



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time –3rd February 2019



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
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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

We welcome Fr John



Feastday of St Alfonso Maria Fusco, Founder of the Baptistine Sisters, is this Thursday Feb 7

We will celebrate the Feastday with

Mass in SMJ Church at **5pm this Friday** February 8th, with an invitation to tea with the Sisters after Mass in the Parish Centre.



Our School families and Parishioners are invited to SMJ School Opening Mass this Friday February 8th at 9.30am in SMJ Church.

School Staff Commissioning Mass next Sunday February 10th at 10.30 and a Cuppa after.

SBC Yr 12 Retreat February 6 to 8.
SBC Yr 7 Camp at Robe Feb 13 - 15.

SMJ Family Night and Tea this Thursday February 7th from 5.30 in the School grounds.

SBC Opening Mass Monday Feb 18 in SMJ Church at 9.30am.

OLHC Murtoa Opening Mass at 12nn on Tuesday February 26th in St Mary's Church.

St Patrick's Nhill Opening Mass on Sunday February 17th at 10am.

ASH WEDNESDAY is March 6th.

LENTEN GROUPS: This year's theme is **Trust**. Anyone interested in holding a home group meeting, please sign the Sheet in the Foyer today with your phone number and time. These meetings will commence on the week starting Monday 11th March and go through to Palm Sunday. For further information on these meetings, please see Fr. Peter or Anita in the Office.

PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS

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

We pray your blessings upon all in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain, their source of hope in moments of despair, sorrow, woundedness, their inspiration and solace when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them all with the courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and 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 and value to You.

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, on the path of pain and sadness with the sick.

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

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children in Grade 3 and above will be prepared for in Term 1. Parent Information Night will be on Tuesday February 26th at 7pm in the Parish Centre. The Sacrament will be celebrated on Wednesday March 27th from 5 to 6pm, and on Thursday 28th from 5 to 6pm, and 7 to 8pm.

Eucharist and Confirmation Masses June 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 5 Feb	5.30pm	Andrew Taylor anniv
Wed 6th Feb	9.30am	St Paul Miki & Companions. O.P. Jose ann St Josephine Bakhita. UN Day to end Slavery
Thursday 7th		AWC 9.30am
Friday 8th Feb	9.30	SMJ School Opening Mass
	5pm	Feastday Mass of St Alfonso Maria Fusco
Saturday 9 Feb	10am	D'Agostin annivs.

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: Peter Glare, Len Friend, Margaret Rose Lane (Perth, Joan Lane-Storey's mother)

ANNIVERSARIES: Silvio & Reginetta D'Agostin, Andrew Taylor, Irene Gannon, Lucy O'Toole

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, Ailsa Swalwell, Sr Geraldine Stapleton, Rachel O'Connor, Maree Frew, Brian O'Loughlin, John McNamara, Zander Fergusson,

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 2nd Sunday of the Month
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 10th February 2018

Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am
Dimboola	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Murtoa	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Nhill	Sunday Mass 10.00am

Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.

Regular Activities in the Parish

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.

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday 6pm in the Church

Affordable Counselling from Centacare Ballarat, for families, individuals. **Free Call** 1300 303 988 for appointment

Pope's Francis' First 2019 address: Prayer involves recognising myself as God's beloved Child. Christians are not better than other people, but they do know that God is their Father and they are called "to reflect a ray of his goodness in this world thirsting for goodness, waiting for good news". Proclaiming the Beatitudes, Jesus affirms the blessedness and happiness of "a series of categories of people, who, in his time, but also in ours, are not particularly esteemed. Blessed are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the humble of heart. This is the revolution of the Gospel! Where the Gospel is, there is revolution because the Gospel does not leave things as they were". The core of the Sermon on the Mount is "You are sons and daughters of God who is in heaven", which is why Jesus then teaches the crowd to pray the Our Father. A Christian knows how to stand before God with awe, to call upon him and try to reflect his goodness in the world. "If you go to Church, live like a child [of God] and like a brother or sister" to others. "He asks only that we keep open a channel of communication with him to discover continually that we are his beloved children."
"A Journey can become a sacred thing"

ROSTERS

2/3 Feb 2019	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton Geoff Simpson Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Tess Hayes	Dianne Noy
9/10 Feb 2019	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Sr Jacinta Rice	Bob Pritchett
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	Andrea Cox
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitiz	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Anita Masiero	Shayne Keenan
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Gavin Hynam Judy Bryan	Mary Dowsley Nanette Freckleton
Prayers	Lesley Price & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	10th February Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney	17th February Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$ 30.00	Murtoa	\$ 72.00
Horsham	\$ 853.00	Dimboola	\$ 47.00
Total			\$ 1002.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1031.00	Loose	\$ 52.40
Total			\$ 1083.40

Sharing the Tradition: 'The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church. At the heart of the church's action in the world is the program adopted by Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth. The continuation of the mission to bring hope to the hopeless and inclusion to the outcast motivates many agencies of the church, both locally and globally. All Christians have a role to play in this task: 'By living with the mind of Christ, Christians hasten the coming of the reign of God, a kingdom of justice, love and peace'.

Symbols and Images: This episode marks the first of many rejections experienced by Jesus. The final rejection was, of course, to lead to the cross, but the cross is not the end of the story, nor is this rejection in Nazareth. Jesus simply slips away and continues on the path h has chosen.

Daily Prayer: God of the prophets, your love reaches far beyond the boundaries of covenant and command. Redeemed by a love so patient and kind, may we offer that same love to others and so proclaim you to the world by the witness of our lives.

Marriage Tip: Courtesy goes a long way in marriage. Pope Francis calls "May I?" one of the three "magic words" of family life. Being polite and kind to your family members is always a good idea.

Vocational View: The Lord says: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I dedicated you." Always listen to an Old Friend.



"Never discourage anyone who continually makes progress, no matter how slow"

Country Mass Times:

Feb 10th: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Feb 17th: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Feb 24th: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola **11.30**
Nhill 10am

Plenary Council 2020 -

Listening and Dialogue Encounters

Everyone is invited to participate in the Listening and Dialogue process to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda.

Information Cards are available in the Foyer, and more information on the Diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

All of us are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"

Questions for individuals or groups:

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?

**Our Parish Gatherings are in the Parish Centre on
Tuesday 19th February at 7pm
Thursday February 21st at 2pm
Leslie Price will lead these Gatherings.**

Responses need to be submitted by Ash Wednesday, March 6th, at www.plenarycouncil.org.au

The Ballarat Diocesan Historical Commission meets four times a year in Ballarat. Members are interested in the history of the whole Diocese. Nominations for four vacancies on the Commission are being sought. Contact: The Archivist, Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, PO Box 121, Ballarat 3353 or Email: archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Josephine Bakhita - the patron saint of Sudan. Feastday February 8th. Born in 1869 she was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery. She suffered great cruelty for over 14 years and eventually found safety in Italy. May we remember the many who today live in slavery as well as our South Sudanese friends whose relatives in Sudan live with daily violence.

"Let us fruitfully transmit to those who come after us the example of virtue we have received from those who have come before us."

Rite of Election for those on the RCIA journey, at St Patrick's Cathedral, on Saturday 2nd March at 12.30pm. Jasmine Smith whom we received into the fullness of the Church on Saturday 26th January, will attend.

'Love is patient, love is kind.' The Australian Jesuit theologian Gerald O'Collins, treasures today's reading from 1 Corinthians 13: **It comes alive repeatedly when I substitute the name of "Jesus" or "my own name" for "love."** "[Jesus] is patient, [Jesus] is kind. [Jesus] is not jealous, is not pompous, [Jesus] is not inflated, is not rude, [Jesus] does not seek his own interests, is not quick-tempered, [Jesus] does not brood over injury, [Jesus] does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. [Jesus] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.'

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Thursday Feb 21st.



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

The St Vinnies Retail Shop in David Street, Horsham desperately require volunteers to sort and price in the store. The shop is open 7 days a week. Interested people must be over the age of 15 years.

If interested please contact the store on 53824003. You will be required to fill out

an application form, have a Working with Children's Check and a Police Check.

At 10.30 Mass next Sunday February 10th, Sr Maureen Bourke, a Loreto, and a former Youth Leader in the Ballarat Diocese, will speak on her ministry of teaching Maths to children in South Sudan. *We commission the School Staff that day*

CWL MEETING DATES

Our Horsham CWL celebrates 90 years this year.

CWL meets this Tuesday 5th February at 10.30am in the Parish Meeting Room, and on Tuesday 5th March at 10.30am in the Church Meeting Room.

29 January 2019 **School and Parish Communities**

I write to you from Ballarat this morning where I attended the Central Zone Mass to mark the beginning of the Catholic Education year. Our theme for the year is: ***Listen with the Ear of Your Heart.*** In order to discern the way forward when courage and compassion are needed, we must first do our own "inner work": ***Authentic hearts are needed to persevere on the journey we are beginning. There is the utter necessity of doing our own 'inner work' so that courageous and compassionate conversations happen. They will not happen if we hold any resentment towards others, or if, in the pursuit of the particular passion of our own hearts, we fail to listen to our fellow travellers. Without a profound awareness of our emotions and how we share them... the road will be too long and difficult for us, too many obstacles around and within us, and our great little hearts will just give up.***

As our students begin provide a little space for that "inner work" and the "deep listening" which might prepare our authentic hearts for the journey we share together in Catholic Education and in our Church community this year. We pray as we enter into this school year that the times of "deep listening" and our attention to "inner work" may help us to make space to listen to God's call to each of us and to our Diocesan Education community. May we be fully present with those who accompany us on this journey and may we continue as partners in Catholic Education, and open to God's presence in pursuing fullness of life for all. Every blessing for the year, **Audrey Brown**, Director of Catholic Education

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

Child Safety Standards. St Michael & John Parish has Bob Pritchett as our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** has been adopted for all who work with children in the Parish. Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you—it is the Lord who speaks.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 70:1-6, 15,
I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. in your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from

my mother's womb you have been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to the widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.' When they head this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped away.

Gospel Reflection – 4th Sunday Yr C
Veronica Lawson rsm

This week's gospel reading continues the story of Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth. At first he is universally accepted: the people of Nazareth marvel at the gracious words he utters. They identify him as Joseph's son. By the end of the story, however, these people actually try to kill him. So, what happens in between to cause such a dramatic change of heart? These are religious people, not an unruly street mob. They are friends of the family. They are familiar with their sacred texts and traditions and presumably want to understand them more fully. In fact, they are like many of us who take time out on a weekly basis to come together for worship and prayer. These people seem to be carrying a sense of exclusive entitlement to God's favour, as well as some deeply entrenched prejudices

against the neighbouring Syrians and Phoenicians. Their history is largely one of conflict with neighbours, of struggle for survival, and some are unwilling to relinquish their unhealed local and ethnic grievances. This story is about power and control. When Jesus suggests that God's prophetic and healing power is accessible to and may even be more readily received among foreigners than within Israel, the anger of those who consider themselves "the chosen" knows no bounds: it spills over into violence. They have little patience with the implicit criticism of their attitudes to outsiders and the challenge of his prophetic words. One of the problems with the narrative is that Jesus seems to be deliberately provoking a negative reaction. There are other problems as well: there is no cliff in Nazareth from which the enraged crowd could cast him to his death, and it is highly unlikely that people of this tiny

town of Galilean Jews would resort to murdering one of their own for what they see as a verbal assault. It would seem that the gospel writer is putting elements of later stories about violent treatment of Jesus and his followers into this episode in order to foreshadow what is to come. The story thus becomes a microcosm of the gospel as a whole. When the message is comforting, the messenger is well received. When it is less palatable, the messenger is in danger of being attacked or manipulated, more often than not at the hands of people who are basically good people like us. Unchecked assumptions, deep-seated biases, and uncontrolled emotions will function to bring the anointed prophet of the God of Israel to a violent death. This story invites us to check our assumptions and our biases lest we turn to physical, verbal, or emotional violence in the face of a prophetic challenge.

Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats - it was Simon's - and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a

catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point. When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had

made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Bringing their boats back to land, they followed him.

Fr Peter attends the 100th birthday of his cousin Sr Caroline Deurscher a Loreto Sister, at Nazareth House Ballarat, this Monday February 4th. *I will be home here for the SBC Yr 7 Family tea on Monday night*