



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill



BULLETIN

4th Sunday of Lent – 31st March 2019

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Passion Sunday: Gather outside our Churches for blessing and the Procession of Palms. Luke's Passion.

Monday April 15th: Mass of the Oils at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat 6.30.

Tuesday April 16th: Anointing Mass with newly blessed Oils **2pm in SMJ**

Tuesday April 16th: Lenten Reconciliation Service at 7pm in SMJ. 2 Priests for individual Absolution.

Wednesday April 17th: Seder Meal in the Parish Centre at 7pm.

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper April 18th: 7.30pm

Good Friday Ceremony of the Lord's Passion: 3pm. Nhill 3pm

Easter Vigil and Mass of the Resurrection: 7.30pm. Gather outside Church for blessing of the Fire and Easter Candle, Procession, Sung Exultet, Blessing of Easter Water.

Easter Sunday Masses April 21st: Horsham 10.30am. Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am

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 in pain, their source of hope in times 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 with the courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and 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

Principal: Cathy Grace

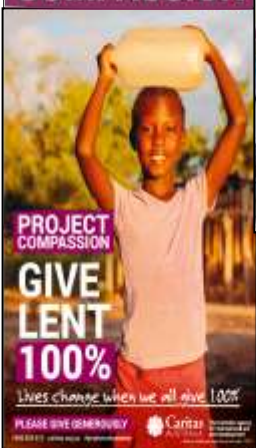
Phone: 5385 2526

We welcome Fr John

Holy Week Timetable in the Foyers today.

PROJECT COMPASSION

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



Support to our Indigenous People 4th Sunday of Lent. Michaela is a 21-year-old trainee at Purple House, a dialysis center in the Central Desert for people suffering from kidney disease. The Aboriginal-controlled service gives patients the opportunity to stay connected with

their culture. They do this through traditional healing practices and income-generating activities, such as making bush balms and soaps. With the support of Caritas partners, Michaela is helping to build a social enterprise, a connection to culture and a new outlook for the chronically ill.

We welcome Anita back to the Office this Monday after her holidays. I thank Paige Butler for filling in for Anita, for her efficiency and welcoming nature.

Holy Week and Easter Ministries
If you can assist with any Ministry in Holy Week and Easter please put your name down on the sheet in the Foyer.

Thank you for your assistance.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 2nd 5.30pm Dr Mark O'Brien anniv.

Wednesday 3rd 9.30am Anniversaries

Thursday 4th **No Mass**

Friday 5th 9.30am Safe School holidays.

Saturday 6th 10am Anne Kerr 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: Joan Uerbergang, Geoff Duggan	
ANNIVERSARIES: Dr Mark O'Brien, Anne Kerr, Patrick Rice Pope John Paul 11, Doreen Stowe.	
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 1st Sunday of the Month 5th Sunday in Lent. 7th April 2019	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am
Murtoa	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Dimboola	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Nhill	Sunday Mass 10am
Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet 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	

We have installed split system air conditioners in SMJ Church.
We thank the Italian Social Club for their donation towards this. The system converts to heating in winter.

Ss Michael and John Parish
FAITH ON TAP on Monday April 8th
in the Beer Garden at the Vic Hotel.
Come for a meal at 7pm, then Fr John Corrigan talk.
We talk all things faith and theology, living as a Christian in our society.
Contact James & Ema-Lee Rowe 0431053345
All over 18yo are welcome

The Season of Lent is a time of prayer, self-denial and for helping others. In this way the whole Church prepares for Easter. On Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any of the following
Prayer: Mass attendance; family prayer, visit to the church read the Bible, make the Stations of the Cross, pray the rosary.
Self-denial: not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reducing time for watching TV or other entertainments.
Helping others: take the family to visit the elderly in old people's home or in the parish, visit the sick, the lonely.

ROSTERS		
30/31 March	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Peter Gutteridge	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Michael Conellan
6/7 April	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Kevin Dunn	Angela Murphy
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Kingsley Dalgleish
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Tess Hayes Geoff Simpson Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Robert Sartori	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Filipino Choir	Full Choir
Welcomers	Judy Bryan Pat Williams	Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish
Prayers	Lesley Price and Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	7th April Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney	14th April Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):		
Natimuk	\$ 35.00	Murtoa \$ 88.40
Horsham	\$ 967.00	Dimboola \$ 59.60
Total		\$ 1150.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)		
Envelopes	\$ 844.00	Loose \$ 72.55
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$
Total		\$ 916.55

Making Connections: Reach out to someone with a gesture or a word of forgiveness. This line from today's gospel is particularly apt during Lent, the time of repentance. Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Forgive me.

Did You Know?: The son going to 'a distant country' shows that he has turned his back not only on his father but also on his faith. He has left his true heritage behind. His repentance and return becomes all the more poignant. By asking for his inheritance, the son was as good as saying to his father, 'I wish you were dead'. This makes the father's forgiveness all the more astounding. The religious leaders at the time of Jesus felt that there was no place for sinners in God's kingdom. This parable shows that there is always hope and a promise of forgiveness for those who repent and turn again to God, and that God never tires of seeking the lost. Heaven is open to the righteous and to the sinner who repents with God's boundless forgiveness and loving welcome

Daily Prayer: O God, in Christ you come in search of us, judging not by outward appearances but gazing into our hearts at the light you have kindled. Clear our vision, focus our sight that all of us, may acknowledge Christ as the Light

Marriage Tip: Talk with your spouse about ways you can communicate better or times when you don't feel "heard."

Vocational View: Jesus came to forgive. Since people continue to sin, we need people who will continue to forgive in Jesus' way. How about YOU?

Country Mass Times:

April 7: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
April 14: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.
April 21: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.
April 28: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Dimboola AWC 8.30.
Murtoa AWC 9am



Life in the Spirit Seminar every Saturday from 3-4pm in the Meeting Room. All welcome. Contact Sr Tirsia 0498284711

60 Prayerful best wishes and congratulations to Merlyne and Brian Phelan on their 60th Wedding Anniversary on March 31st, and a happy 80th birthday to Merlyne.

65 And to Maria and Dom Gasparini who celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on ~~March 27th~~, which was also Maria's birthday.

* Margaret Lawson in Stawell is 90 today Sunday.

* Viv McGinnisken turns 99 next Sunday April 7th.

Song Competition for Youth. Catholic Mission invites Children and young people up to 19 years of age to compose a song about Mission Month in October. The competition's deadline is Friday 26th July and in October the winning entry will be published on the Pontifical Mission Societies' website in Rome. More information is on the noticeboard in the foyer of the church.

Pastoral Development Co-Ordinator. Bishop Paul Bird invites applications for the position of Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator, to support the development of parish life, assist with pastoral planning and promote formation in faith for people throughout the diocese. This is a full-time one year contract position, with ongoing contract after review. Information can be accessed on the diocesan website at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au, or by contacting the Bishop's office at bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au or by phoning 5337 7121. Applications close on Friday 26 April at 5pm

Diocesan Historical Items The collection of historical items housed in the Ballarat Diocesan Archive is gradually becoming available to view online through the Victorian Collections website at <https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/ballarat-diocesan-historical-commission#collection-records>

Today is called Laetare Sunday because the Introit from the old Latin Mass began Laetare Jerusalem – "Rejoice, Jerusalem and gather together, all you who love her." As I did on Gaudete Sunday (the 3rd Sunday of Advent) I will wear rose coloured vestments today.

Copies of Francis Sullivan talk on "why stay a Catholic" in the Foyers today .

Daylight Saving ends next Weekend on Sunday morning 7th April, clocks should be **turned back one hour** before you go to bed.

Gospel Reflection – 4th Lent Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Unfailing forgiveness and arms open to welcome back wayward children is today's gospel story. There is no room in the hearts of Jesus' critics for such forgiveness: "sinners" are excluded from their company. In a first-century Jewish context, it was easy enough to be a sinner. Whole groups of people, depending on their occupation, fell into that category simply because they failed to observe one or more of the 618 prescriptions of the law. Jesus' response to critics is the story of a parent whose adult children lose their way. One son finds his way back to the centre of family life and the support of the wider community while the other more law-abiding son seems to place himself outside the family circle, holding on to the resentment he feels at his sibling's return. We need to attend to the gaps in the story: there may be daughters in the family; a mother who shares the heartache of her husband when their younger son requests his share of the estate. To make such a request in this context is to wish his parents dead. The older brother is not disadvantaged: he is assured of his share according to the law as well as the ongoing love and support of his family, as his father makes clear. No motive is offered for the son's readiness to break all his ties and get as far away as he can. In the distant country, he squanders both his inheritance and his identity. A "severe famine" becomes the catalyst for his change of direction. Famine in any age means devastation that can lead to displacement, to broken relationships. In turning back, the young man shows no real interest in a restored relationship with his family, he devises a plan that will put food in his belly. He composes a speech about having sinned against his father and against God and about being prepared to share the status of the servants. Thanks to the expansive heart of his compassionate parent, he does not have to deliver the speech he has prepared. Famine becomes feast. So it is with our merciful God. We abandon, and waste. Our motives for returning to the sources of love and community are very mixed, and yet our merciful God is ever ready, with our cooperation, to turn famine into feast. For that to happen, we must turn away from our acquiring, wasteful ways and respond as one to the pain of our planetary home.

"In everyone there is a zone of solitude that no human intimacy can fill: it is there that God encounters us ... in the depth of our being, we discover the Risen Christ."

Pope Francis laments the state of many neighbourhoods which have become places of individualism, isolation, defensiveness, mistrust. "Jesus desires to pour out an abundance of life upon our cities," he says. Our neighbourhoods should connect residents to each other and help us support each other, especially those in need. This is the Gospel way. (The Joy of the Gospel, 75) **What can you do to foster more connection and community in your neighbourhood?**

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

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Chris Roberts (Chair), Peter Gutteridge, Andrea Cox, Fr Peter, Lesley Price, Alison McKinnon, Daryl Wren, Bob Pritchett, Garry Heinrich, Cathy Grace, Margaret Lingham, Joan Lane-Storey, Srs Manuela & Tirsia, Anita Masiero (Sec)

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: Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-7

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; In the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the

news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned

against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about, "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Next Sunday's Gospel: John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for

something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent at 4.00pm in SMJ Church

Today, Sunday, Srs Manuela, Tirsa and Florentina, will lead a **Lenten Recollection in SMJ Church from 3pm to 5pm.** *All are welcome.* There will be time for Individual Confession.

SBC have their Easter Liturgy on Friday April 5th at 11am in their Gym, then they walk to the Weir.

SMJ School will have their Easter Liturgy on Wednesday April 24th at 9am, all families are welcome. On Friday April 26th is their Colour Fun Run at Sawyer Park.

We say farewell to Anthony, Leteisha, Ella, April Dowling as they move to Ocean Grove and into their own business. We thank them for their involvement in our Parish over 13 years and our School over 6 years. God bless.

CWL Meeting this Tuesday April 2nd at 1.30 in the Meeting Room.

We pray for a safe and blessed School holidays for our Schools. Friday is the last day of Term, schools return on Tuesday April 23rd. Anzac Day on Thursday April 25th is