are in our Foyers.**

Michael Myers, Diocesan Protocols and Child Protection Officer, will attend the Coughlin Park Board Meeting on Wednesday September 19th.

**Michael will hold two Meetings in our Parish Centre on Wednesday September 19th at 4pm and at 7pm.** At these Meetings Michael will explain the purpose of Parishioners filling in Code of Conduct forms, Working with Children checks and other procedures under the new Government acts. **You are welcome to attend either meeting and to ask Michael any questions or any queries you may have.**

### **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: Isaiah 35:4-7**

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:7-10**

Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

Praise the Lord, my soul!

**2nd Reading: James 2:1-5**

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**Acclamation: Matthew 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Mark 7:31-37**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

**Gospel Reflection. 23rd Sunday Ordinary Yr B - Veronica Lawson**

Those who are deaf or profoundly deaf frequently find themselves on the edge of the human and Earth communities. Without access to birdsong, to spoken discourse, to music and to the vast range of media communication, they often struggle to understand and to be understood. Their capacity to communicate their deepest wisdom, their hopes and dreams, their anxieties and fears, is limited not only by personal disability but also by incomprehension or even the impatience of others. In our contemporary technological world, sophisticated hearing devices and cochlear implants transform the lives of many who previously suffered from serious hearing loss and its social consequences. Whatever degree of deafness is experienced, relief from such an affliction offers far more than physical healing. It brings insertion into the life of family and community and

workplace. It opens up new horizons and unimagined possibilities. In first century Palestine, the chances of relief from hearing deficiency and associated speech impairment were minimal. Desperate people put their faith in folk healers who used their healing hands and drew upon their knowledge of the medicinal properties in certain herbs and other plants. Jesus was known as an effective healer and that he used some of the same methods as other healers of his time. Many of his contemporaries in that part of the world would have turned to Asclepius, the Greek god of healing, or his daughter Hygeia. Jesus turns to the God of Israel ("looking up to heaven...") as the source of healing power. There is layer upon layer of meaning in today's healing story. Habitat features significantly. Jesus travels from Tyre on the northern Mediterranean coast to the Sea of Galilee via the non-Jewish territory on the eastern side of the lake. It was a

regular route, but definitely not the most direct one. The gospel writer seems to be stressing the all-embracing nature of Jesus' healing ministry. Land belongs to God and territorial claims on land are no barrier to Jesus' healing ministry, a lesson Jesus himself has just learned from the Syro-Phoenician woman whose story is told in Mark 7:26-30. As the gospel story has unfolded, we have found that the same healing power of God is available to all Jews and Gentiles. It is available to those with bodily afflictions and who are paralysed by anxiety and fear. There is irony in the telling of the story: a Gentile deaf man can be brought from no hearing to hearing, from "speaking with difficulty" to clarity of speech, but Jesus' own disciples will shortly fail to hear and understand, "Do you have ears and not hear?" (Mark 8:18). Let us bury our prejudices and open our ears to hear in the hope that we might come to understand

**Next Week's Gospel: Mark 8:27-35**

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' They told him 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' He gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him, he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and

seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'



**National Police Memorial Service 2018 is on Tuesday September 25th at 11am in SMJ Church.** The Police and Dignitaries march from the Police Station at 10.30am. Lunch will be served in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to attend.

**The 2018 Social Justice Statement is entitled *A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land.*** Social Justice Sunday is September 30th