



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

16th Sunday Ordinary Time - 19th July 2020



PARISH CONTACTS

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

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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

Nhill: St Patrick's
Principal: Kingsley Dalglish

A Celtic blessing as we begin this new day and week . . .

**Bless to us, O God, the earth beneath our feet.
Bless to us, O God, the path whereon we go.
Bless to us, O God, the people whom we meet.
Bless to us, O God, each thing our eyes see.
Bless to us, O God, each sound our ears hear.
Bless to us, O God, each ray that guides our way.
Amen. Jamberoo Abbey**

Planned Giving and Loose Money

pays for the Parish operating costs, Parish and Diocesan Levies, the Mission of the Church locally and globally. We welcome new contributors 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 26, 8.30am

Murtoa Sunday July 26, 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.

Every painful event contains in itself a seed of growth and liberation.

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 Saturday AUGUST 15th. The program inspires and encourages all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, 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 response and questions for group discussion or reflection.

Our MEN'S GROUP will participate in the Parish Meeting You are welcome to join us from 10am. Chris Robarts has registered us. This is a free event. For the event program and registration www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.

We are getting the same people coming to Masses. More are welcome. Please phone the Office 53821155 or Fr Peter 0419323397 to book a Mass time. We will draw up a roster if needed. 20 plus those in Ministries.

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 21st	5.30	Maronite Church.
Wednesday 22	9.30	St Mary Magdalene
Thursday 23rd	9.30	Kieran Hallam anniv.
Friday 24th	9.30	
Saturday 25th	10a	St James. Jack Slattery anniv. St Christopher

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: Wally Wade

Anniversaries: Jack Slattery, Kieran Hallam, Patricia Sanders

Sick: Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, Pat Craig, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Sr Tirsa 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’.



Eucharistic Group

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 \$567.30

Murtoa \$109.50 Dimboola \$51.70

Planned Giving: Envelopes: \$623

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: We need to accept the imperfections in ourselves and in others to some extent. What do you have to be patient with in yourself? In others? This week, be tolerant of the limitations of others and try to rectify an imperfection in yourself.

Did you Know?: The Jewish faith has a profound respect for the name of God and the holy name is never pronounced or even written in full. The Gospel of Matthew is the most Jewish of the Gospels and characteristically always refers to the kingdom of heaven rather than the kingdom of God.

Marriage Tip: Your family is a community. This means that when one person changes a behaviour, for good or for ill, it impacts everyone. If you smile, do a favor, give a compliment, it lifts everyone’s spirits.

Daily Prayer: Let your church be small as a mustard seed and hidden as yeast is in dough, quietly growing, passing no judgment, slowly becoming a sign of your kingdom, a tree in whose branches all can find room to nest, a table whose bread satisfies the heart’s deepest hunger.

A Vocation View: There are many weeds growing with the wheat in our lives. Sometimes the weeds strangle our growth, or prevent us from hearing clearly God’s voice. We need time to reflect on the garden of our life.

To help us pray Mass for 16th 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: St Paul encourages us in our prayer, in the face of difficulties we cannot find the words to express our needs, the Holy Spirit helps us.

That the Church will always pray in the Holy Spirit, so that every member will open their hearts to God, who knows our deepest longings.

That the Holy Spirit will guide Pope Francis to lead our Church through the weeds of life to produce a harvest of love, peace and justice for our world, to live in hope.

That in a world full of the weeds of greed, lies and corruption, we will find in the word of Jesus the grace to be generous, truthful and to act with integrity.

That in those places around the world where the COVID-19 pandemic is present among the poorest, governments will help each other to come to their aid in a spirit of human solidarity.

That this time of crisis will soon pass and leave behind it a world richer in mercy, brighter with care for the vulnerable and more thankful for those who gladly give their lives to serve others.

That we sinners, along with all who feel the burden of their sins, will firmly trust that God is mild in judgement, calling us to repentance, showing us how to be kindly to one another.

That Wally Wade and virus victims who died recently, and all of our departed parishioners, relatives and friends will shine like the sun in the kingdom of the heavenly Father. We remember Jack Slattery, Kieran Hallam, Patricia Sanders whose anniversaries occur this week. Celebrant: God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, turn and take pity on us, so that we are embraced by your love and truth.

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.

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) - **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is on July 30**
COVID-19 is impacting those most vulnerable to trafficking because they often live in poverty and lack suitable housing and healthcare. Hundreds of thousands of these people will be drawn to the promise of work simply to put food on their tables - work that often turns out to be a job in slave-like conditions. Because of your generosity response, ACRATH has been able to develop projects, services and resources.

COUNTRY MASS TIMES

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

August 2: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa Sat 1st 5pm

August 9: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa Sat 8th 5pm

August 16: Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa Sat 15th, 5p



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 to donate. Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.**

“Acquire inner peace, and a multitude of people will find salvation near you”. (St Seraphim). A Prayer:

Slow me down, Lord, Ease my pounding heart, quieten my racing mind, steady my hurried steps.

Amidst the confusion of my days give me the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Help me to know the restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking time-off, of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to read a few lines from a good book.

Remind me each day that there is more to life than increasing its speed. Let me look into the branches of a towering oak, and know that it grew tall and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down, Lord.

Teach me to be gentle and humble of heart, and thus I will find rest for my soul.

14 Day Retreat: A retreat for a time of isolation:

Prepared by staff of Jesuit Communications with daily readings and reflections. Enrol contact: www.pray.com.au/with-jesus-in-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation

“He comes in the form of the beggar, of the dissolute human child in ragged clothes, asking for help. He confronts you in every person that you meet. As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbour. - Dietrich Bonhoeffer



St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust

Scholarships are offered to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Closing date July 31,

2020. More information and applications forms available at <https://pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

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

Once the shutdown in Melbourne is cleared we will begin our Sacraments. **Baptisms** can happen now, please contact Camille in the Office to book

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 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.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God.

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to God's mind.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

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.'" He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.' He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.' In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd16 Veronica Lawson rsm:

Experienced gardeners or farmers or bakers might take issue with Jesus' choice of images for God's empire or kingdom of the heavens. They may be singularly unimpressed by the methods of the farmer-gardener-God presented in today's gospel reading. An "enemy" planting weeds "all through the crop" is no surprise to readers familiar with the earlier part of this parable chapter, although the land-owner's decision to leave the weeds to endanger the wheat crop seems none too smart. Mustard, known for its propensity to grow wild and threaten the life of every other plant in the garden, makes for an equally strange kingdom analogy. God's empire imaged as a baker woman taking yeast, a substance considered a corrupting influence in the first century Jewish world, and mixing it into twenty kilos of wheat flour, stretches the imagination. These images cut across the readers' expectations quite dramatically. What might they be telling us about God's kingdom of the skies? In the parables of the mustard seed and the leaven, there is a movement from small to great that communicates something about the power of God to bring abundance of life from the most inauspicious beginnings. They do not seem to fit with the parable of the wheat and the

weeds until we look a little more closely. The element of danger to the life of the whole is common to all three parables. Maybe Jesus is telling us that God is a God of risk who does not intervene but allows the weeds and endangering herbs to "infect" God's field. Harvest season will be time enough to divide the wheat from the weeds, the life-giving from the infectious. The good seed must take hold. The good will finally outweigh the evil. That is small comfort, of course, to those who suffer at the hands of evildoers. In the parables of the mustard seed and the leaven, Jesus tells his hearers that their idea of infection or danger is different from his. At one level, he engages the more-than-human and talks about respect for the complexity of eco-systems. At another, he is talking about the people that many consider unclean or sinful or demon possessed are not to be displaced from God's field or God's table. They may be the very ones who season the life of the whole. Life is messy after all and God is in the mess. It is worth noting that the leaven parable offers one of the few occasions in the gospel where God is imaged as female. The parable of the woman kneading dough validates the potential of female experience to reflect the life and activity of God in our world.

Next Week's Gospel SunAOrd17: Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul

it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' "Every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'