



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Dimboola – Horsham – Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill

BULLETIN



Feast of Christ the King — 24th November 2019



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

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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

Planned Giving Envelopes
are now in the foyer.

Those who give fortnightly,
monthly and yearly will find
them in the white envelopes

Natimuk Nursing Home

Mass this Thursday 28th
November at **4pm**

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 25th: 9am.

Tuesday 26th: 9.30am

Wednesday 27th: 9.30am

Thursday 28th: 9.30am

**Friday 29th: 10.30am at
the Lutheran Home.**

Saturday 30th: 10am
Feast of St Andrew, Apostle

SMJ School Foundation
Class Liturgy this Tuesday
at 12.15pm in their Learning
Area.

SMJ School Yrs 1 & 2
Liturgy this Thursday 28th
at 12.15 in their Learning Area

We welcome Fr Richard Leonard SJ
as he leads our Parish Mission this week

The Mission Theme: Living the Gospel of Joy

Pope Francis calls all the church to live our faith, hope and love with joy. This is not a supercilious joy that pretends that we don't have a care in the world. It is the assurance of a faith that calls us to go out to the world confidently because we know where we have come from, why we are here, and where we are going.

This Parish Mission will explore the essential we need to go out with faith, hope and joy.

Mass will be in the Church.

Evening Sessions in the Parish Centre.

Monday November 25th

Mass 9am. After Morning Mass and 7pm – 8.30pm

“Jesus Christ for us and with us right here, right now”

Without Christ there is no Christianity. As we witness to Christ, we need to make sure the Lord we proclaim not pious or fundamentalist? Let's explore how rich our tradition is in regard to Christ and how we are sent as members of his family.

Tuesday November 26th

Mass 9.30am. After Morning Mass and 7pm – 8.30pm

“Why bother Praying?”

I never thought I would ever write a book or give a workshop on prayer. The Lord knows that at this stage I am no mystic. But since writing “Where the hell is God?” I discovered that most Catholics, and many Christians, have an impoverished view of prayer: it is basically about asking for someone or something somewhere. This workshop will explore how our tradition is endlessly interesting in naming the context, images, types and styles of praying. Catholic Schools are meant to be prayerful places where we teach other how to pray, so we better get clear on how deep and rich Catholic prayer can be. (Based on book “Why Bother Praying?”)

Wednesday November 27th

Mass 9.30am. After Morning Mass and 7pm – 8.30pm

“What are we doing on earth for Christ's Sake?”

Going out to the world is not for the faint-hearted. These days many people think we are nuts for believing in the Father, Son and Spirit. How we hold and proclaim a sensible and joyous religious faith, and confidently impart it to our friends and neighbours, even in the face of serious, secular opposition? (based on my book of the same name)

Today's Feast of Christ the King ends the current Church Liturgical Year. Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent and begins a new Church Year. Sunday Readings from Year A. Weekday Readings from Year 2.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Alberto Luciani, Bob Arnott, Wayne Mills, Yetty Glaubitz, Sara Hunter, Marion Derbas, Phillip Ryan

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

Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 5382 1155

Saturday Morning Devotions:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20. Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church 9.35. Mass 10. CONFESSIONS: Saturday morning 10.25am.

**Next Sunday 1st Sunday of the Month
1st Sunday of Advent 1st December 2019**

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

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Nhill **Sunday Mass 10.00**

**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.

CHOIR PRACTICE Second Wednesday in the Church 6pm.

Cleaning SMJ Church Saturday Dec 14th from 10.30am. Men, women, young people welcome. Please bring cleaning materials, buckets etc. We will have supplies

Candle of Remembrance will be given at Masses on Saturday November 30th / Sunday December 1st in remembrance of our deceased.

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 and vulnerable adults 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 & Tirsia, Anita Masiero (Sec)

ROSTERS

23/24 Nov	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am	
Eucharistic Ministers	Maree Plazzer Micky Robarts Cathy Taylor John Parker Simon Lynch Bob Hayes Anne Newton	Karen Hill Anna Robertson Neville Strachan Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane Andrea Cox	
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Andrea Cox	
30 Nov/1Dec	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am	
Readers	Anthony Amor	Louise Kemp	
Commentator	Sr Jacinta Rice	Anna Robertson	
Eucharistic Ministers	Peter Gutteridge Sr Tirsia Bale Anthony Amor Sr Jacinta Rice Bernadette Trounce Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy	Faye Wills Bob Pritchett Tim Lannen Alison McKinnon Kingsley Dagleish Karen Hill Anna Robertson	
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Gabby Mills	
Musicians	Chris Roberts	Combined Choir	
Welcomers	Gavin Hynam Judy Bryan	Nanette Freckleton Lyn Starr	
Prayers	Alison McKinnon & Anna Robertson		
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	1st December Pauline Barber Gwen Antonucci Carmel O'Connor Kate Herson-Spasic	8th December Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	
FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):			
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 91.00
Horsham	\$ 774.00	Dimboola	\$ 58.00
Total			\$ 923.00
2nd Collection (Parish Account)			
Envelopes	\$ 1381.00	Loose	\$ 135.20
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$ 410.00
Total			\$ 1926.20

Making Connections: Place a crucifix in a place of honour in your home, spend some time each day in prayer before the crucified Christ.

Daily Prayer: You have rescued us, O God, from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your beloved Son, that we might share the justice and love of Christ's reign. Grant that we may walk in the footsteps of Jesus, the path of obedient faith and self-sacrificing love, laying down our lives, as he did, for our brothers and sisters, Let Christ the King's cross become the shape of our lives, and the Lord's compassion form our hearts, and the Good Shepherd's embrace welcome us, in the sure and certain hope that Jesus will remember us when he comes into his kingdom and share with us the glory of Paradise.

A Vocation View: Who will work for Jesus, the King of Peace, Hope and Honour, the King of Love, Truth and Justice? Who is dedicated and enthusiastic enough to proclaim his Good News? YOU!

Marriage Tip: If your goal is to have a satisfying marriage with longevity, make sure you are accountable for the part you play in the relationship — good or bad.

All praise and glory be to you Jesus Christ, our Saviour and King

*We pray for our farmers for a blessed and successful harvest and kind weather over these months
We pray for those suffering from the devastating bushfires and the drought across our Nation.*

Country Mass Times:

Dec 1st: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
 Dec 8th: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
 Dec 15th: Murtoa 8.30am. Dimboola 8.30am. Nhill 10am
 Dec 22: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30am
 Nhill 5pm.
 Dec 29: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 12.15pm. Nhill 1.30pm

St Vincent's Christmas Appeal in December

Donation envelopes are available from the Piety Stall. Food donations are also welcome as they assist with hampers.

Thank you to those who donated to the Winter Appeal

CWL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

at the Royal Hotel, on Tuesday December 3rd at 12pm. Cost \$20.00 per head. All Welcome. For bookings please contact Marina 5382 1047 or Frances 5382 1546 by 27th November.

Anita Masiero

retires as our Parish Secretary this Friday November 29th. Anita has been Secretary/ Parish Administration Officer for 13 years. We thank Anita most sincerely for her commitment and dedication to this ministry. I will say more about Anita on next week's Bulletin. Camille Del Castillo is our new Secretary.



End of the Year School Masses:

SBC Years 7 to 11: Wednesday December 11th at 2pm in the Church.

SMJ School: Tuesday December 17th 12 noon.

OLHC Murtoa: Tuesday December 1th 6.30pm in St Mary's Church Murtoa.

St Patrick's Nhill: Wednesday December 18th at 6pm in St Patrick's Church.



SUNDAY DECEMBER 1st at Sawyer Park. Family activities from 5.30pm, with food stalls etc. Carols begin at 7.30pm.

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

With the age and retirement of a number of Ministers, we are inviting more Parishioners to become Special Ministers. If you attend Mass and over 14, you are eligible. Please inform the Office or see Fr Peter or Srs Tirsia and Manuela if you are interested. We will have Training for you.

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 254yrs.

The Display will be in Nhill on Tuesday 3rd, and in the Horsham Parish Centre from Thursday 5th to Sunday December 8th. There is a Poster in the Foyer on the Display with times for viewing.

Our Schools will attend the Display.

Times of Display in our Parish Centre:

Thursday Dec 5th, Friday Dec 6th:

School hours for Schools.

3.30 to 5pm each day : Open to the Public

Saturday Dec 7th: 11am to 8.30pm

(closed during 6.30 Mass)

Sunday Dec 8th: 9.30am to 1pm.

(closed during 10.30am Mass)

Next Sunday December 1st is the First Sunday of Advent,



PARISH ADVENT / CHRISTMAS DIARY



Advent

Reflection Groups

Anyone who would like to belong to a group, please contact the Parish Office for a booklet. Booklets available for individual use, \$5 each.

The Jesse Tree will be decorated at each Sunday Advent Mass, with the Jesse Tree Symbols. To the Jesse Tree you are invited to bring gifts for children (please put age and gender) and non-perishable food which will be given to needy families

Christmas Anointing Mass on Tuesday 10th December at 2pm in SMJ Church. Cuppa in the Hall after Mass. CWL Raffle drawn at the Cuppa.

Anointing and Reconciliation at Dimboola 8.30 on Dec 8th and Murtoa 8.30 Mass on December 15.

Advent Reconciliation Service Monday Dec 23rd at 7pm at SMJ Church. Two priests present.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Horsham: Christmas Eve Children's Mass 7pm
 Christmas Eve Mass with Choir 10.15pm

Murtoa: Christmas Eve Mass 5pm.

Nhill: Christmas Eve Mass 6pm.

Dimboola: Christmas Eve Mass 7.30pm.

Horsham: Christmas Day Mass 9.00am.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121:1-5

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgment of the house of David.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light. Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation; for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominions, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

Gospel Acclamation: Mark 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

The people stayed before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said, 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

Gospel Reflection – Christ the King.

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Sadly, there have always been those who scoff at others or make fun of them, generally because they themselves feel threatened in some way. Those who suffer such bullying behaviour often feel powerless and demeaned. There may be some comfort for such people in today's gospel. We find here a serious case of bullying and two dignified responses that undermine the destructive power of those who taunt or deride. The first response is that of Jesus who refuses to retaliate when the soldiers mock him or when another convicted criminal ("one of the criminals hanging there") derides him. Another dignified response comes from "the other" criminal. This man has the insight to recognise that Jesus is innocent. He also has the courage to challenge the injustice of what is going on around him. Having offered his challenge, he then turns to Jesus and

addresses him by name: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kin-dom." His request reveals his faith in Jesus as the human face of God. It also reveals his knowledge of Jesus' mission, first announced in Galilee: "I must proclaim the good news of the kin-dom of God" Jesus points to God and God's reign or empire. Jesus' criminal companion points to the reign or empire of Jesus. The reign of God and the reign of Jesus are one and the same. In turning to Jesus and putting his request, this criminal becomes a disciple and receives the assurance of a share in Jesus' life with God: "Today you will be with me..." "Jesus, remember me" is a fitting prayer in the face of all life's struggles. It is a prayer for mercy. Next time we sing these words or pray them in our hearts, we might spare a thought for the one who first uttered them, a convicted Jewish criminal who had the courage to rise above his own suffering

and to challenge the unjust oppression of an innocent neighbour. Like Jesus, this criminal was and continues to be an instrument of God's reign. His capacity to challenge the injustice of Jesus' execution might be a source of inspiration for us as we struggle to find mercy and justice for the Earth as well as for the innocent ones who seek asylum in our midst only to find themselves subjected to the torture of exile and hopelessness. The title of today's feast reminds us of the boundless nature of God's rule or reign: we celebrate Christ Jesus as ruler of the universe, of all that is and of all that will be. As our understanding of the universe expands, we find ourselves caught up in the ever creative and saving presence of a compassionate, merciful God. This feast might serve as a reminder to us to allow the peace of Christ to reign in our hearts even in the face of derision.

Next Week's Gospel: Matt 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the

householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Christmas Edition of our Parish Magazine *The Fisherman*.

We seek your articles of inrest, photos, poetry etc. Please have them into the Parish Office by Friday December 13th. Thank you

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

Thank you to Helen Hunter, Lynda & Jim Hutchinson for helping Bob Pritchett with the Garden clean up last Saturday