



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time — 8th September 2019



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400
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Phone: 5382 1155. Fax: 5382 3016
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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 Damian here for Masses this weekend.

Mass at Natimuk Nursing Home this Thursday Sept 12th at 4.15pm.



Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The collection in our parish this year has raised **\$1032.05** to date. The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests.

You can still contribute, by using the special envelope available in the Foyers.

The BCSF envelop has a credit card facility available for your convenience

Contributions over \$2 are tax-deductible

Catering Meeting

this Wednesday 11th September at 11am in the Meeting Room.

This is to follow up with all ladies who help with catering at funerals.

Due to health and personal reasons Betty Heinrich is not continuing as Co-Ordinator. We are very grateful to Betty for her 5 years of commitment, care and support to all who have helped with catering and her support to families at funerals. Betty and Garry did so much to improve the facilities in our kitchen. We thank them and pray for God's blessings on Betty's health. For the time being Anita in the Parish Office will work with the catering teams.

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, of hope in times of despair, woundedness, sorrow, 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 carers and helpers 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.

Lana Turvey-Collins, the Australian Bishops' Co-Ordinator for the Plenary Council, will be in Horsham this Tuesday September 10th, from 11am to 1pm, in the Meeting Room to help us learn about the Plenary Council, and to help form Groups to discuss the six themes that form the first session of the Plenary Council in October 2020.

All welcome to meet with Lana on Tuesday, from 11 to 1pm, in the Meeting Room, where all questions will be answered.



SMJ School Grandparents and Special Friends Mass this Friday September 13th

at 9.30am Mass in the Church
There will be Morning Tea and Meet the Students in the School after Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES: A Funeral Mass will replace weekday Mass

Tuesday 10 Sept	5.30pm	Jean McManus anniv.
Wednesday 11 Sept	9.30am	Kath Delahunty anniv. Gemma H's YR 5/6 to attend
Thursday 12 Sept	9.30am	
Friday 13 Sept	9.30am	St John Chrysostom. SMJ Grandparents Mass
Saturday 14Sept	10.00am	Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Jennifer Coutts 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: Sr Geraldine Stapleton CSB, Veronica Bouts (Dimboola)

ANNIVERSARIES: Kath Delahunty, Jean McManus, Ann Harrison, Gertrude Brennan, Jennifer Coutts, Neville Schulz, Patrick Purcell, Bernard McLindon, Mary Agnes Ryan.

SICK: Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Debbie Nolan, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Betty Fitzgerald, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, John McNamara

Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 5382 1155

**Next Sunday 3rdd Sunday of the Month
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 15th September 2019**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30**

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. For enrolment and appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on Thursday
September 19th at 5.30pm.** Members, please have your reports into Anita at the Office by Wednesday Sept 18th. Thank you.

The Shared Table. Brochures are in the Church Foyers to explain how your \$1 a week can help the people of Lima, Peru, set up kitchens to cook good food. Please return your form and money to the Office.

SBC Mission Day is on Friday September 20th, the last day of Term 3. Mass in the College Gym at 11am and Mission Day activities from 12.30 - 1.30

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

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, Srs Manuela & Tirsa, Anita Masiero (Sec)

ROSTERS

7/8 Sept	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes	Zita Cannane Andrea Cox Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dalglish
Commentator	Kevin Dunn	Angela Murphy
14/15 Sept	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Maree Plazzer	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Peter Gutteridge	Louise Kemp
Eucharistic Ministers	Anne Newton Sr Tirsa Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy	Karen Hill Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Andrea Cox
Projector	Anita Masiero	Robert Sartori
Musicians	Filippino Choir	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Garry & Betty Heinrich	Sharon Creasey Mary Dowsley
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	15th September Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi	22nd September Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 52.00
Horsham	\$ 993.00	Dimboola	\$ 57.00
Total			\$ 1102.00

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 809.00	Loose	\$ 60.70
Credit Card	\$ 2294.17	Direct Debit	\$
Total			\$ 3793.87

Making Connections: Do something which 'costs' you this week. Identify someone who has a cross to carry and try to assist them, even in a small way, to shoulder that burden.

Marriage Tip: True love between spouses, which images Christ's love for the Church, inspires husbands and wives to continually seek each other out for advice, affection, and affirmation. Encourage your spouse today and remind him/her that you are there no matter what!

Daily Prayer: You have given us, O God, your only Son, our dearest treasure, and he has challenged us to give our all if we would be disciples. Let the extravagance of your gift call forth from us a love beyond cost or measure; let your Son's self-sacrificing death urge us to carry our cross each day and follow in his footsteps.

A Vocation View: Jesus says clearly; "Anyone who does not take up the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." You and Jesus can carry your cross.

Dear Jesus, stay with me, and then I shall begin to shine as you shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. The light will be all from you. Radiating the Light of Christ: The Call to holiness is not the luxury of the few, it is a simple duty for each one of us. *Mother Teresa*

Celebrating Volunteers
Thank you for all you do
in Parish life and
Ministries and community

**GIVE HAPPY
LIVE HAPPY**

Country Mass Times:

Sept 15: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Sept 22: Natimuk 8.30. Murtoa 8.30am. Nhill 10am.
Dimboola 11.30am.
Sept 29: Murtoa Mass 8.30am. Dimboola AWC 8.30.
Oct 6th: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Oct 13th: Murtoa 10.30 Mass. Dimboola 8.30 Mass.
Oct 20th: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
Oct 27th: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30.

CWL 90th BIRTHDAY Sunday Oct 20th

The CWL 90th Birthday Celebration and Reunion is on **Sunday 20th October** at 10.30am Mass, and a Lunch in the Parish Centre after Mass.

All current and former members are invited to Mass and Lunch to celebrate the 90th birthday and to rekindle old friendships.

RSVP: by October 1st, to Marina 5382 1047,
Tess 5381 1785 or Frances 5382 1546
CWL AGM Tuesday October 1st 1.30pm.



Today Sunday September 8 is the Feast of Our Lady's Birthday.

Father of mercy, give your people help and strength from heaven. The birth of the Virgin Mary's Son was the dawn of our salvation. May this celebration of Mary's birthday bring us lasting peace, love, justice, compassion, mercy.

SBC Students Free Day this Monday 9th. Staff RE Day

*SMJ School SAC Meeting Tuesday 10th at 7pm.

*St Patrick's School Nhill SAC Meeting Wednesday 7pm



Season of Creation

From September 1 to October 4, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, Christians around the world celebrate the Season of Creation - through prayer, changes in lifestyle, advocacy Inserting a Season of Creation

into the Liturgical Year during September helps implement the vision of Pope Francis' environmental encyclical 'Laudato Si'. As a pastoral initiative we can face the 21st century ecological challenge. Eucharist is the central pastoral act of Church communities to remember 'Laudato Si' in prayer, to care for Earth as our common home and to love all living things. Sunday worship is the common way Catholics are led to consciously know and experience God.

Prayer
Creator of Life, the Earth is full of Your creatures, and by Your wisdom you made them all. At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit, the waters teemed with swarms of living creatures of every kind, and the world was filled with every kind of winged bird, walking animal, and creatures that creep upon the ground. Mountains, plains, rocks, and rivers shelter diverse communities, and through the changing seasons Your Spirit renews cycles of life. Open our eyes to see the diversity that is all around us. Enlighten our minds to appreciate the delicate balance maintained by each creature. Inspire us to conserve the habitats that nurture this web of life. In the name of Jesus Christ

Christmas Crib Display. From Tuesday December 3 to Sunday December 8th, Fr Andrew Hayes, Fiona Tonkin and Kevin Linard will bring to our Parish more than 300 nativity scenes in a stunning exhibition. There are figurines, cribs and mangers of all shapes, sizes, ages and histories, and many of the nativity scenes have fascinating stories behind them. One of the oldest items dates back to 1750, a sheep from Germany 254 yrs old. **The Display will be in Nhill on Tuesday 3rd, and in the Parish Centre from Wednesday 4th to Sunday 8. Schools will attend the Display. If you have a Crib scene you may wish to display for this time, you are welcome to bring it. Please see Fr Peter beforehand.**

St Joseph's Church Warrnambool Celebrations to mark 130 years since the completion of St Joseph's Church. Mass on Friday September 13, at 7pm followed by refreshments. On Saturday, September 14 at 10.30am a commemorative tree will be planted, followed by a tour of the Warrnambool Cemetery.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2019 1st - 7th September

PROTECTING CHILDREN IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS



Our Parish and the Diocese of Ballarat unite with the Catholic Church in Australia to mark Child Protection Sunday today. We pray for those who have been abused and their families. We recognise the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support survivors to make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest place for children and vulnerable adults. We are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

Mark Bromley from the Diocesan Finance Office will meet with our Parish Finance Committee on Wednesday September 18th at 12 noon. There are a number of issues Mark will bring to us, including falling giving in the Planned Giving Program and how we can use our Parish Accounts for our betterment. Members of the PPC are invited to attend. We will need to have a renewal of our PGP sometime in the new year.

Social Justice Sunday will be celebrated on 29th September. The Social Justice Statement entitled ***Making it Real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world.*** In this year's Statement, the Bishops reassert Pope Francis' call to 'boldly become citizens of the digital world', with the image of the Good Samaritan as our inspiration. The statement affirms the positive possibilities for encounter and solidarity offered by new digital media, while warning of those elements online that can be harmful. Information overload, social isolation, marginalisation of the vulnerable, consumerism and fake news are just some of the challenges. As individual users and as people and communities of faith, we are called not just to be inhabitants of this new digital world, but to be active citizens shaping it for the good of all.

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

First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 89:3-6, 12-14,
In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back in to dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of

heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger forever? Show pity to your servants.

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Second Reading: Philemon 1: 9-10, 12

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as

you would me.

Gospel Acclamation: Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Gospel Reflection – 23rd Sunday.

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

On June 17 this year, the Vatican's Dicastery for Integral Human Development issued a letter about the Season of Creation. It noted that during this season Christians across six continents work to put into practice Pope Francis' encyclical on integral ecology, *Laudato Si'*, to "participate in community events to deepen their love for Creator, creation, and each other". As we move into the second week of the Season of Creation, we renew our commitment to the gospel call to reverence for all that constitutes our planetary home. In the gospel reading today, we are confronted by the pain involved in living a way of life that respects the rights of all created beings. On the long journey from Galilee through Samaritan territory to the city of Jerusalem, Jesus attracts a huge

following and teaches relentlessly about the ways of God. By the time he reaches Jerusalem, the crowds have thinned considerably. Is this because it is too hard to persist with their initial impulse to follow the way of the gospel and the one who embodies its values? Implicit in Jesus' teaching about carrying one's cross is a reminder of the intense pain and sacrifice involved in being a disciple. It sometimes means going against what other family members want. It may even involve risking one's life for the sake of others. In the context of the Roman Empire, criminals who were sentenced to die by crucifixion carried to the place of their execution the cross beam on which they would hang. The cross image is thus shocking for anyone. It is quite alienating for the faint hearted. The term "hate" (*misein*) in this context seems harsh. The English translation fails to do

justice, however, to the original Hebrew that underlies this biblical notion. To "hate" in biblical terms is to "leave aside". Disciples are expected to love one another. There are times, however, when they have to "leave aside" the wishes of those they love most for the sake of a gospel call to justice, compassion, and right relationship. Here as elsewhere, women have to read against the grain of the text in order to hear its message. Finally, there is a call in this gospel passage to "leave aside" unnecessary possessions. In a time of planetary vulnerability and of growing division between the privileged and the marginalised of the Earth community, the teaching of the Lukan Jesus has a particular resonance. There is no place in a gospel way of life for self-indulgence, exploitation of others, for self-centred appropriation of the goods of the earth.

Next Week's Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

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: 'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then,

when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say, "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. 'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and

neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

Next Sunday September 15th we will have a **Holy Hour after 10.30 Mass from 11.30am to 12.30pm.** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary time for personal prayer. All welcome.