



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

17th Sunday Ordinary Time - 26th July 2020



### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary:

Camille Del Castillo

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PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402

Phone: 5382 1155.

Email:

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Diocesan Website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

### SCHOOLS

Ss Michael & John Primary

Principal: Andrea Cox

Phone: 5382 3000

St Brigid's College

Principal: Peter Gutteridge

Phone: 5382 3545

Our Lady Help of Christians

Principal: Cathy Grace

Phone: 5385 2526

Nhill: St Patrick's

Principal: Kingsley Dalglish

### 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 those involved in Ministries

**Saturday 6.30 Mass.**

**Sunday Mass 9am and 10.30**

*This allows 60 plus to attend SMJ.*

**Dimboola Sunday August 2, 8.30a**

**Murtoa Saturday August 1, 5pm**

\* 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.**

Today, July 26th, is the Feast of Sts Joacim and Anne, parents of Our Lady. We pray for all grandparents and special friends in this time of pandemic, and in their care, prayer and support of their families.

### 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.

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

**DOBCEL** Fr Peter attends a Meeting in Ballarat on Tuesday for Priests to have DOBCEL talk to them on the procedures for School Governance from January 2021. The Meeting will follow strict distancing etc. No Mass on Tuesday, Mass on Wednesday at 5.30pm

We pray with and for St Brigid's College in lockdown from this Monday to Friday August 7th. Peter Gutteridge has been in constant contact with me as Canonical Administrator on this matter. May Staff and Students return negative covid tests. SMJ School is affected through family members at our School. Andrea Cox, like Peter, is working closely with all relevant authorities

### 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**

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 28th	<b>No Mass</b>	
Wednesday 29	<b>5.30pm</b>	St Martha. Bill Kennedy. UN Friendship Day
Thursday 30th	9.30	UN Day against trafficking of persons.
Friday 31st	9.30	St Ignatius of Loyola. UN Day of Friendship
Saturday 1Aug	10a	St Alphonsus Liguori. Redemptorists founder

### **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:** Louise Whitworth, Pat McLoughin, Shane Tuck

**Anniversaries:** Marjorie Haebich, Ray Coutts, Joan Perry, Bill Kennedy, Vera Bigham, Margaret Jones, Jeremy Pekin, Gerard Rieniets

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

**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  
PRACATIFORIS P. 21 01/06/2019

**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**

**THANK YOU**

### Collections:

**Presbytery: Horsham \$448.35**

**Murtoa \$189.00 Dimboola \$80.85**

**Planned Giving: Envelopes: \$786.90**

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.

**Making Connections:** The image of treasure dominates this text. Jesus sees the search for God as part of the journey of people in all walks of life, because everyone is searching for 'treasure' in their lives. We need to have discerning hearts so that we can recognise what is real treasure and then give our whole lives to it.

**Did you Know?:** The householder who brings out things both old and new may be a reference to people like Matthew himself, who, as well as receiving the teachings of Jesus and believing in him, also retain a profound respect for the Law and traditions of Judaism.

**Marriage Tip:** Doing things together is good, but depending on your personality some spouses can feel smothered. Do you have enough alone time or personal hobbies to refresh your spirit and bring a renewed you to your marriage?

**Daily Prayer:** Many the paths by which you lead us, and wide the net that gathers us in. Teach us to refrain from judging others, that we may attend to our own commitment and be trained by your Son for the kingdom of heaven.

**A Vocation View:** Finding our vocation in life is like finding a buried treasure. We will do whatever we have to in order to be able to possess it. Finding the treasure is a gift, possessing it is our vocation.

**Meditation Group:** Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm.

## 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, through our baptism we have been called by the Father to be true images of his Son, Jesus, following his example, we open our hearts in prayer. May Pope Francis and our Bishops, be filled with that Holy Wisdom of the Spirit, so that they can teach and serve with truth and humility. May the youth of the Church follow the example of the youthful Solomon, and before success, power and material goods, seek true Wisdom in the Spirit which will guide them through life.

May each of us long for the Kingdom of Heaven and seek it as the true treasure prepared for us, value it as God's gift of great worth, and know that it is Jesus who gathers us into it at the end of time. May those who are sick through the Covid 19 pandemic and through many other illnesses, feel the comforting presence of God, be given all the help they need through the medical and nursing professions, and receive tenderness from family, friends and the Church.

May millions of people displaced by the floods in India, the millions languishing in refugee camps in many places, those made fearful through war and terrorism and those persecuted for their faith in Jesus be held prayerfully in our hearts this day.

May Louise Whitworth, who died suddenly this week be with our God in Heaven, and her family comforted and supported by us. May those who have died alone without the presence of family and friends be welcomed joyfully into the Kingdom of Heaven by Mary and all the Angels and Saints. We remember Marjorie Haebich, Ray Coutts, Bill Kennedy, Vera Bigham, Margaret Jones, Jeremy Pekin, Gerard Rieniets whose anniversaries occur at this time. Celebrant: Lord and Father, rule and guide our lives by the truth of your word; may it console us in times of need, and keep us by your side in times of anxiety.

**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.

### Taking Place This Week:

Sunday: Feast of St Anne & Joachim, and Bible Sunday

Tuesday: National Tree Day. Wednesday: St Martha.

Thursday: World Day Against Trafficking In Persons, International Day of Friendships.

Friday: St Ignatius of Loyola. Saturday: St Alphonsus

## COUNTRY MASS TIMES

**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, 5pm

**August 23:** Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10. Murtoa Sat 22nd, 5pm



### 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.**

### 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](http://www.pray.com.au/with-jesus-in-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation)

**St Ignatius of Loyola Examen Prayer**, which Ignatius asked Jesuits to pray twice daily, is a practice of discernment. It helps us to cultivate awareness of God's action in us and in our world, and to pay attention to our response. **Here is a way to pray the examen:**

**Gratitude:** I give thanks to God for . . .

**Insight:** I ask the Holy Spirit for insight into myself and the world . . .

**Reflecting:** I review events of the day, my behaviour, and notice my feelings . . .

**Noticing:** I see what needs healing and ask God for Forgiveness....

**Looking forward:** I name the action I feel called to now, and I ask for God's help...



The common thread running through the parables is distinguishing them as treasure - or of value - and doing something about it. Our choice of the values of the Kingdom does not mean that we should despise other worthy causes. The parable teaches us, however, that identifying with the Kingdom announced by Jesus means getting our priorities right.'

'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.' It is description of what it means to interpret scripture: one must draw on what is old; applying understandings of the text in its original context. We must also draw on what is new; making connections between the original setting and how it is being read, lived now



### 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.

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 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. ACRATH develops projects, services, resources.

+ We offer our prayerful support and deepest sympathy to David Whitworth, his children Taylor and Jessica, and families, on the sudden death of Louise.

### 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.** Ss Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett and Jill McGennissen** 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: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130**

Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple.

Lord, I love your commands.

**Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30**

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

**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 13:44-52**

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.'

**Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd17 Veronica Lawson rsm:**

The three parables and the summary statement in today's gospel conclude Matthew's parable chapter. In the first parable, the Matthean Jesus likens the kin-dom of the heavens, not just to "treasure", but rather to treasure hidden in a field that someone, possibly a slave or day labourer, finds and hides before going joyfully to sell everything in order to buy the field and acquire the treasure. The parabolic image here comprises the whole complex of actor, objects and actions (the finder; the finding, selling and buying; the joy; the treasure and the field). The details pose endless questions. Who had right to ownership of the treasure? Is this a case of theft? Whatever the answer to these questions, this parable invites us to pause and consider what constitutes the real "treasure" in our lives and ask to what lengths we would go in order to secure that treasure. The second parable tells of a merchant who seeks fine pearls, finds one of great value, then goes and sells all his possessions in order to acquire that one pearl. Again, that is what the kin-dom of the heavens is about. What is of such value to us that we would give up everything else in order to have that one thing, that one relationship? That is the question. Jesus proceeds to liken the kin-dom of the heavens, not just to a dragnet, but to a dragnet thrown into the sea that catches fish of every kind

and is drawn to shore by fisher-folk who sit down and sort it, putting the good into baskets and throwing away the bad. To what might this parable invite us? As we confine ourselves to essential shopping during the pandemic, many are asking what is good and what is not so good, what sort of future do we really want. Do we want to perpetuate a consumerist lifestyle that appropriates far more than our share of the world's resources and leaves little time or energy for considering either the plight of our endangered planet or the needs and aspirations of those on the edge? There is a new realisation that standard of living and quality of life are far from synonymous. The summary statement tells us that, like Matthew's community, we need to be "scribes" educated in the ways of God. We need to bring out of the treasury of our traditions "what is new and what is old", wisely discerning what to keep and what to relinquish. Parables help to subvert our presuppositions. They disturb our complacency if we allow them to do so. The parables of the buried treasure, the priceless pearl and the dragnet remind us that gospel discipleship demands an all-embracing investment of heart and spirit. We search our hearts to know where our treasure lies and join with others who show us how we might claim it for the common good of the entire Earth community.

**Next Week's Gospel SunAOrd18: Matthew 14:13-21**

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said

the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full, Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.



**New Director of Catholic Education in our Diocese.** With the retirement of Audrey Brown as the Director of Catholic Education Ballarat Diocese, Bishop Paul has announced that our new Director is Mr Tom Sexton, from Bendigo. We wish him every blessing.