



St Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup -

BULLETIN

2nd Sunday of Easter- Divine Mercy Sunday - 28th April 2019



Thomas, doubt no longer but believe

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. This will be Fr John's last weekend with us for the next 8 weeks. John is supplying for Fr Eric Bryant in Stawell while Fr Eric is overseas and on holidays. Then John goes on holidays to Kerala from May 20th. He will be back with us on June 22/23. We wish Fr John every blessing for his holiday back home.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY TODAY

12pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
12-12.30pm: Confessions.
12.30pm:
Rosary,
Litany of Divine Mercy,
Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
Devotions will end at 1.30pm.
Cuppa in the Foyer after Mass and the afternoon.



Jesus, I Trust In You!

Parent Information Night for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist this Tuesday April 30th at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

All details for these Sacraments and booklets and Cluster Groups will be discussed at the Meeting.

Sacrament Mass Times:

Saturday June 15th: 6.30pm Mass.
Sunday June 16th: 10.30am Mass.
Saturday June 22nd: 6.30pm Mass.
Sunday June 23rd: 10.30am Mass.

Thank you for your generosity and support to our Easter Special Collections:
Project Compassion (to date): \$2690.
Good Friday Appeal: \$790.
Easter Dues (to Date): \$985.

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 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.

Fr Peter has a family baptism this weekend and will be away.

In May the following Priests will assist Fr Peter with supply here:

May 4/5: Fr Tom Brophy.
May 11/12: Fr John McKinnon.
(Fr Peter will be away this weekend following some skin cancer surgery on 8/9 May).

May 18/19: Fr Bill Melican.
May 25/26: Fr Bill Melican.

June 1/2: Fr Peter on his own.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 30th April	5.30pm	Michael Murphy anniv.
Wednesday 1st May	9.30am	St Joseph the Worker
Thursday 2nd May	9.30am	St Athanasius Terry Turvey anniv.
Friday 3rd May	9.30am	Ss Philip & James, Apostles.
Saturday 4th May	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: Richard Wipperman

ANNIVERSARIES: Terry Turvey, Michael Murphy, Gerard Ryan, Fr Tom Brophy

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

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

**Next Sunday 1st Sunday of the Month
3rd Sunday of Easter 5th May 2019**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Nhill **Sunday Mass 10am**

Kaniva **Sunday Mass 11.30am**

**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.

Ss Michael and John Parish FAITH ON TAP Monday May 6th

in the Beer Garden at the Vic Hotel.

Come for a meal at 7pm, then the talk.

We talk things faith and theology, to help us live as a Christian in our society.

Contact James & Ema-Lee Rowe 0431053345

All over 18yo are welcome



Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Angela and Terry Walsh on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. God bless

SMJ School

Alison McKinnon's Yrs 3 & 4 attend 9.30 Mass this Wednesday.

Foundation Class Liturgy this Wednesday at 12.15 in the Foundation class area.

All families are welcome.

ROSTERS

27/28 April	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalgleish Karen Hill
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Bob Pritchett
4/5 May	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Betty Heinrich	Michael Connellan
Commentator	Kevin Dunn	Kingsley Dalgleish
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Geoff Simpson	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalgleish Andrea Cox
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Joan Whiley Connie Besselaar	Mary Dalgleish Alistair Castle
Prayers	Lesley Price & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	5th May Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	12th May Lynda Hutchinson Helene Bush Bernadette Delahunty

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 115.00
Horsham	\$ 1745.00	Dimboola	\$ 115.00
Total			\$ 2006.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 739.00	Loose	\$ 182.45
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 921.45

Making Connections: Look for ways in which a simple gesture of touch can convey friendship, compassion or support this week. Repeat Thomas' acclamation of faith this week: 'My Lord and my God'. Did You Know?: The period from Easter to Pentecost is known as 'the Great Fifty Days' and is an integral part of the Lent-Easter-Pentecost cycle. There is an ancient tradition that Thomas preached the Gospel as far east as India. The next few weeks feature readings from John's Gospel, the last of the written canonical gospels. While the Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) are read through the normal three-year cycle, John is featured in particular seasons throughout the normal cycle.

Daily Prayer: On this Lord's Day, we come together, O God, to proclaim the Living One, the first and the Last, who now is forever alive. Open our hearts to the Spirit Jesus breathes on us. Help us, who have not seen, to believe; send us, as you have sent Jesus, to greet the world with the Easter word of peace and to share with all the Spirit's new life of forgiveness.

Marriage Tip: Of all of the things you have to do today, is time with your spouse a priority? Be sure to give him or her the attention he or she deserves.

Vocational View: You've got an incredible message to make credible. It is not like selling used cars! It is proclaiming eternal life, forgiveness and Great Love!

Country Mass Times:

April 28: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Dimboola AWC 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am
May 5: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Kaniva 11.30
May 12: Dimboola AWC 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30.
May 19: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.

Exploring the Word: This gospel is one of transformation. The fear of the disciples, locked in their upper room and huddled in upon themselves, is transformed by the gift of peace that Jesus brings and his giving of the Spirit to strengthen them on their way. The doubt of Thomas is transformed by his encounter with the risen Lord. With this transformation, however, comes responsibility. Just as Jesus was sent by the Father, now, too, the disciples are sent into the world to act as Jesus did. When Thomas is told by his companions that they have seen Jesus, he places his own conditions on faith. He will not believe unless he sees and touches Jesus. Jesus must fulfil the expectations that Thomas has! Are there times when we expect God to act as we wish rather than being open to the presence of the risen Christ in unexpected ways? In what ways does the world need the peace of Christ today?

Sharing the Tradition: 'Those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven. Those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Jesus' disciples are to continue the work of reconciling all people to God. His power to forgive sins is conferred on the church. Through baptism, God's forgiveness becomes available to us, but human beings do not lose their tendency to sin simply because they are baptised. The sacrament of reconciliation is there to assist the faithful to acknowledge human sinfulness and seek the forgiveness and reconciliation of God.

Symbols and Images: It is when Thomas is given the opportunity to touch Jesus that he professes his faith. Touch goes beyond verifying physical presence. It can provide healing and comfort; it can be an act of support or compassion. *Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust; he is life! If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.*
Pope Francis

Plenary Council 2020 Post:

The end of the Listening and Dialogue phase of the Plenary Council last month in some ways marked a public "pause" in the process, allowing people of God to focus on preparing for and celebrating the great feast and season of Easter. During this period, significant work is taking place to review and analyse the submissions and lay the groundwork for the second phase: Listening and Discernment. The National Centre for Pastoral Research is conducting qualitative and quantitative analysis of the submissions received and, using best-practice research methods, will identify key themes. The Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council, the Plenary Executive Committee and the Facilitation Team will then work with the National Centre for Pastoral Research to finalise the National Themes for Discernment.

2nd Sunday of Easter

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" (John 20:21) Peace—the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be grateful and generous. Look for opportunities to share His peace, not only within our local parish boundaries, but outside of them as well. In giving, we receive the peace of Jesus Christ.

EASTER 2019 *"Easter is always disruptive, never joined to the cycle of the seasons. It is disruptive because hope is disruptive."*

If we care deeply for vulnerable and unstable people, their lives can seem so hopeless that we are locked into hopelessness. But then their resilience, their refusal to surrender to despair, the memory of good times and of moments of connection that break through isolation and suspicion, and the stirring in them of hope through a friendship or through someone's faithfulness, awakens our hope. The Christian story of Easter leads through all the seasons of the year and of human life: from hatred to love, from insult to forgiveness, from betrayal to reconciliation, from shame to glory, from torture to roundedness and from death to life. It points to a hope that lies beyond all our seasons and beyond the youth and ageing of our world we live in. The discordance between the springtime images of Easter and our experience of an Australian autumn actually sharpens the meaning of Easter. It embodies a hope that after the winter from which there may seem to be no deliverance, greenness will spring again.

From whatever source we might draw this hope it is surely needed in Australian public life today to leaven the heavy dough of mistrust, resentment and disillusion.

The first Easter began with close relationships definitively broken by betrayal, cowardice and death, and so leaving people to live forever with shame, guilt and loss. The political became personal. The story came to its climax, however, with those relationships restored, and Jesus' followers exultant. Hope restored is experienced as gift. This year both the public and the Christian Easter are overshadowed by the forthcoming election. In the public world election means that assured people choose their rulers. In the Christian story election means that all people are chosen.

Each kind of election has its place.

(This extract is from an article entitled The disruptiveness of an election year Easter, written by Andrew Hamilton SJ, and published in Eureka Street, v29, no 7, a Jesuit publication.)

For the full article please go to <http://>

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: Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4, 22-27

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord, grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We

bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-13,

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed

in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and believing this you may have life through his name.

Gospel Reflection – 2nd Sunday of Easter— Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

This weekend we celebrate the second of eight Sundays of the Easter Season which culminates in the Feast of Pentecost. The liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into different movements of the one great symphony of resurrection faith. The first scene in today's gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors "for fear" of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. Again, it is the first day of the week, evoking the first day of creation. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his "Father". They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of

the Spirit. The story invites us to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples, to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in our pursuit of justice and peace. We are invited us to ponder the consequences of forgiving and of not forgiving. To forgive another is to release that person from the burden of guilt and shame. Forgiveness opens up the possibility of healing for all concerned. To refuse forgiveness or to "retain" the sins of another is to leave that person unforgiven and so unhealed. Also consider the consequences of refusing to open ourselves to forgiveness. Those who refuse to forgive others have often failed to forgive themselves for their own shortcomings. The second and third scenes in today's gospel focus on Thomas who was not with

the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas seems to trust only his own first hand experience. We all know people like Thomas: test our patience because they seem to lack imagination: make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else already knows. If we think that those who hear from the outset are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days later! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled their fears. We all need time to grasp what it means to say that Christ has been raised. Biblical scholar, Margaret Daly-Denton notes that, in the Jewish tradition, "the eighth day symbolized the aeon to come". Like John's community we live in "the eighth day", in resurrection time, the time of the new creation. Easter faith invites us to keep living into that reality.

Next Week's Gospel: John 21:1-14

Jesus showed himself again to his disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night. It was light by now and there stood

Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No,' he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord,' Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped

his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land. As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them