



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

Feast of the Epiphany - 6th January 2019



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
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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 Fr John.
We also welcome Fr Bill
who will be celebrating
Mass on Tuesday and
Wednesday.

A Prayer for the New Year

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.
Amen

Gospel Reflection - 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' © Mary Coloe

There are many key images in today's Gospel that have their background in the Scriptures. Bethlehem is the small village in which David, the great king of Israel was born, and later anointed by the Prophet Samuel (1 Sam 16). For this reason Matthew quotes the prophet Micah who speaks of a new leader, a shepherd like David to be born in Bethlehem. The images of the star and Magi look back to the time of Moses. When the people of Israel escaped from Egypt they wandered in the Sinai wilderness before moving up into the region now known as Jordan. In order to travel into the land of Canaan, they had to pass through the region of Moab and the king of Moab did not want this large group to travel through his land. This seer (magus) from the eastern land of Moab proclaimed, 'I see him but not now; I behold him but not near; a star shall come out of Jacob and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel' (Numbers 24:17). In this episode we have the symbols used by Matthew – men in the East, seeing a star, the symbol of kingship. By use of these images Matthew continues to show the links between his new Christian community and the more ancient religion of Israel. We are challenged to move from read-

ing literally to reading these narratives seeking their theology rather than history. Once again I suggest you make the distinction between the joy-filled narrative of Luke, and the threatening atmosphere of Matthew so that the community recognise two different, symbolic narratives. In the eastern churches this Feast is celebrated as Christmas, for in today's feast Christ is revealed to the Gentiles, the non-Jews. By having foreigners come to the nativity and honour the child, Matthew looks ahead to the later Christian church, which by the 80s, when Matthew is writing, has expanded beyond Judaism into the gentile lands. The Gospel contrasts wisdom and power. The Magi from the east are called wise and they come searching for Jesus in order to offer homage. It takes wisdom to acknowledge the truth of who we are before the mystery of God's ways. In humility they kneel before a child, seeing here a sign of God's presence. Herod acts with power. He commands and expects obedience. He is the King in Judea and will not tolerate another called 'king of the Jews'. Even the words of the Magi and the prophecies from the Scriptures fail to change his grasp on power. The Magi open gifts for the child.

Making Connections: How has Christmas changed the way you act or think? In what ways do you encounter Christ in your life?

Marriage Tip: "As the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do." (Col 3:13) A big part of being a holy family is giving and receiving forgiveness. "I'm sorry / I forgive you". Never hesitate to say healing, forgiving grateful words

Daily Prayer: By the light of a star, O God of the universe, you guided the nations to the Light of the world. Until the Redeemer comes again in glory, we, with the Magi, seek the face of the Saviour. Summon us with all those who thirst now to the banquet of love. May our hunger be filled, our thirst quenched with your word of truth.

A Vocation View: Many people continue to traipse across the earth looking for a shining star. Let us as God's people show who lights up life, and how we walk a different way with Jesus. Reflect on the new road you walk, may the Spirit guide you.

Accommodation required

A nurse is looking for accommodation in Natimuk or Horsham from January 7th.
If you have a spare room and would be able to help out, please contact the Parish Office or
Jesna on 0456 759 242

After the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord beginning on Monday 14th January we start Ordinary time. For weekday masses it is Week 1, Year 1 and for Sunday Masses it is Year C.

Australia Day Mass will be held on Saturday January 26th at 10am

WEEKDAY MASSES: (Funeral Mass may replace weekday Masses)

Tuesday 8th Jan	5.30pm	With Fr Bill Melican
Wed 9th Jan	9.30am	With Fr Bill Melican
Friday 11th Jan	9.30am	AWC
Saturday 12th Jan	10.00am	With Fr John

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: Jenny Boyko, Jenny Issell, Romano Radolovi, Silvio Sartori

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, Zander Fergusson

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: The Baptism of our Lord
2nd Sunday of the Month 13th January 2019**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass—8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass—8.30am**

Nhill **Sunday Mass—10.00am**

ROSTERS

12/13 January	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Emelia Sudholz	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Micky Robarts	Kingsley Dalglish
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Tess Hayes Peter Gutteridge Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalglish Andrea Cox
Projector	Anita Masiero	Shayne Keenan
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Gary Coutts Pat Strachan	Denise Vallance Helene Bush
Prayers	Lesley Price and Mary Dalglish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	13th January Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	20th January Lynda Hutchinson Helene Bush Bernadette Delahunty

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):
Horsham \$869.00, Murtoa \$ 124.00 Dimboola \$ 77.00
Total \$1070.00
2nd Collection: Envelopes \$1772.00 Loose \$ 42.85
Total \$1814.85

COUNTRY CENTRES MASS TIMES

January 13th: Murtoa 8.30am Dimboola 8.30am
Nhill 10am
January 20: Murtoa AWC 9am.
Dimboola Mass 8.30am
January 27: Natimuk Mass 8.30am
Murtoa Mass 8.30am
Dimboola Mass Saturday 26th 6pm.
Nhill Mass 10am

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 child safe

1st Reading: Is 60,1-6

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgment.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

2nd Reading: Eph 3, 2-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was

unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 2,1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. They were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned home a different way returned to their own country by a different way.