



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

## BULLETIN

### 3rd Sunday of Advent— 16th December 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  
Acting Principal: Michael Rowe  
Phone: 5382 3000

St Brigid's College  
Principal: Peter Gutteridge  
Phone: 5382 3545

Our Lady Help of Christians  
Principal: Cathy Grace

We welcome Fr John

#### Ministry Rosters for SMJ Christmas Masses are in the Church Foyer

Please sign for a Ministry you can assist with at any of our Masses. Thank you



We welcome to the family of God in Baptism

Isabelle Mary Rowe  
child of James & Ema-Lee  
and  
Amelia Anil  
child of Anil & Binny

#### Christmas Mass Times 2018

##### Horsham Monday December 24th:

7pm Mass with Children's Christmas Story  
Carols 9.45pm with the Choir  
Christmas Mass 10.15pm.

##### Tuesday Dec 25th Christmas Day:

Horsham Mass 9am

##### Monday Dec 24th Christmas Eve:

Christmas Mass Murtoa 5pm.  
Christmas Mass Nhill 6pm  
Christmas Mass Dimboola 7.30pm

##### Advent Reconciliation Service

Monday December 17th at 7pm in SMJ Church. *Hymns, Prayers, Scripture, Examination of Conscience, individual absolution by Fr Peter and Fr John.*

##### End of the Year School Masses

**SMJ End of Year Mass and Yr 6 Graduation** this Tuesday 18th Dec at 12 noon in SMJ Church

**OLHC Murtoa End of Year Mass and Yr 6 Graduation** this Tuesday 18th Dec at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church Murtoa

**St Patrick's Nhill End of Year Mass and Yr 6 Graduation** this Wednesday 19th December at 6pm in St Patrick's Church

#### PRAYER for 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.

#### Columban Calendars, Cards

Columban Calendars for 2019 in the Piety Stall at \$8 each.

**Bishop's Diocesan Christmas Appeal** There will be an opportunity to contribute to the Christmas Appeal as a 2nd Collection after Communion during all Christmas Masses. Money for this appeal can be placed in an envelope marked "Bishop's Appeal" can be left on the collection plate.

**Christmas Dues Envelopes to support our retired Priests and needy Parishes** are in the Foyers. Please place these on the Collections. Thank you in advance

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES:** (Funeral Mass may replace weekday Masses)

Tuesday 18th Dec	<b>12 noon</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>SMJ Graduation Mass</b> <b>OLHC Murtoa Graduation Mass</b>
Wed 19th Dec	9.30am	Agnes Hudson anniv.
Thursday 20th Dec	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Memorial Mass for Carmela Colosimo</b>
Friday 21st Dec	9.30am	Eugene Gillard anniv.
Saturday 22nd Dec	10.00am	Safety and peace over Christmas holidays

#### **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:** Stephen Baker, Joyce McKay, Margaret Hopper, Keith Ashworth - Melb (brother in law of Gabby Lattanzio)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Edith Rice, Warren Strauss, Iwan Szcuzr, Eugene Gillard, William Schaefer, Bill Jones, Peter Sutti, Preston Hynam

**SICK:** Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joan Glen, Debbie Nolan, Ken Dowsley, Una Bartlett, Cathy Mintern, Fleur Armstrong, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Rosetta Cafarella, Betty Fitzgerald, Heather McPhee, Maurice Brennan, Sr Geraldine Stapleton, Rachel O'Connor, Maree Frew, Brian O'Loughlin, John McNamara

**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 4th Sunday of Advent  
4th Sunday of the Month 23rd December 2018**

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

Natimuk **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday AWC 9.00am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 12.15pm**

**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 7pm—9pm - *Will resume again in February—* Contact Parish Office - Gold Coin donation for both groups.

**Meditation Group:** Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm.

**CWL Meetings** 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm. Meeting Room.

**Men's Group Breakfast** to resume on 21st February 2019 Parish Centre, 7.30 to 8.30am 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.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** 7pm to 8pm. every Monday at 16 George St. Eileen McManus 5382 4745

### ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP

Each Wednesday at 10am in the Church Meeting Room. Contact Eileen McManus on 5382 4745 for further details.

**Rejoice in the Lord, always, again, I say, rejoice.**



**SMJ School thank you our Parishioners** for your contributions to raising money for Ted's bike. \$15,000 has been raised and the extra amount over \$11,000 will help buy Ted new prosthetics when needed.

## ROSTERS

15/16 Dec	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Bob Hayes Anne Newton Peter Gutteridge Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
<b>Commentator</b>	Anthony Amor	Anna Robertson
22/23 Dec	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
<b>Readers</b>	Betty Heinrich	Eileen McManus
<b>Commentator</b>	Maree Plazzer	Anthony Dowling
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Joan Parker Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
<b>Projector</b>	Robert Sartori	Shayne Keenan
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Robarts	Teresa Bottoms
<b>Welcomers</b>	Judy & Hugh Delahunty	Mary Dalgleish Alistair Castle
<b>Prayers</b>	Darryl & Maree Wren	
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>23rd December</b> Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker	<b>30th December</b> Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan
<b>FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):</b>		
Rupanyup	\$ 45.00	Murtoa \$ 84.00
Horsham	\$ 838.00	Dimboola \$ 48.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 1115.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection (Parish Account)</b>		
Envelopes	\$ 3397.00	Loose \$ 64.50
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 3461.50</b>

**Making Connections:** 'A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people'. Is there an expectancy growing in you as the coming of Christ draws closer? Make a special effort to live ethically this week.

**Exploring the Word:** 'What must we do?' The Baptist is very clear that to be saved, people need to respond to the ways of God by being in right relationship with their neighbour and by living justly. The figure of John the Baptist holds a special place in the life of the church as one of the first people to recognise Jesus as the awaited Messiah. Reflect on John's withdrawal into the desert and the tradition of withdrawal that is part of the life of the church. Withdraw or retreat into a quiet place for prayer

**Daily Prayer:** Lord our God, already in our midst and yet to come, your presence delights us even now as we long for your peace. Winnow from our lives the chaff of selfishness and sin. Sow in us a harvest of gentleness and generosity, we rejoice in you, even as you exult and sing for joy over us.

**Marriage Tip:** "Although they go forth weeping... They shall come back rejoicing." (Ps 126:6) Every marriage faces times of sorrow and weeping. Trust in the Lord's care for you as you await the promised time of rejoicing.

**Vocational View:** Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?" Simply, tell the Good News to people. Nothing else matters.

### COUNTRY MASS TIMES:

Sunday Dec 23: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am.  
Dimboola Mass 12.15.  
Sunday Dec 30: Murtoa Mass 8.30. Dimboola Mass 12.15.  
Nhill Mass 5.30

### NEW YEAR'S EVE CABARET

Coughlin Park Community Centre  
Monday 31st December starting at 7.30pm  
Light supper  
Band: Tony and Cynthia Lawrence  
\$15 per head. Table bookings welcome.  
Contact Judy Bryan on 0408 824 870 for bookings

Congratulations to VCE students on their Exam Results. We congratulate Gerard Natidivad on being Dux of St Brigid's College with an ATAR of 98. We pray for all students as they make decisions about their future studies, work, pathways in life.

Goodbye, Dear Old School Goodbye, Dear Old School  
Goodbye, dear old school, Hello, bright new start.  
May God guide our lives, Head and hand and heart.



The Annual Vinnies Christmas Appeal invites your donations of cash, non-perishable food, toiletries, and gifts for the children. In the past year 180 families have been helped in many ways. Families experiencing homelessness, violence or living

below the poverty line, mounting bills make gift buying hard for them at Christmas.

**Your gifts for children (please mark age, gender) and non-perishable food can be left under the Jesse Tree, St Vincent de Paul will distribute these gifts to needy families..**

Vinnies thank parishioners, Schools, Young Vinnies Mini Vinnies for your wonderful support in 2018.

Shane Kennedy is the new Conference President.



### HORSHAM BRIGIDINE CENTENARY IN 2020

Staff and friends of St Brigid's College, Ss Michael & John's School, Our Lady Help of

Christian Murtoa, have formed a Committee to plan for the Horsham Brigidine Centenary in 2020 - Celebrating 100 years of the Brigidine Sisters in Horsham.

Celebrations are proposed for the long weekend in June 2020 and hope to bring back former students, teachers, staff and their families from the last ten decades, to come together, to reconnect, to celebrate. The June 2020 long weekend would give people extra time to catch up with past classmates and be more accommodating for those who travel long distances. The festivities would include each of the three schools being open for tours in Horsham and Murtoa.

If you would like to be updated on the Horsham Brigidine Centenary, please forward your name, the name of the school/s you attended (and years) with your contact details to [100@stbc.vic.edu.au](mailto:100@stbc.vic.edu.au)

Everything is on the table

Plenary Council 2020

*'Listen to what the Spirit is saying...'*



### Plenary Council 2020 – Listening and Dialogue Encounter Have your say – respond online

The Listening and Dialogue Encounter happens in many ways. Invite your friends and family to have a conversation about the future of the Church in Australia. "What do you think God is asking of us at this time?" Send your responses online. to [plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

To promote our own prayerful thinking about our responses to the question – *what is the Holy Spirit asking of the Church in Australia?* - the Parish Council will provide opportunities for us to respond as a Parish from February 17th to 28th 2019, gatherings will be co-ordinated by the Adult Faith Group and Men's Group.

### ADVENT PLENARY PRAYER

Be still. Be still and know.

Be still and know that I am.

Be still and know that I am your God.

God of this Advent time, as we watch, wait, long and hope, encourage us in our efforts to listen humbly to each other.

Inspire in us the words to speak boldly with each other. Create within us a spirit of discernment. Give us hopeful hearts as we continue our journey to the Plenary Council. We ask this in the name of Emmanuel - *God-with-us. Amen.*



### 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

### 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)

**First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

**Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6**

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name.

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

**Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Isaiah 61:1 Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John. 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

**Gospel Reflection. 3rd Sunday of**

**Advent Yr C-** © Dianne Bergant CSS We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the LORD is near. This is cause for joy. Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the

anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between the already and the not yet.



*Joyce McKay who was Presbytery housekeeper for 40 years from 1960 to 2006 was buried from our Church on Friday. Fr Peter*

*Sherman attended and spoke beautifully about Joyce's care, attention, cooking, cleaning for over 30 priests in her time there. We than God for all who care for us and for their love and support over this past year.*

**Next Week's Gospel: Luke 1:39-44**

Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

**Congratulations to our Year 6 Graduands from SMJ and OLHC.**

**Gaudete Sunday**

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice" and in Latin (as it always was in those days) the first word of the Antiphon was Gaudete, Rejoice. So the third Sunday of Advent is a day when the priest wears rose coloured vestments to symbolise the movement away from the sombre violet of Advent towards the bright white colour which he wears at Christmas. *The Rose coloured vestments I wear today came from Vietnam last Christmas.*

**Safe, blessed and happy holidays for our Schools and for those travelling over the Christmas holidays. Go safely, happily carefully and joyfully.**

