



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

15th Sunday Ordinary Time - 5th July 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

### Parish Social Profile from the 2016 Census

Horsham: total populatn 22,834  
Catholic Population: 3,782  
(16.6% of pop).  
Median age of Catholics is 45  
Catholic Families is 1476.  
(1548 in the 2011 census).  
Catholics live alone 466.  
Catholics born overseas 327.  
Catholics attending Catholic  
Schools 56.5%. (2011: 52.1%)

Friends would be happy to know  
**Fr Pat Flanagan** will be ordained  
60 years on 24th July. Address is  
9/1 Fitzroy Ave, Red Cliffs, 3496.

### End of Financial Year

Average giving per week: \$2335.  
We have received \$126,632 PG.  
Plus Sundry Income \$9702.

### THANK-YOU.

Planned Giving and Loose  
Money pays for the Parish  
operating costs, supports  
Parish and Diocesan Levies  
and services, Mission of the  
Church locally and globally.  
We welcome new contribu-  
tors preferably by Direct  
Debit to CDF or envelopes  
for Financial year 2020-2021.  
**Please see Camille in the  
Office Monday to Friday  
8.30am to 12.30pm**

### 20 people can attend any Mass.

**For Saturday 6.30pm Mass and  
Sunday 9am and 10.30am Mass, you  
must still let us know you are coming.  
Please phone or leave a message at  
the Office 53821155, or 0419323397.**

**We are still dispensed from our  
Sunday Mass Obligation (canon law  
1248) if we can't make the 20 who can  
attend any Sunday Mass.**

### 20 people can attend each Parish Mass, plus Ministries

**Saturday 6.30 Mass.**

**Sunday Mass 9am and 10.30**

*This allows 60 plus to attend SMJ.*

**Dimboola Sunday July 19, 8.30am**

**Murtoa Sunday July 19, 10.30am**

**\* SMJ Church will be opened each  
day 9am - 5pm for private prayer.  
Please enter and leave the Church, by  
the door near the Presbytery.**

**\* You must sign in as you enter the  
Church: name, address, phone number.**

**\* Use hand sanitizer at the door as you enter  
and use again as you leave the Church.**

**You must remain at least 1.5m from all  
directions of anyone not from your house**

**When you visit the Church,  
please use the SPRAY bottle,  
supplied at the door, to spray  
the areas you sat in or  
touched. You need only spray.**

May God bless the 3rd Term of the  
School year, keep all safe from the virus.

**Classes for SBC, SMJ, OLHC, St Pat-  
ricks all begin this Monday July 13th.**

### Our Parish Bulletin is online

**www.ballarat.catholic.org.au  
select Horsham Parish, click  
on the yellow magnifying  
glass symbol, open  
Horsham below.**

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

**Funerals, 50 people can attend,  
we work with the Funeral homes**

### The Australian Bishops' National Catholic Men's Gathering

is offered as an online event for  
registered participants on Satur-  
day July 31. The program is to in-  
spire and encourage all Catholic  
men with a vision for personal dis-  
cipleship, service and mission in  
the family, parish, diocese and the  
world. This modified program will  
be delivered in four pre-recorded  
sessions of approximately 1 hour  
in length. Each session will offer  
input from a variety of speakers  
and musicians, along with a re-  
sponse and questions for group  
discussion or individual reflection.

The program offers flexibility so  
that you may participate individual-  
ly or gather with others from your  
parish or men's ministry group.  
This is a free event. For the event  
program and registration  
www.catholicmensgathering.com.  
au.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST THIS THURSDAY 16th from

**7.30am to 8.30am in the  
Parish Centre. All men, their  
sons, single men welcome  
for free brekky, prayer, chat  
and togetherness**

**ONLINE MASSES: (Eucharistic Group Facebook page)  
Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 9am & 10.30am  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament THURSDAY 10-11**

|               |      |   |
|---------------|------|---|
| Tuesday 14th  | 5.30 | France Bastille. St Camillus de Lellis      |
| Wednesday 15  | 9.30 | St Bonaventure. World Youth Skills Day      |
| Thursday 16th | 9.30 | Doctors and Nurses. Jack & Joan Coffey.     |
| Friday 17th   | 9.30 | Schools                                     |
| Saturday 18th | 10am | Emilia Marchesini 1st anniv. Nelson Mandela |

### Saturday Devotions

Exposition of the  
Blessed  
Sacrament 9am.  
Rosary.  
Morning Prayer  
of the Church.  
**Mass 10.**  
Confessions 10.25

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

### Recent Deaths:

**Anniversaries:** Emilia Marchesini, Agostino Masiero, Nancy Taig, Fr Peter Elder, Joan & Jack Coffey, Kay Kerr, Jack Fallon, Tommy Finnigan, Fr Bill O'Connell,

**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, Doris McDonald, Angela Walsh, Kobe Davison, Shane Kennedy, Norm Griffin

**Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 53821155**

### Livestreaming of Mass at SMJ

**Church:** For those on Facebook, who would like to watch Mass at SMJ Church online: A group page, set up by Sr Manuela, titled "Eucharistic Group", which Parishioners are free to join. 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 receive updates.



**Finances:** Thank you for those who have dropped in envelopes or who have gone online to our BSB or CDF Accounts for Planned Giving Program, Presbytery, Project Compassion, and Easter Dues. 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: Office open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 12.30**

### Collections

**Presbytery: Horsham \$620.95**  
**Murtoa \$137.00 Dimboola \$20.00**

### Planned Giving:

**Envelopes: \$2363.00**

**Credit Card: \$3749.17**

**Direct Debit: \$1475.00**

If you wish to give via our Parish BSB Account :  
BSB: 083 680 Account: 515830337

REF: Your Envelope number/surname or put "Presbytery" for the plate collection.

# THANK YOU

**Making Connections:** Say this prayer each day: *Lord, may the seed of your word fall into deep soil in me. May it not return to you without yielding its fruit in me.*

**Did you Know?:** Matthew's Gospel uses the term 'kingdom of heaven' rather than 'kingdom of God' because his audience is largely Jewish converts to Christianity and the Jewish people avoid using the holy name.

**Marriage Tip:** Have you developed any parting or reconnecting habits that confirm your love? A goodbye kiss or welcome home hug is a great start. Save the first five minutes of reconnecting to check in with your spouse.

**Daily Prayer:** God, Sower of the seed, we marvel at how your word accomplishes the purpose for which you sent it forth: how few of the seeds you sow take root, yet how spectacular their abundant yield. Make us good soil, ready to receive what you sow, that we may hear the word and understand it, bear fruit and yield a hundredfold.

**A Vocation View:** The seed of a vocation seeks fertile surroundings. Sometimes it gets stepped on, sometimes it gets choked, sometimes it lacks depth. But other times it is nourished by loving and caring friends.

## To help us pray Mass for 15th Sunday Yr A

**Gloria:** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Intercessions** Celebrant: It is the will of God that the word of His Son, Jesus, should be fruitful in our lives producing a harvest of faith, hope and love.

For Pope Francis and Bishop Paul, and all Priests, that they will proclaim the word of Jesus through their actions of charity, through their preaching and pastoral care.

For each one of us, that we will open our hearts to the word of God, reflect upon it sincerely, and live its message through the works of justice and mercy.

For our planet with its oceans, rivers and lakes, forests, mountains and valleys, soil, plants and animals, now made a slave to climate change, that every person and government will work together to heal and restore it.

For the peoples of our world continuing to deal with the Covid 19 pandemic, that the sick will be healed, medical professionals courageous, researchers committed, governments wise and all citizens act responsibly.

For a world response to the General Secretary of the United Nations and Pope Francis, that in these trying times of the Covid 19 pandemic, all armed conflicts will enter into a 90 day ceasefire in the hope of peace for everyone, everywhere.

On Seafarers Sunday, for those who work on the seas, at ports, for their families at home, for owners in their care and respect for their workers, for Chaplains and Unions, for safety from piracy, for the Missions at Ports.

For those who have died recently, the victims of war, of natural disasters, of COVID-19, and of domestic violence, that they will be set free to enter the glory of God.

We remember Emilia Marchesini, Agostino Masiero, Nancy Taig, Fr Peter Elder, Joan & Jack Coffey, Kay Kerr, Jack Fallon, Tommy Finnigan, Fr Bill O'Connell, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**CREED:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



#ACTION AGAINST POVERTY

#MANDELA DAY

TAKE ACTION  
INSPIRE CHANGE

Saturday July 18th is Nelson Mandela Day. May every day we work and pray to eliminate poverty, fear, isolation, hurt.

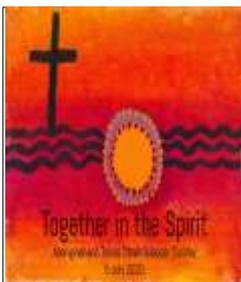
## COUNTRY MASS TIMES

July 12th: Murtoa Saturday July 11th 5pm.

Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10am.

July 19th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30. Nhill 5pm.

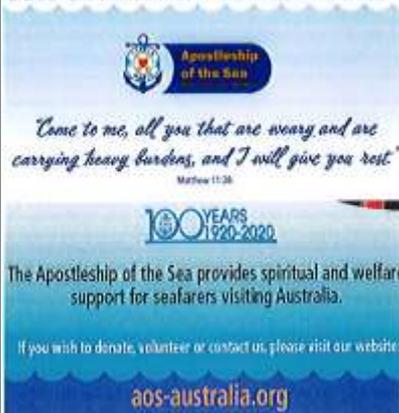
July 26th: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30. Nhill 5pm.



### Acknowledgment of Country:

We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land in which we thrive; the Wotjobaluk, Wergaia, Jupagalk, Jaadwa and Jadawadjali people. We aim to continue to recognise the important and ongoing place that all indigenous people hold within our communities, and wish to pay respect to the Elders, both past and present.

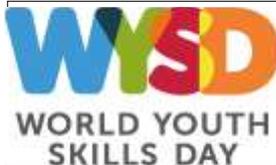
SEA SUNDAY >> 12 JULY 2020



### Today, July 12th, is

Sea Sunday, when the church prays for those who live and work at sea. There will be a national Appeal for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the maritime agency of the Catholic Church. Donations will provide practical and spiritual support to

seafarers in these times of COVID-19. Please give generously. [www.aos-australia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/](http://www.aos-australia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/)



This Wednesday July 15th is World Youth Skills Day.

Prior to the pandemic crisis, [young people aged 15-24 were three times more likely than adults to be unemployed](#) facing prolonged school-to-work transition period. In post-COVID-19

societies, as young people are called upon to contribute to the recovery effort, they will need to be equipped with the skills to successfully manage evolving challenges and the resilience to adapt to future disruptions. Globally, one in five young people are NEET: Not in Employment, Education or Training. Three out of four are women. While youth population grew by 139 million between 1997 and 2017, the youth labour force shrank by 58.7 million. Two out of five young workers in emerging and developing economies live on less than US\$3.10 a day.



### St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Vinnies like everyone, is impacted by Covid-19, adapting our ways of providing help to those who seek assistance, to meet government and SVdP Covid directives. Many people have found themselves in the position of being unemployed. You can donate to our appeal: **Please write your name and address on your own envelope for receipts to be issued. Go Online: [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au) to donate.** Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

## Finance Committee Meeting this Thursday July 16th at 11am

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Our Parish rejoices as we prepare for Reception into the Fullness of the Church our RCIA Candidates: Robert Fry, Maricel Mahmood, Maryann & Julia Kardogeros, Vince, Lance & Lander Rosello. Please pray for our candidates.

### Pope Francis Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never let me be separated from You."

**PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS** Mary, Help of Christians, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son. Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of God's holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

ACU Centre for Liturgy presents: Rev Prof Mark R Francis CSV "The Challenge of Intercultural Liturgy in the Era of Pope Francis" (free on-line public lecture) **Date: Monday 20th July, from 10-11.30am** via Zoom Registration is essential by 15th July. Please email the ACU at [CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au) Professor Francis was to visit Australia to deliver this lecture in person. While the COVID-19 pandemic has made this visit impossible, Fr Francis has kindly consented to visit us virtually.

The 7-word Prayer Pope Francis learned from his grandmother learned from his grandmother: "Jesus, make my heart more like yours."

### 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.** St Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett and Jill McGennisken** 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.

Fr Richard Leonard will come to our Parish for an Advent Mission, from **DECEMBER 5th to 9th 2020**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 64:10-14**

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. You crown the year with your goodness.

Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat, They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

**Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23**

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is hears the word and understands it; who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

**Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd15 Veronica Lawson rsm:**

Since the outbreak of Covid-19, we have necessarily distanced ourselves from others. Some of us have retreated to the natural world so that our sensitivities have sharpened and our planetary awareness has heightened. We have become more attuned to the complexity of nature and to its rhythms. We have observed the diverse feeding habits of the birds, for instance, and their communication patterns. There is new and renewed interest in gardening, in the growing of vegetables and fruit in pots or in built-up garden beds. Such changes in lifestyle are conditioning us to use our eyes to see and our ears to listen, as today's gospel invites us to do. Jesus' directive, "let anyone with ears listen", is a reminder that we do have ears and that we do not always hear. Ann Lewin's words come to mind: "You do not have to Look for anything. Just look. You do not have to Listen for specific Sounds. Just Listen. You do not have to Accomplish anything. Just Be. And in the Looking and the Listening and the Being, find Me." To what sort of being, of looking and listening does today's gospel call us? The parable of the soil, of the seed, of the birds and the thorns, of the sun and the sower alerts us to Jesus' deep sense of connection with life in its multiple forms. It calls us to examine our connection with

the natural world. For a long time, we have focussed on the human character in the parable, a character who evokes an agricultural world that is far removed from our post-industrial world, but not so far removed from the world of millions of people in our planetary home who live close to the soil and to earth's elements and who struggle to produce the food they need to stay alive. Is the Matthean Jesus presenting in the sower an image of an estate owner, or a tenant farmer or even a slave? Or is the reader being asked to imagine the sower, whether estate owner, tenant farmer or slave, as an image of an extraordinarily generous God whose life-sustaining gifts are there for all, no matter their readiness to receive? It may not be one or the other but both What of the silty clay loam or red sandy soil, of the wheat or barley seed, of the birds and the thorns and the sun? We know that barley was domesticated some ten thousand years ago in what became bible lands and that these lands are also the original home of the finest bread-making wheat. The birds and the thorns and the sun are for another reflection. We bring our experience of looking and listening and being into dialogue with the parable and search out its meaning for us. We trust that God will ensure an abundant harvest if we but learn to look and to listen to the needs of a planet in peril.

**Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30**

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where

does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."