



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham- Dimboola- Murtoa- Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

### 2nd Sunday of Lent - 8 March 2020



**Project Compassion Boxes and Sets of Envelopes are in the Church Foyers for you to take either.**



**This week's Story:**  
Twenty-seven-year-old Phany, lives in a village in western Cambodia. Struggling to earn a living as a farmer, she was forced to leave her daughter behind in the village, to take up construction work in the city. Phany joined the Upholding Community Dignity Together program, where she learnt new farming techniques, such as a drip irrigation system, which enabled her to get a better yield from her vegetable crops and to conserve water in her drought-stricken region. Phany's community also took part in training in health, nutrition, hygiene and disaster preparedness, arming them with strategies to cope with environmental changes.

#### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson  
Parish Secretary:  
Camille Del Castillo

10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400  
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402  
Phone: 5382 1155.  
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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

Nhill: St Patrick's  
Principal: Kingsley Dagleish

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy at 10.30 Mass during the School terms. We will need two adults at each session. If you are able to help or have helped in the past, please contact the Parish Office. Helpers need a WWC check. Students over 18 can help.

**Clergy Appointment:** Following Fr Eric Bryant's retirement, Fr Andrew Hayes has been appointed Parish Priest of Stawell, as well as his duties as Parish Priest of Ararat.

We welcome Fr John, thank you for your ministry.

**Finance Committee Meeting this Wednesday March 11th at 12 noon in the Meeting Room.**

Welcome to family home for the long weekend and to all visitors. Blessings, safety and success on the many activities

**Easter Ministry Roster available in SMJ Foyer - please sign for any Ministry you are available to assist with in Holy Week and Easter.**

Archbishop Christopher Prowse, who leads the Bishops Commission for Laity and Ministry, said March 8th, World Women's Day, recognises the irreplaceable role of women in the Church. "In the Church, almost 80 per cent of those employed are women in education, social services, parish ministry, health and aged care. More evidently today than a couple of decades ago is women at the top echelons of the Church's ministries, heading up Caritas, National Catholic Education Commission and Catholic Social Services Australia. Thank you today and everyday for your ministries

#### 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 hands on earth. Give them gentleness as they help the sick, give them respect for 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 elderly, sick, in Homes or in Hospital.

**Stations of the Cross in Lent Fridays at 4pm in SMJ.**



We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism:

Saturday:

Banjo Thomas Koenig  
child of Joshua & Sallie

And Sunday:

Oscar Brian McRae  
Child of Andrew & Christie

#### WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 10 Mar	5.30pm	St Frances of Rome. Veronica Delahunty ann
Wednesday 11 Mar	9.30am	Lily Walker's 5/6 class attend. Dan Carey anniv
Thursday 12 Mar	9.30am	James & Damian Doyle annivs
Friday 13 Mar	9.30am	
Saturday 14 Mar	10am	Chris Velthuis 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



<b>Please Remember in Your Prayers</b>
<b>Recent Deaths:</b> Brian Perkins,
<b>Anniversaries:</b> Veronica Delahunty, Damian Doyle, Dan Carey, Dick Walsh, Chris Velthuis, Ron Window,
<b>Sick:</b> Brian Rice, Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Sr Tirsa Bale, Laurie Manserra, Pat Craig, Sue Chalkley, Fr Eric Bryant.
<b>Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 53821155</b>
<b>Confessions Saturday after Mass (10.25)</b>
<b>Saturday Morning Devotions:</b> Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20 Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church. 10am Mass
<b>Next Sunday 3rd Sunday of the Month</b> 3rd Sunday of Lent - 15th March 2020
Horsham Saturday Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 10.30am Dimboola Sunday Mass 8.30am. Nhill Mass 10am. Murtoa Sunday Mass 8.30am.
<b>Rosary, Litany of Mary, Divine Mercy Chaplet</b> <b>HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.</b>
<b>Regular Activities in the Parish</b>
<b>Craft Group</b> Mondays - Parish Meeting Room. BYO Craft Mornings - 9.30am to 11.30am. Evening - 7pm to 9pm.
<b>Meditation Group:</b> Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2pm
<b>CWL Meetings</b> 1st Tuesday of the Month: Upcoming meeting 4 February - <b>10.30am*</b> in Meeting Room. (until April)
<b>Men's Group</b> Meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month in the Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428847455
<b>St Vincent de Paul Conference.</b> Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm for assistance. Phone 53812371
<b>BAPTISM PREPARATION.</b> For enrolment and appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b> Second Wednesday of the month, Church 6pm

**Catholic Women's League (CWL) Social Day**  
**St Patrick's Day Tuesday 17th March.** Morning Tea at Up Tempo Café, 6 Dimboola Rd. Horsham at 10.30am. All Welcome. RSVP by 15th March with Frances Plazzer on 0407 547 461.

**Palms Australia:** All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and skills of their people to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions. poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation and support. [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or

**DOBCEL Meeting.**  
The PPC, Finance Committee, School Advisory Councils and Principals will meet with DOBCEL in Horsham on Wednesday March 25th at 7pm in SMJ Parish Centre  
DOBCEL means Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited, set up by the Bishop, to run our Schools from 2021 in accordance with new Government protocols. All issues will be discussed  
Interested Parishioners are welcome to attend.

ROSTERS		
<b>7/8 Mar</b>	<b>Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Peter Gutteridge Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy	Lynda Hutchinson Rosie Taylor Zita Cannane
<b>Commentator</b>	Maree Plazzer	Dianne Noy
<b>14/15 Mar</b>	<b>Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>
<b>Readers</b>	Sr Jacinta Rice	Anna Robertson
<b>Commentator</b>	Betty Heinrich	Louise Kemp
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pat Glaubitz Maree Plazzer Cathy Taylor	Mary Dagleish Andrea Cox Fay Wills
<b>Projector</b>	Peter Gutteridge	Robert Sartori
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
<b>Welcomers</b>	Pat Williams Gary Coutts	Denise Vallance Helene Bush
<b>Prayers</b>	Darryl & Maree Wren	
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>15th March</b> Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty	<b>22nd March</b> Lynda Hutchinson Helene Bush Bernadette Delahunty

**FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):**

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 164.00
Horsham	\$ 920.00	Dimboola	\$ 61.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 1145.00</b>	

**2nd Collection (Parish Account)**

Envelopes	\$ 770.00	Loose	\$ 90.10
Credit Card	\$ 2689.17	Direct Debit	\$ 1705.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 5254.27</b>	


**Making Connections:** In the Old Testament, mountaintops were important as places of encounter with God. Both Moses and Elijah experienced the power and presence of God on mountain tops, just as Jesus does in the gospel. Where do you experience the most profound sense of God's presence in your life? Where is your sacred place?

**Marriage Tip:** Around the house, married couples work out a division of labor between them. Usually it's based on skills, interest, and time. Is there a particular task you dislike? Talk about it. Then try switching for a month.

**Daily Prayer:** It is good for us to be here! Let us listen with every generation of disciples to your Son, the Beloved, with whom you are well pleased. Then, at his touch, may we get up and go unafraid to tell others about the life and immortality Jesus has brought to light.

**A Vocation View:** The Lord called Abram to go forth to a new land and begin a new nation. There's no telling what we can become by responding to the Lord's invitation to us.

**First Sacrament of Reconciliation Dates:**  
Monday March 16th either 5pm or 7pm.  
Thursday March 19th either at 5pm or 7pm.

 Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Gwen and Vince Antonucci on their 50th Wedding anniversary on March 7th.



### COUNTRY MASS TIMES

15th Mar: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.

22nd Mar: Natimuk 8.30. **Murtoa 10.30.** Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 5

29 Mar: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am. Kaniva 11.30

### NEW REGULATIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION, HOLY WATER AND SIGN OF PEACE AT MASS

As a result of the increased spread of **coronavirus** and what we know about its transmission, Dioceses around the world and closer to home have temporarily altered certain practices in Mass to ensure the health and safety of parishioners.

**With the wellbeing of all parishioners of our Diocese in mind - the following directives will be effective immediately to all in our Diocese:**

- ◆ There will be no Communion from the Chalice.
- ◆ **Communion will be received in the hand and not on the tongue**, given that one of the easiest ways to transmit a virus is by saliva.
- ◆ At the Sign of Peace, parishioners will exchange peace with a smile or a bow, **not with any touch**.
- ◆ All ministers of Holy Communion are to use hand sanitisers before the distribution of Holy Communion commences, **and are not to physically touch anyone in the act of blessing**.
- ◆ **Holy water fonts are to be removed.**

These directives are from the Australian Government Department of Health which states that everyone practises good hygiene to protect against coronavirus infection, including "avoiding close contact with others, such as touching".

**Rupanyup Home Mass Wednesday March 11 at 7pm** at Sue Tyler's home.

**OLHC School Murtoa Family Tea at the School this Wednesday from 6pm.**

**Natimuk Nursing Home Mass this Thursday 12th at 4pm.**

**SMJ School Years 1 & 2 Liturgy this Thursday at 12.15 in their Learning Area.**

The Heritage Council of Victoria is visiting Horsham next Sunday March 15th. As SMJ Church is now on the Victorian Heritage Register, they will visit our Church at 9.30am. Chris Robarts, plus others, and any other interested Parishioners, are welcome to meet them at the Church at 9.30 next Sunday.



### RELAY FOR LIFE

This Friday and Saturday March 13 & 14 Coughlin Park

*Blessings for a successful and safe time to help find a cure for cancer.*



World Women's Day  
March 8th

*We are all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.*

### LENTEN REGULATIONS 2020

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.**

On all other Fridays, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any one of the following:  
(a) Prayer: for example, Mass attendance; family prayer, a visit to a church or chapel, reading the Bible, making the Stations of the Cross, praying the rosary.  
(b) Self-denial: for example, not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reducing time for watching TV or other entertainments.

(c) Helping others- for example, taking the family to visit the elderly in old people's home or in the parish, visiting the sick or someone who is lonely.

- ◆ All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year should fast. (Canon 1252)
- ◆ All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday.
- ◆ On Good Friday and on Holy Saturday until the Easter vigil, try to fast on these days.



### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Our Parish rejoices as we welcome and prepare for Reception into the Fullness of the Church at Easter these our Candidates: Robbie Fry, Maryann and Julia Kardogeros, Maricel Mahmood, Vince, Lance & Lander Rosello  
*Please pray for our candidates.*

### St Vincent de Paul Lenten Appeal

We can add to our Lent by donating each week the food suggested for the weekends below. In this way we support Vinnies and the Emergency Food Centre. **You are asked to contribute the following goods on the named weekends:**

7-8 March: Spaghetti/Baked Beans

14-15 March: Tinned Fruit

21-22 March: Pasta/Past Sauce

28-29 March: Tea/Coffee

4-5 April: Tinned Soup

*or any other food you can afford. Thank you*



Celebrating 100 years of the Brigidine Sisters in our Parish. Long weekend in June 6th to 8th.

**Child Safety Standards.** Ss Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett and Jill McGinnisken** are our Safeguarding Officers. 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 & Tirsa.

**First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4**

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22**

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

**Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10**

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy - not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace

had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 17:5**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel Matthew 17,1-9**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him'. When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. Jesus came and touched them. 'Stand up, do not be afraid.' When they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

**Gospel Reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM**

Last week's gospel invited us into a confronting habitat, namely the wilderness. This week, we follow Jesus and three of his companions to a high mountain, cloud-covered. Both wilderness and mountain link Matthew's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites of old. Wilderness and mountain remind us that God's creation is the locus of wonder and mystery. The world we inhabit has an integrity of its own that has not always been acknowledged in our tradition. It is God's dwelling place. It is the place of human-divine encounter and the place of human encounter with the other-than-human material world. Attention to habitat can lead us to a clearer understanding of our own place in the scheme of things and to ever deeper understandings of our relationship with God. The "transfiguration" points to a time in Jesus' ministry when he comes to terms with the fate he is likely to meet: if he confronts the forces of oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. Jesus has struggled with that realisation in the wilderness, at the outset of his ministry. On the mountain top, he comes to terms with

what that involves. The disciples see Moses and Elijah, the key prophetic figures of Israel, speaking with Jesus, God's new and definitive prophet. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to a mission that elicits hostility. Peter and his companions are called to "listen" to Jesus, the beloved of God, as are all who follow in the way of discipleship. Jesus' companions get a glimpse of God's glory shining on his face and penetrating his clothing, a hint that God's grace is more life-giving than the forces of violence that oppose God's reign. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We need the good sense to listen and to follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we experience from the most unexpected quarters. If we are to sustain the struggle for a healthy, safe, a peace-filled world, we have to resist the temptation to hold on to the moments of glory, and come to terms with the personal cost of being faithful to the gospel.

**Next week's Gospel: John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42**

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I

see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you, I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'