

Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3rd March 2019



Ash Wednesday Masses

Tuesday March 5th:

Horsham 5.30. Dimboola **6.30pm.**

Wednesday March 6th

Horsham: 9.30am. Nhill: 11am.

SBC Liturgy 12.20 in the Gymnasium.

Murtoa: 2pm.

Horsham: 5.30pm

Ashes blessed and given at each Mass and SBC Liturgy.

Project Compassion Sets of Envelopes and Boxes in the Foyers this weekend

** We have 62 people studying and praying the Lenten Program.*

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 solace and inspiration 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 and courage as they manage their time, to best serve those who are needful of their care, 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.

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

Acting Principal: Cathy Grace

Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday 3rd March 2019

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "**Give Lent 100%**".

This year's Project Compassion showcases the many ways we work around the world with our local partners to offer hope to people most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

As Pope Francis said, "The future does have a name... and its name is hope."

Through your generosity you are empowering communities with hope and helping



Horsham CWL celebrates 90 years in 2019.

CWL Meeting this Tuesday 5th at **10am** in the **Church Meeting Room**. Sr Jacinta will lead a Lenten Reflection and the meeting will follow. All Welcome.

SHROVE TUESDAY

SMJ School will have pancake breakfast on Tuesday morning. At 3pm, weather permitting, we will have the Burning of Ashes rite.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 5th March	5.30pm	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Wednesday 6 March	9.30am, 5.30pm	Ash Wednesday Mass
Thursday 7th March	AWC 9.30	
Friday 8th March	10am	St John of God. International Women's Day
Saturday 9th March	10am	

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: Garry Isabel.

ANNIVERSARIES: Veronica Delahunty, Jim Moloney, Damian Doyle, Vin Mugavin, Edward and Bridget Jackman

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Debbie Nolan, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Una Bartlett, Rosetta Cafarella, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Betty Fitzgerald, Heather McPhee, Rachel O'Connor, Sr Geraldine Stapleton, John McNamara,

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
1st Sunday in Lent 10th March 2018**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **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

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence if you have had your 18th birthday, but not your 59th, you should not eat between meals that day, and if you have had your 14th birthday, you should not eat meat that day. The same applies to Good Friday.

The Season of Lent is a time of prayer, self-denial and for helping others. In this way the whole Church prepares for the great Feast of Easter.

It is a Government Requirement, that anyone assisting with a Ministry or activity where children are present - in the Church, Parish or Schools - must have a Working With Children Check, and must be registered at our Office. Any activity conducted outside the Church or Schools by a Parishioner, must have a Risk Analysis assessment conducted. Forms are available at the Office or School. Please see Anita in the Office for inquiries.

ROSTERS

2/3 March	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Cathy Taylor John Parker	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Maree Plazzer	Alison McKinnon
9/10 March	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Maree Plazzer	Anthony Dowling
Commentator	Betty Heinrich	Anna Robertson
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob Hayes Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Peter Gutteridge	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Filipino Choir	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Pat Strachan Joan Whiley	Mary Dalgleish Alistair Castle
Prayers	Lesley Price & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	10th March Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	17th March Lynda Hutchinson Helene Bush Bernadette Delahunty

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$ 29.00	Murtoa	\$ 86.00
Horsham	\$ 940.00	Dimboola	\$ 45.00
Total			\$ 1100.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1453.00	Loose	\$ 82.00
Credit Card	\$ 2920.83	Direct Debit	\$ 1409.67
Total			\$ 5905.50

Exploring the Word: Jesus offers himself as a model of non-judgement. This, after all, belongs only to God. The disciple must recognise their own short comings and work tirelessly to rectify these so that what issues forth from their hearts are the good fruits that only true goodness of heart can produce. Recognise and nurture the goodness inside us all. **Did You Know?:** Parables are often used by Jesus as a teaching tool. They are generally brief stories with a double meaning, and we should read their metaphorical interpretation rather than their literal meaning.

Symbols and Images: The demands of the gospel are both surprising and challenging. Here the emphasis shifts to a need to subject our own conduct to scrutiny. The true disciple is in no position to pass judgement on others, must honestly confront what lies in the depth of his or her own heart.

Daily Prayer: Into the depths of the human heart, O God, you alone can see; only in your judgement do justice and mercy meet in perfect measure. Restrain us from passing judgement on our neighbour, that we may centre our zeal instead on bearing a harvest of goodness from the abundance of our hearts.

Marriage Tip: Marriage requires each spouse to be generous and to forgive, but also to accept gifts and forgiveness from the other. Pray for these graces today.

Vocational View: Since each person speaks from his heart's abundance, let Jesus form your heart and your life. Follow Him willingly.

Country Mass Times:

March 10: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
March 17th: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
March 24: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30.
March 31: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
April 7: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.

Plenary Council 2020 -

Listening and Dialogue Encounters

We had 40 people participate in our Gatherings, very healthy and vibrant discussions.

These submissions have been submitted.

You have until THIS Wednesday March 6th to make your personal submissions, via the website

www.plenarycouncil.org.au

Information Cards are available in the Foyer, and more information available 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 questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider?
2. Do you have a story of your experience of faith,



We wish the Field Days success and safety. We welcome visitors for these Days. We pray for good Autumn rains to fall after the Expo.

GOOD FROM GOOD: The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good.' What makes a person good? Is it that they have had good things happen in their life? There are plenty of people who have had good things in their life but they remain cynical and spiteful people. Similarly there are plenty who have had the hardest of circumstances yet goodness constantly flows from them. It's not the external influences but what we do with them that determines whether we are nurturing 'good treasure' or harbouring 'evil treasure'. This is not just sugary sweetness but a deliberate decision to be a person of hope

Fr Richard Leonard SJ will lead our Parish in a Mission from November 23rd to 27th this year.

LENTEN GROUPS

Eileen McManus will be holding two Lenten Groups starting Monday 4th March, and each Monday.

Group 1 will be at 10am to 11.30am

Group 2 will be at 7pm to 8.30pm.

Groups will be held at 16 George Street.

Interested people contact Eileen on 5382 4745

Bishop's Office, 5 Lyons Street South, Ballarat 3350 Phone: (03) 5337 7121

P.O. Box 121 Ballarat VIC 3353

E-mail: bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

February 26, 2019



Bishop Paul Bird's Statement on Cardinal Pell

The news of Cardinal Pell's conviction on historical child sexual abuse charges is particularly disturbing to the people of our diocese of Ballarat where George Pell grew up and where he served in his early years. I express my sympathies to all those who are distressed by this news, including those who have suffered so much because of abuse. Cardinal Pell has lodged an appeal. I do not intend to make any further comment on the case while the appeal process is ongoing. We will continue to offer help to anyone who has suffered abuse. We will continue our commitment to keeping children safe today.

Paul Bird CSsR Bishop of Ballarat

STATEMENT FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE, PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

The news of Cardinal George Pell's conviction on historical child sexual abuse charges has shocked many across Australia and around the world. The Catholic Bishops of Australia agree that everyone should be equal under the law, and we respect the Australian legal system. The same legal system that delivered the verdict will consider the appeal that the Cardinal's legal team has lodged. Our hope, at all times, is that through this process, justice will be served. In the meantime, we pray for all those who have been abused and their loved ones, and we commit ourselves anew to doing everything possible to ensure that the Church is a safe place for all, especially the young and the vulnerable.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

will be celebrated on

Wednesday March 27th: 5pm to 6pm

Thursday March 28th: 5pm to 6pm, 7pm to 8pm.

Eucharist and Confirmation

Masses June 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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

Child Safety Standards. Ss 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: Sirach 27:4-7

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 91:2-3, 13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night.

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim

that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15-

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

**Gospel Reflection – 8th Sunday Yr C
Veronica Lawson rsm**

This classic gospel message is addressed to those who listen. To hear and respond to the heart of the message that follows, namely to love your enemies and to do good to those who hate you, calls for an extraordinary expansiveness of spirit only possible for those who are totally open to the power of God's Spirit working in their lives. It is not easy to love one's enemy particularly when the enemy, the one subtly undermining or manipulating you, comes in the guise of friend. Yet, even in the face of subtle enmity, the message is clear: do not respond in kind, respond instead with love, compassion and unreserved forgiveness. It is also important to rise above the pettiness of the other and refuse to be a victim. To the one who takes away your coat, you offer your shirt as well. In this way, the real power remains with the one who is too expansive to retaliate. The recipients of this gospel, the

members of Luke's late first century communities, were well acquainted with the Jewish traditions that informed their faith, even if many were not themselves Jewish. The Jewish Christians in the community as well as the "God-fearers" who accepted Jesus of Nazareth as Saviour and Christos or Messiah had been introduced to the God of steadfast love (hesed) and womb-compassion (rah'amim). They believed that God was concerned about justice in the legal system (mishpat) and right relationship (sedeqah) between people and nations, ever ready to forgive those who turn away from injustice and wrongdoing. The songs and prayers of the Jewish heritage reminded them constantly of the compassionate ways of God in their history and in their personal lives. When the Lukan Jesus tells these people to be merciful or compassionate as God is compassionate, they know what he means. They also know the cost of compassion in situations where retaliation is the more spontaneous

instinct. God-like compassion remains the stance required of Christian disciples in the face of opposition and hatred, even the opposition that comes in the guise of friendship. Compassion, forgiveness and love of enemies are rare commodities in international politics and in the resolution of global conflicts as well as in personal relationships. Sadly, the major trouble spots on our globe witness to constant retaliation and face-saving measures that harden positions and exacerbate division. There is ample evidence that hatred, fuelled by injustice, is begetting violence in many parts of the world. And yet the only way to break the cycles of violence that perpetuate death and destruction is the way of compassion and love. God-like compassion requires that we, as nations and as individuals, let go of past hurts, examine our tenaciously held opinions, try to see the world from the perspective of those we mistrust and work for peace that is grounded in love.

Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the

Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him, 'throw yourself down from here, for Scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him to return at the appointed time.

We wish Anita a safe and happy holiday for March.

Paige Butler will be the Parish Secretary in March, in the Office Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm.

Fr Peter will be with SBC Year 9 on Thursday. Mass in the Church on Friday 8th at 10am.

We pray for a safe long weekend for those who will be away next weekend.