

Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

Easter Sunday - 12th April 2020



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.

Email:

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 Dalglish

Channel 7 broadcasts St Mary's Cathedral Easter Sunday Mass at 10.30am today, on Channel 7, on Prime 7 in regional areas, live-streamed on 7plus.



CHRIST IS RISEN



Happy, joyful blessed, peace-filled, Easter. So different for us all, isolated from our community of faith.

All public Masses and Liturgies are cancelled until further notice.

We are dispensed from our Sunday Mass Obligation (canon law no. 1248).

We encourage you to participate in personal and family prayer, reflect on the Scriptures, make a spiritual communion.

Participate in a Mass online. See the List of these on page 3 of our Bulletin.

As with the direction for Victoria all Church doors will be locked.

Fr Peter will celebrate Mass daily for all our intentions.

Anointing of the Sick and Individual Confession, on request to Fr Peter.

Our Parish Bulletin is online

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

select Horsham Parish, click on the yellow magnifying glass symbol, open Horsham below.

For Funerals, we work with the Funeral Homes.

I will pray for you in Mass each day. If you wish to be part of our Mass each day, and you have Facebook, please link into Eucharistic Group to come on line. I will celebrate Mass on Saturday night at 6.30pm (Light the Candle and Bless the Water), Sunday 10.30 Tuesday Mass at 5.30pm, Mass on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am. Saturday 10.00am.

We pray for those who do not share our Easter joy: We pray for those who live in the shadow of darkness and despair; for those who live with the hopelessness of shattered dreams, trust betrayed, opportunities lost, love denied; for those who live without faith or hope or love; who see no resurrection, no hope of new beginnings for themselves or for the world. If Christ be truly risen, let us show forth his resurrection so that all who meet us shall know that Christ is risen indeed!



The rapidly changing situation of Covid-19, on the recommendation of health and safety, it is not advisable to have people come to the church or parish site even individually.

TERM 2 of the SCHOOL YEAR

Staff of our Schools who are needed return on Tuesday.

As per regulations, FROM THIS WEDNESDAY, students are to stay home FOR THEIR SCHOOLING, unless they are in Out of Home Care, at risk of abuse, deemed by the school to be otherwise vulnerable, or their parents/ carers are essential workers

Students have two weeks of learning packages, which they have already or will be able to collect from their School on Wednesday. These learning packs consist of hard copy learning tasks, learning resources and online learning tasks. Each learning pack had explicit instructions for accessing the various online learning tools eg. Google Classroom, Google Meets, Zoom and SeeSaw - daily support is only a phone call, email or video call away. Not all families have internet or devices, our Schools will support these families.

We ask parents/carers to please ensure your child/ children undertake requires stud each day. SBC students will study at home, with support for VCE.

Plenary Council postponed In response to the dramatic changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bishops of Australia have made the "difficult, but necessary" decision to postpone the first assembly of the Plenary Council.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Recent Deaths: Aileen Neeson (Casterton), Bill Dowling (Yarrowonga; Mary Lawson's brother), Belinda McIlvena (mother of Cassandra - former SBC student).

Anniversaries: Audrey Bottoms

Sick: Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, Pat Craig, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Sr Tirsia Bale, Laurie Manserra,

Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 53821155

Livestreaming of Mass at SMJ Church:

For those who have Facebook, and would like to watch Mass at SMJ Church online:



Eucharistic Group
PRIVATE GROUP · 21 MEMBERS

A group page is set up by Sr Manuela, titled "**Eucharistic Group**", which Parishioners are free to join. Tap/click on the magnifying glass symbol at the top of your Facebook home page, type in "Eucharistic Group" into the search bar, tap the magnifying glass symbol again to search, and in the results you shall find one with the image above, tap into it and once loaded click 'Join' to be able to see posts and receive updates.

Finances: A number of Parishioners have asked about paying Planned Giving money, giving to the Presbytery, Project Compassion, and Easter Dues all so wonderfully supported in normal times. In these difficult times, with so many not having an income, anything you can give to any of these Collections, is gratefully received. You can drop Envelopes or money into the Parish Office anytime when it is open:

This Easter week the Office is closed Monday and Tuesday. Open on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: **8.30am to 12.30pm.**

Thank you for your support, \$750 in the Presbytery A/c, \$1052 in Planned Giving, plus those who give Direct Debit to CDF, since we stopped public Masses. You can pay via our Parish BSB Account :

BSB: 083 680 Account: 515830337

REF: Envelope number/surname or Presbytery

Bottles of Blessed Easter Water will be outside the Church today Sunday, and in the Office on Wednesday, and pray this prayer as you bless your homes.

Lord God, we rejoice this Easter with the hope of your saving life and love renewed in us. Bless our family and our home. May we live here in peace with you and with one another, with courtesy and respect in what we say and do. May we come and go through the doors of our home with your peace guiding our way. May we show care and hospitality to family, friends, and others who come here, and go forth as witnesses of your love and peace to all we meet. Keep us free from all harm or hurt in our daily life, work, and our isolation at home.

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN INDEED

To help you pray Mass on EASTER SUNDAY Yr A

The empty tomb, and the neatly folded burial cloths, were signs that led them to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In the witness of the apostles, and the faithfulness, courage and love of our fellow Christians, we too have powerful signs that Christ is risen and lives among us. Observing them, our faith cries out: "Alleluia"
Entrance Antiphon The Lord is truly risen, alleluia. To him be glory and power For all ages of eternity, alleluia.
Opening Prayer. O God, on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, You have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life.

Alleluia, alleluia, this is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. and be glad.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: God of Life, hear our prayer

Although separated by distance, but united spiritually, this is the day of amazing joy: the crucified Christ is risen, the whole Church is renewed in Jesus' mercy, we are enfolded in the embrace of Jesus.

In the glory of Jesus' resurrection we pray for the Church: for Pope Francis, for each other, opening our hearts with compassion, for those physically isolated, but close to Jesus.

In the glory of Jesus' resurrection we pray for the suffering Church: or those persecuted for their faith in Jesus, for those denied religious freedom, for those who are struggling to believe and trust. Christ, hear us.

For children and youths anxious about their education, for adults concerned about their employment and finances, for our loved ones isolated from us.

In the glory of Jesus' resurrection we pray for the world during this coronavirus pandemic: healing for the sick, strength for all who show medical and pastoral care of the sick, comfort for distressed families. Christ, hear us.

In the glory of Jesus' resurrection we pray for the most vulnerable in our world: for refugees and prisoners, for the poor and homeless, for victims of abuse and their families hurting, for the distressed and fearful.

In the glory of Jesus' resurrection we pray for the departed and all who mourn them: for those who have died from the coronavirus and other illnesses, for those who died giving medical and spiritual care for people with the virus, for those who died longing to receive the Sacraments of the Church, Aileen Neeson, Bill Dowling, Belinda McIlvena. Christ, hear us.

Celebrant: Risen Jesus, like your disciples, we are fearful, we ask you to bless us with peace, by which you calmed their anxious hearts, and filled them with joy, and confirmed them in faith

Blessings: May God, the Father of mercies, who has given you an example of love in the Passion of his Only Begotten Son, grant that by serving God and your neighbour, you may be filled with the wondrous gift of his blessing and the reward of everlasting life.

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son has won for us the gift of redemption and of justification, give you joy, gladness, peace and freedom.



Links to Mass online:

St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne: The 1.00pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) and is then available as a recording on-demand until one hour prior to the next Mass. Sunday Mass is available, with the 11.00am Mass live streamed and it is also available as a recording on-demand. Watch here <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Pope Francis' daily Mass: Pope Francis' daily Masses are available online through the Vatican's website and YouTube channel. Watch here <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta.pagelist.html> or shalomworld.org/dailymass

Mass for You at Home: This program has been allowing the faithful to participate in Mass from their homes for many years. Mass for You at Home is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day. Watch at <http://www.mfyah.com/video.html> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

Word on Fire: Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and founder of Word on Fire, Bishop Robert Barron has been using new media to evangelise for over a decade. Watch at <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

100. Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to **VIV McGENNESKEN** on his 100th birthday celebrated on April 7th. Prayers and good health to, Viv and Cath.



Caritas Australia says THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2020. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home please bring them this week to the Parish Office or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online. Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty. Phone: projectcompassion 1800 024 413 www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

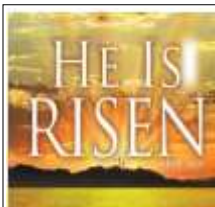


Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Our Parish rejoices as we prepare for Reception into the Fullness of the Church these our RCIA Candidates:

Robbie Fry, Maryann and Julia Kardogeros, Maricel Mahmood, Vince, Lance & Lander Rosello
Please pray for our candidates.

Their Reception will be celebrated when Masses resume



May the Beauty of Easter inspire you, the Joy and Peace of Easter fill your heart, and the Blessings of Easter be with you always.

Alleluia, Alleluia, rejoice and be glad.

Ballarat Diocese E-Newsletter and ODC

Staying connected to each other in our faith communities is now more important than ever. The latest edition of ODC and eNews are now online: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au under "News & Events"

A few of our fellow Parishioners are offering help with getting groceries, prescriptions/medications and other essential errands; to vulnerable members of our community, such as those who are sick and/or are elderly and homebound. If you require such assistance please feel free to contact our Parish Office at 5382 1155.

From Uniting Wimmera - phone 0488669055

For co-ordination of food and supplies for vulnerable members of the Community please contact jaimie.clarkson@vt.uniting.org

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 trust in your healing touch.

Bless **caregivers**, as channels of your love, they are your hands on earth. Give them gentleness, give them respect for the sick in 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, to love and understand, 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.

Good Friday Collection Pope Francis has approved that the Collection for the Holy Land, for the year 2020, take place on Sunday 13th September, with the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Monday 14th.

Chrism Mass 2020. The Mass of the Oils has been postponed to Monday September 21st at 6.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

We continue to use the Oils blessed last year for our Anointings, Baptisms, Confirmations.

*The most wonderful places to be in the world are:
In someone's thoughts. Someone's prayers.
And in someone's heart.*

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.

Child Safety Standards. Sts 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.

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people; to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke, and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples. "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples. And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

Gospel Reflection by Sr Veronica Lawson ISM:

Easter invites us to celebrate life in its fullest sense. It is anything but easy to celebrate life, however, when tens of thousands in the Earth community are facing death, or are ill and countless others are struggling to put food on their tables. Resurrection faith calls us to be fearless in our support of those most deeply affected. A faith-filled man and two faith-filled women prepare Jesus for burial. These three people are fearless in the face of possible reprisals for their support of a "political criminal". Joseph of Arimathea cares for Jesus out of his personal wealth, providing a clean linen cloth and his own newly rock-carved tomb. With his own hands, he performs the burial ritual, lays Jesus' body in the tomb, and rolls the stone into place. The women disciples who witness the closing of the tomb are both named Mary. One is from Magdala, centre of a fish-salting industry in Galilee and the other is the mother of two male disciples. These women have contributed their goods and services to Jesus on the journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. The women set out at dawn "to see the tomb" This seems strange until we realise that they are functioning as witnesses, this time to the dramatic opening of the tomb and the appearance of God's messenger "Seeing" is a metaphor for insight. In the earthquake phenomenon and the allusion to lightning, there are echoes

of other great moments of God's appearing to Israel, such as the encounter with Moses and the giving of the Law on Mt Sinai. The two Marys are the first to learn the news of Jesus' resurrection and the first commissioned to proclaim it. The women "see" the place where he was laid. They obey the angel's command not to be afraid but to go quickly to inform the scattered disciples that the resurrected Jesus has gone before them to Galilee, the place of mission, where they too will "see" him. Resurrection life energises these faith-filled women disciples/apostles and negates the death-dealing power of the Roman Empire. Ironically, the Roman tomb guards become "as though dead". As the women hurry away from the tomb, Jesus comes to meet them on the path or the road. He addresses them with a familiar greeting of joy, Chairete. This is the first appearance of the resurrected One and it draws from the women a profoundly reverential response: taking hold of him, they fall down in worship. Jesus reiterates the commission already delivered by the angel: not to be afraid and to let the men know what has happened. The male disciples will later be commissioned on the mountain top (Matthew 28:16-20). All are commissioned, first the women, then the men. Those "on the mountain top" must not succumb to the temptation of remaining there. They must join those on the road in fearlessly bringing life to Earth's afflicted.

Next week's Gospel 2nd Sunday Easter: 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 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 to him: '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 that believing this you may have life through his name.