



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

19th Sunday Ordinary Time - 9th August 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

SBC, SMJ, OLHC and St Patrick's join all schools in Victoria in online/remote learning. We pray for teachers, families at home, VCE students in these difficult times

*May the quiet fire of God's love arise within you. May its flames of joy and peace enlighten your steps in this world. May you be the presence of God for each other, the holy healing light of love, the breath of God made manifest in you.*



St Mary of the Cross MacKillop be our strength at this time.

**Prayer:** O God, where we least expect You, you are there, You are in the voice that whispers in the heart's deepest silence, in a call to venture forth against all reason and odds. Reach out your hand to us of little faith, that we may take heart and not be afraid. You are God-with-us in Jesus.

**Our Churches are closed to visits and public Mass until September 13th, 2020.**

**Mass will be online at the times mentioned below:**

**Saturday 6.30pm.**

**Sunday 10.30am.**

**Tuesday 5.30pm.**

**Wednesday 9.30am.**

**Thursday 9.30am.**

**Friday 9.30am.**

**Saturday 10am.**



Eucharistic Group

### 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'.

**We must wear a mask when outside our home.**

### Camille's Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8.30am to 12.30pm.

No Saturday morning Devotions.

### 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, 10 people can attend, we work with the Funeral homes**

### Planned Giving Program Envelopes, Direct Debit, Credit Card holders

We need to order new PGP Envelopes.

We ask you these Questions:

Do you wish to continue using envelopes? (If you do, no need to inform us).

Do you want to change to Direct Debit through the Diocesan Finance Office?

Do you want to continue using the Direct Debit method of giving?

Do you want to start the Credit Card method of Giving, or to continue to use it?

If you want to use the Direct Debit method of Giving, we need you to come to the Office to sign the Form for this.

Apart from those new to Direct Debit who need to come to the Office to sign a Form, we ask the rest of you, our treasured Givers, to **let Camille know at the Office 53821155, her hours Monday to Friday 8.30 to 12.30**, if you want to change your method of giving, or alter the amount. Thank you.

PGP pays for the Parish operating costs, Parish and Diocesan Levies, the Mission of the Church locally and globally. We welcome new contributors by Direct Debit to CDF or Credit Card or envelopes for Financial year 2020-2021.

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

Tuesday 11th	5.30	St. Clare. Maria Murphy anniv.
Wednesday 12	9.30	Gordon Matheson 100th b. UN Youth Day
Thursday 13th	9.30	Margaret Niehus, Ramon Schaefer annivs.
Friday 14th	9.30	St Maximillian Mary Kolbe
Saturday 15th	10am	Assumption of Blessed Mary

### Staying Connected.

A phone call, text message, email, dropping off food. Thank you to those who bring food to me, to Sister.

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

**Recent Deaths:** Those killed in Beirut, and by the virus

**Anniversaries:** Ann Downs, Margaret Niehus, Ramon Schaefer, Maria Murphy.

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

**Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 53821155**

"Let us try to keep God with us by charity of thought, word and act." *Mary MacKillop, 15.9.1890*

### 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 - 12.30**

### Collections:

**Presbytery: Horsham \$807.85**

**Murtoa \$128.60 Dimboola \$69.60**

**Planned Giving:**

**Envelopes: \$**

**Direct Debit: \$2045.00 (July 1-31, 2020)**

**Credit Card: \$1989.17**

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:** Once again we see Jesus withdrawing alone to pray. The example of Jesus in quiet prayers can be a pointer to us in how to pray. As a Church we pray communally, but quiet reflection is also important. Take time this week to reflect alone. The disciples cry to Jesus in their distress, 'Lord, save me'. This week, allow yourself to hear Jesus' answer: 'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

**Did you Know?:** In art, the Church is often represented as a boat. A boat carries its passengers through threatening waters but is not exempt from the turbulence of storms. The Church can bear through the storms of life but it does not exempt us from stresses and struggles.

**Daily Prayer:** Strengthen our "little faith," and open our eyes to your presence at every moment of history and in every circumstance of life, that we may face with serenity times of testing, turmoil, and ISOLATION, to walk with Christ through storms toward safe haven and true peace

**A Vocation View:** Why is it that we lack real trust when the Lord calls us? We think we may drown, or have to give up too much, or fear failure. These attitudes can help to strengthen our faith in the Lord.

## To help us pray Mass for 18th 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:** My sisters and brothers, as our world is tossed about as in a storm through the COVID-19 Pandemic, other natural disasters and wars, we take heart from Jesus's words: *Courage! It is !! Do not be afraid!* That Pope Francis, through his calm and encouraging words, will bring to the Church and to the world, in this time of the Covid 19 pandemic, the comfort of Jesus and so restore hope to every apprehensive heart.

That as we mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, may world leaders work together to end the making and stockpiling of nuclear weapons so that peace has a chance.

That every person in Australia will follow the advice of our health leaders during this COVID-19 pandemic and not be a danger to themselves or to others, praying especially for the people of Melbourne and Victoria.

That on this International Day of the World's Indigenous people, we will respect our own First Nation People, and that across the globe all indigenous people will have the opportunity to grow spiritually, have their rights respected, and their human needs met.

That following the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross, all Australians will be encouraged by her trust in the providence of God and her extraordinary commitment to the poor; and on the eve of St Lawrence's day, may we all be committed to the word of God and to charity.

That those injured in the massive explosion in Beirut in Lebanon will receive assistance, those killed be given eternal rest and their families be comforted.

For those who have died, and anniversaries occurring at this time, Ann Downs, Margaret Niehus, Maria Murphy, Ramon Schaefer, and our own departed loved ones.

*Celeb:* Almighty God, as the prophet Isaiah entered your presence as if enfolded in a gentle breeze, so come to us in the silence of our heart-felt prayer.

**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.

**Marriage Tip:** "Ruts are the bad side of habits, but marriage can have happy routines. (He always starts the coffee or she remembers to send cards on special days.) What "niceties" have become regular habits in your marriage?

"God is good and has brought light and help when all was very dark". **"Never see a need without doing something about it"** *St Mary MacKillop*

**ALL PUBLIC MASSES IN THE COUNTRY AND HORSHAM ARE CANCELLED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 13TH.**



**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-jesusin-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation](http://www.pray.com.au/with-jesusin-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...

**Links to Mass online:**

**St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne:** 1pm 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. <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-casasanta-marta.pagelist.html> or [shalomworld.org/dailymass](http://shalomworld.org/dailymass)

**Mass for You at Home:** for 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. <http://www.mfyah.com/video.html> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

**St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat:** Mass livestreamed daily at 10am can be viewed on Patrick's Cathedral facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9>

**CathNews YouTube Channel:** Daily Mass on Demand.

**Mass with Bishop Shane Mackinlay:** Sunday Mass streamed from St Kilian's Parish Bendigo on their website **EWTN Global Catholic Network:** Daily Catholic Mass [here](#).

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

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Thursday August 20th** will be via ZOOM. Chris Robarts will set this up, we will email details to PPC members.

**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.

**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."*

**The Word.** We hear about Elijah in the First Reading. It comes at key moments in Elijah's ministry. He is feeling dejected and alone. He feels his faithfulness to God has gone unrewarded, or stronger still, that it has caused him great trouble and anguish. God reaches out to Elijah in the midst of his frustration and sorrow. That's not to say that God had ever been absent. He was with Elijah every step of the way. But now he shows himself so that Elijah might be strengthened. And notice how he does so, in a small loaf of bread and a gentle breeze. It is our faith that God remains present to us too through these difficult times. It is no point however waiting for claps of thunder or lightning. Instead, recognise God's loving care for us in the simple things; the food on our table and the air that we breathe.

**National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon explosion in Beirut** on 4th August. The Australian office of the international Catholic Charity, *Aid to the Church in Need*, has launched a national emergency appeal to raise funds to support the people of Lebanon. To read more about the appeal, and to make a donation, please visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon) or call 1800 101 201 during business hours: 8am-5pm

**THE PEACE RIBBON 2020** ~ "One of the deepest longings of the human heart is for security, peace and stability. The possession of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction is not the answer to this desire." ~ Pope Francis, Nagasaki Hypocentre Park, November 2019 To participate in the project and make a peace ribbon panel, type in Make a Piece Ribbon To participate in the project and make a peace ribbon panel, <https://thepeaceribbon.org/get-involved/make-a-peace-ribbon-panel/>

**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 19:9, 11-13**

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14**

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

**Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5**

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be

condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation: Ps 129:5**

Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

**Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd19 Veronica Lawson rsm:**

Right now, our planet is battered by the waves of pandemic. Our church also knows what it means to be "battered by the waves". Over its two millennia history, there have been periods of discrimination and persecution against its members. Countless church members have died for their faith, while others have been and are being denied the freedom to practice their religion. There have also been times when the church has fallen far short of its own ideals and has quite seriously betrayed the gospel values it seeks to embody and proclaim. It is presently "battered" by huge even terrifying waves, largely of its own creating. Only God can bring order out of the chaos, and God works through the courageous witness and action of faith-filled disciples. In today's gospel, Matthew tells of Jesus astride the waves like the God of Israel in Job 9:8. In Israel's mythology, the sea represents chaos. To walk on water is to have power and authority to bring order out of the chaos. Matthew presents Jesus as exercising the power of God over the potentially destructive chaos. Jesus makes his claim to divine power explicit in words that echo God's words from the burning bush: "It is I" (literally "I am"). He tells the frightened disciples to take heart and not to be afraid. Peter, leader of the group,

continues to doubt. He asks for a sign and is then prepared to take a risk in order to come to Jesus on the water. He begins to falter when he takes his eyes off Jesus and focuses instead on the threatening wind. Jesus reaches out his hand to rescue Peter. In a lovely gesture, Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him firmly in his grip. Jesus names Peter's hesitation as a response of limited faith. Matthew weaves the story of Peter into an earlier story from Mark's gospel. We can only speculate on the reasons for this. Were Matthew's communities going through hard times? Were they battered by the waves of conflicting loyalties as they found themselves excluded from Pharisaic Judaism? Was the pressure of separation from the synagogue too great for some, even for those in leadership? This is a telling story for anyone who exercises leadership at any level in the church. It is a reminder to us as disciples to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the source of hope in times of struggle and uncertainty and on the crucial issues that face our planetary home. Today's Gospel asks us to consider the threatening waves created by the undeniable reality of the pandemic. The community is largely responsible for the climate crisis, and must join hands to save what can be saved. The commitment to renewable energy is an image of reaching out to communities in need.

**Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28**

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

**Taking Place This Week:**

Sunday: UN Day of the World's Indigenous People, Destruction of Nagasaki by atomic bomb.  
Tuesday: St Clare. Wednesday: St Jane Frances De Chantal; International Youth Day. Friday: St Maximilian Mary Kolbe  
Saturday: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**The Australian Bishops' National Catholic Men's Gathering** is offered as an online event for registered participants on Saturday AUGUST 15th from 9am to 12nn. **Our MEN'S GROUP will Participate online. We need to register ourselves if we wish to participate at home. For the event program and registration (free) go to:**  
[www.catholicmensgathering.com.au](http://www.catholicmensgathering.com.au).