



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

The Ascension of the Lord – 2nd June 2019



Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion 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.

We welcome our children and their families as they prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. We have a Ceremony of Presentation at SMJ Masses this weekend

Fr Peter attends the Council of Priests' Meeting in Ballarat this Tuesday with Bishop Paul. Mass at 5pm in the Cathedral will honour our Jubilarian Priests:

Adrian McInerney - 50 yrs ordained.
 John Pothiyittel - 40 yrs ordained.
 Rupert Bowd - 40 yrs ordained.
 Alex Lim - 40 yrs ordained.
 Sajan Matthew - 25 yrs ordained.

Ascension of the Lord

At his Ascension of the Lord Jesus said, 'Go out to the whole world, proclaim the Good News to all creation.' (Mark 16:15) Jesus, help us to know that you are with us always, un(l) the end of the world. This week, prac(se being 'good news' ambassadors by sharing 'good news' stories with each other. Christ leads us to go out from ourselves more and more, to give ourselves and to serve others.



He was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight (Acts 1:9)

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.

The Parish Magazine **The Fisherman** will be printed for Pentecost. We welcome articles, photos, poetry from Parishioners. Please have these into Anita at the Office by this Wednesday June 5th

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

PARISH CONTACTS

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 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
 Principal: Cathy Grace
 Phone: 5385 2526

Sr Florentina returns to the Philippines this Thursday June 6th. We will have morning tea in the Church Foyer after 10.30 Mass today Sunday to farewell Sister.

Rupanyup Home Mass this Wednesday June 5th at Weidemanns at 6.30pm

CWL Meeting this Tuesday June 4th at 1.30pm. Preparations for the 90th birthday on October 20th will continue.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday 4 June	No Mass	
Wednesday 5 June	5.30pm	St Boniface. Ken Kennedy anniv. Rita Mugavin.
Thursday 6 June	9am	Alan & Jenny Knott annivs. St Marcellin.
Friday 7 June	9.30am	Chris Starr, Terry Bottoms, Ann Buwalda annivs, SMJ Yr 5/6 Gemma Perkins Class attend 9.30 Mass
Saturday 8 June	10am	



Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS: Iole Sartori

ANNIVERSARIES: Ann Buwalda, Laine McPhee, Virginia Panozzo, Christopher Starr, Lucy Jose, Elia Thomas, Terrence John Keenan, John Keenan, Ken Kennedy, Terry Bottoms, Alan & Jenny Knott, Fr Brendan Smith, Dorothy & Ken Hamilton, William Dowling

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

Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688

**Next Sunday 2nd Sunday of the Month
Pentecost Sunday 9th June 2019**

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
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.



Bishops Visiting Rome

Bishop Paul Bird and other Australian bishops are travelling to Rome this month to visit Pope Francis and offer a report on the state of their dioceses.

The visit is referred to as Ad Limina (to the thresholds); the suggestion is they are visiting the tombs of the apostles, Peter and Paul. During their dialogue with Pope Francis, the Bishops will provide information and insights from their own dioceses and hear the Pope's reflections on the wider Church. The Bishops will also meet with senior workers in certain Vatican departments. The discussions will touch upon reports that each diocese has provided in preparation for the visit. We expect that Bishop Paul Bird will be in Rome from 10 June until 4 July.

ROSTERS

1st/2nd June	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Peter Gutteridge Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice	Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Mary Dalglish Andrea Cox
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Dianne Noy
8/9th June	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Emelia Sudholz	Louise Kemp
Commentator	Maree Plazzer	Alison McKinnon
Eucharistic Ministers	Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Tess Hayes	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Cate Rigby Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalglish Karen Hill
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Garry & Betty Heinrich	Mary Dalglish Alistair Castle
Prayers	Darryl & Maree Wren	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	9th June Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Barker	16th June Pat O'Connor Win Stephens Barbara Connellan

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$ 21.00	Murtoa	\$ 100.00
Horsham	\$ 884.00	Dimboola	\$ 55.00
Total		\$ 1060.00	

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 1636.00	Loose	\$ 64.70
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$ 380.00
Total		\$ 2080.70	

Making Connections: 'You are witnesses to this.' In what ways can you attest to the truth of that? Live joyfully, bring joy to others, praise God in all your actions of your day.

Exploring the Word: The reaction of the disciples to the absence of Jesus after his ascension is in stark contrast to the reaction they had to him leaving at his death. His return to God opens the way to glory for all who believe, and this is the source of their joy. He is beyond their sight but truly with them, and he has repeated again his promise to send the help they will need to undertake their mission into the world.

Living the Word: How does our community 'continually praise God'?

Daily Prayer: God of all creation, whose mighty power raised Jesus from the dead, be present to this community of disciples whose hearts have been sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and whose bodies have been washed with the pure water of baptism.

Marriage Tip: In the midst of an argument, reach out to your spouse. Physical touch can't fix everything, but it can alleviate tension.

Vocational View: Our Spiritual Life is a Journey - following the Call of the Master to "Go and teach people my Gospel." Say "Yes" over and over again.

The coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost gave the disciples the power and strength to go out and live like Jesus and tell others about Jesus: the Spirit called them into action. It is this same Spirit, whom we received at Baptism,

Country Mass Times:

June 9: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 8.30. Nhill 10am
June 16: Dimboola AWC 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30.
June 23: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa AWC 9am. Dimboola AWC 8.30

Wednesday 5th June World Environment Day

A Prayer for our Earth. All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of all your creation, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in



Today the Feast of the Ascension begins a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, leading up to Pentecost Sunday next week June 9th Prayer resources in the Foyers today.

A New Diocesan Vision Statement

Bishop Paul Bird is inviting parishioners and groups to suggest a Vision Statement for the Diocese of Ballarat. Forms for this will be available next week

SBC Students are asking you to save the BREAD TAGS from your plastic bread bags, please. You can leave these in the box in the Church marked "Bread Tags". These tags are recycled and made into seeding trays, the proceeds will help to provide wheelchairs for people in need in South Africa.



PARENT FORUMS

Your opinion matters to us!



We have engaged the services of "Parent Engagement in Learning" consultant Tony Dalton who will facilitate a number of Parent forums regarding the work of our College in the education of your children, an opportunity for parents to speak up about what we, as a school, are achieving but also areas which require improvement.
Dates: Friday 31st May 2019 at either 9.00am, 1.45, 7pm. Tuesday 13th June 2019 at either 9am, 4pm, 7pm

Ss Michael and John Parish FAITH ON TAP will not be held any more.

It is very difficult to get speakers to come, and the numbers attending have been disappointing (12 or so). Those who have attended have been very appreciative of the talks.

Thank you to James & Ema-Lee Rowe for their organization of the nights, and their wonderful witness to our faith.

Planned Giving June ends the financial year, so can you please ensure that your planned giving is up to date over the next month. We realise there can many pressures on family finances, so we do appreciate your support of our Parish financial responsibilities. To May 26th we have received \$124,543 out of an anticipated amount of \$155,000. The Diocesan Finance Office has done a review of our Parish Finances. Mark Bromley from the Office, will meet with our Parish Finance Committee in June to discuss this review and our future.

Today is the 53rd World Communications Day

The theme Pope Francis chose for World Communication Day 2019: *"We are members one of another: From network community to human communities."*

Christians must do more to make sure the media, especially social networks, are places of dialogue and respect for others, rather than instruments for highlighting differences and increasing divisions. The risk in our time is that of forming tribes instead of communities - tribes based on the exclusion of the other. The theme is a call for reflection on the current state and nature of relationships on the internet, starting from the idea of community as a network between people in their wholeness, The metaphor of the web as a community of solidarity implies the construction of an 'us' based on listening to the other, on dialogue and consequently on the responsible use of language. Social media can nourish "true, beautiful, solid relationships," but it also can "feed hatred and a friend or enemy mechanism. When this happens, there is no real relationship." Pope Francis wants people to use social media as a network, not a web, "not something that traps you, but something that frees you and that you make an instrument of freedom."

SBC, SMJ, OLHC welcome 2020 enrolments now.

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 & Tirsa, 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 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28,

It is not as though Christ has entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will

not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him. In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he had opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our mind sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 28:19,

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

St Brigid's College

OPEN DAY

& PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

At St Brigid's College we believe that each student is unique and should be nurtured to achieve their individual best in all aspects of life. Our students thrive in a stimulating learning environment, supported by an inclusive and caring community. We warmly invite you to visit us to learn more.



Wednesday 5th June 2019
2:00pm - 7:00pm

- 2:00pm - 3:25pm**
See everyday classes in action
- 3:45pm - 5:00pm**
Witness our amazing Bright Sparks workshops
- 6:00pm**
Hear our Principal's Address in the Library followed by our Parent Information Evening
- Explore the College at your own pace and see our new STEAM Centre under construction.



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Ph: (01382) 3543 | [stbrigidscol](https://www.instagram.com/stbrigidscol)

Next Week's Gospel: John 14:15-16,

Jesus said to his disciples 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever. 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.'

Gospel Reflection – Ascension - Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Loss is part of the human condition, and the physical death of a loved one is among the most painful experiences of loss. Today's Feast of the Ascension invites us to face the experience of loss in a transformative way. In Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus. Over the period of Lent and Easter, we have been remembering his death and resurrection. As we approach the end of the Easter season, the liturgy draws us into another aspect of the Mystery, that of the presence and absence of

Jesus who has been raised. The Lukan Ascension stories in Luke and Acts give a three-tiered understanding of the structure of the world. In this ancient view, God is in the heavens above and the prophet Jesus, like the prophet Elijah of old, is caught up into God's realm from whence the Holy Spirit will "descend" upon God's people. This vertical (up and down) movement is balanced by a horizontal movement. In Acts, Jesus' family and friends who grieve the loss of their loved one are told not they have work to do: they must return to Jerusalem for the present and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the prophetic ministry of Jesus ("clothed with power from on high"), to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Like us, the early Christians needed time to grasp each dimension of the one great mystery of God's presence among them. Pope Francis, in calling us to be attentive to the cry of the poor, insists that the earth itself is "among the most maltreated and abandoned of our poor" (Laudato Si' 2). Joy, peace, prayer and blessing have filled and have the final word in Luke's gospel. As we prepare for Pentecost, we pray that the spirit of joy that animated the earliest Christians might fill our hearts to know the blessing of God.