



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola–Murtoa–Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

20th Sunday Ordinary Time - 16th 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, St Patrick's are in online/remote learning. We pray for teachers, families at home, VCE students in these difficult times. Resilience, empathy, persistence and a "can do" attitude is a culture of our Schools that has amplified the creative performance of all during this pandemic time. The program has quality engagement from families, professional help from staff and the resilience, persistence and great heart of our students. Well done all, prayers.



*Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation will be in Term 4.*

No Finance Meeting this week.

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

**Mass will be online at these times:**

**Saturday 6.30pm. Sunday 10.30am.**

**Tuesday 5.30pm.**

**Wednesday 9.30am. Thursday 9.30a**

**Friday 9.30am. Saturday 10am.**

**Livestreaming of Mass at SMJ**



Eucharistic Group

**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'.

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**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.

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting this Thursday August 20th at 5.30**

via ZOOM. Chris Robarts will set this up, and has emailed details to PPC members. Members please have your report to Camille by Wednesday

While we work for the cure of a virus that affects everyone without distinction, faith urges us to work seriously and actively to fight indifference in the face of violations of human dignity," Pope Francis. "We want to recognise the human dignity in every person, whatever his or her race, language or condition might be,"

**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 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.

A Prayer for all of us in Isolation and our loved ones away from us.

God of compassion,  
be close to those who are ill,  
afraid or in isolation.  
In their loneliness, be their consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;  
through him who suffered alone  
on the cross,  
but reigns with you in glory,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Tuesday 18th	5.30	Keep Australia Beautiful Week
Wednesday 19	9.30	World Humanitarian Day. St John Eudes
Thursday 20th	9.30	St Bernard.
Friday 21st	9.30	St Pius X. Bill Couch anniv
Saturday 22nd	10am	Queenship of Mary. Bill McGrath anniv.

**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:** Maria Macchia, Fr Michael Wheeler.

**Anniversaries:** Rose Maher, Monique Wren, Les Jones, Fr Roger Shepherd, Bill McGrath, Hugh Byrne, Gino Panozzo

**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**

**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 (plate): \$100.00**

**Planned Giving Envelopes: \$**

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:** All the readings for this week speak of foreigners who have accepted faith in the one God. The gospel tells of a great learning moment for Jesus. He ignores the pleas of the gentile woman but ultimately, she forces him to recognise that salvation is available to all people who have faith. This would have been a salient message for those in Matthew's community who struggled to come to terms with gentiles entering their community.

**Did you Know?:** Points of interest and Catholic lore. Israel despised the Canaanites. It loathed the Canaanite religion with its pagan gods and fertility cults and found many of their practices abominable.

**Marriage Tip:** What has been a low point in your relationship with your beloved? How did you get through it? If you're still in a desert, ask for help – from your spouse, God, or from a counsellor (no shame in that).

**Marriage Tip:** Approach everything - work, obstacle or victory - as a team. Support each other in times of difficulty and share with each other times of success

**Daily Prayer:** Let people of every race, language and way of life find our assembly to be a house of prayer for all peoples, where foreigners are welcomed as friends, where strangers are called sisters and brothers.

**A Vocation View:** It's so easy to push people out of our lives. But the Lord knows no boundaries or races or colours. Spread the Good News that we are all God's people.



**Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Heaven is being in the direct presence of God. Whenever we recite the Apostles' Creed, we say that we believe in the "communion of saints". We declare that we are united with all those disciples of Jesus Christ before us, down through the ages. First is Mary, Mother of Jesus, she was attentive to the word of God and put it into practice. Mary is our example to imitate, and in her Assumption we see the future glory, God has for those who try their best to live by the teachings of Jesus.

## To help us pray Mass for 20th 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: Since the desire of God is to show mercy to all humankind, we pray with confidence. We pray for Pope Francis: that by his conviction that 'the name of God is mercy', all people will be lifted up by hope. We pray for our diocese; that in these uncertain times we will, with Bishop Paul, be an inclusive Church, open to receive all who seek faith and life in Jesus Christ. We pray for those who struggle at this time: that the determination of the woman of the Gospel will give hope where anxiety over the Covid 19 pandemic is causing distress and pain.

We pray for the people of Lebanon: that with the after-effects of the Beirut explosion, the political crisis and religious tensions, together with the needs of refugees from Syria and Iraq, for the new peace deal between Israel and UAE, will receive effective world support.

We pray for Australian and world leaders and citizens: to *have a care for justice* and always *act with integrity*.

We pray in this Keep Australia Beautiful Week: that we will be responsible in the use of the world's resources, recycle carefully, and refrain from littering.

For those who are sick, those receiving treatments for their illnesses, for our doctors and nurses caring for them, for all in our nursing homes and hospitals.

We pray for all who have died, Maria Macchia and Fr Michael Wheeler, those from the virus, those who died in wars and after from injuries, that they will receive the fullness of God's mercy. We remember in particular, Rose Maher, Monique Wren, Fr Roger Shepherd, Bill McGrath, Les Jones, Hugh Byrne, Gino Panozzo, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Cel: Lord our God, receive the praise of Nations as we receive your constant and merciful help.

**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.



**This Monday August 18th is Vietnam War Veterans Day.** We pray for all who died in this and other wars, and for those scarred by mental and other traumas and injury.

**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](#).

**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 Social Justice Statement from 2020 on will be on the last Sunday of AUGUST, the 30th***

This year, the Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: **To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today.**

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting the mental health of members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. Parishes can be places of acceptance care and healing, not places of rejection, judgment or stigma. **For those of you who receive the Bulletin on line I will forward a copy of the Statement to you.**

**THE PEACE RIBBON 2020** To make a peace ribbon panel, type in Make a Piece Ribbon:

<https://thepeaceribbon.org/get-involved/make-a-peace-ribbon-panel/>



**Saturday August 15th, 75th Anniversary End of WWII Service on ABC TV at 10 am**

**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

**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.

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

**First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7**

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8**

O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him.

O God, let all the nations praise you!

**Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32**

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant

the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

**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.

**Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd20 Veronica Lawson rsm:**

The gospels are written in Greek and much of the language of the gospels has to be understood against a Greek philosophical background. Today's gospel story culminates in the healing of a "daughter" who may be a little girl or even a young woman. Her mother, the main character in the story, is known to Matthew's community simply as a Canaanite woman, or an indigenous woman. To some early Christian communities, she is Justa, so we might reasonably call her daughter Justina. Justa comes to Jesus as he moves from Jewish territory into or close to non-Jewish territory. In the language of liturgy, she laments loudly and persistently for her daughter, for Justina is "severely tormented by a demon". For the ancient Greeks, the antithesis of demonic possession or torment is human flourishing or well-being (eudaimonia). Eudaimonia means having a good guardian spirit as opposed to a malevolent spirit that impairs a person's well-being and sense of self. Justina's well-being is in jeopardy. Her distraught mother is an outsider to the "house of Israel" who is nonetheless familiar with Israel's prayer of lament. She is a woman alone in public space, risking ridicule and rejection to find healing for her daughter. The immediate response to her

plea is silence: Jesus "does not answer her a word". Is he ignoring her cry for help? Is he simply stunned, taken aback at the vehemence of her request? Is he rendered speechless by the simple fact that she would cross the boundaries of gender and ethnicity in this way? Is he in awe at her courage and faith from the outset? All we know is that he says nothing and that the disciples tell him to send her away. He responds by defining the limits of his mission rather narrowly: he was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Justa is not deterred from her mission. She begs Jesus to help her and receives an explicit refusal in a confronting image that names his people as "the children" and hers as "the dogs". She accepts his statement as a challenge and bests him in the exchange: "even the dogs eat the crumbs...." Jesus' horizons are expanded by the persistence and insight of Justa's great faith affirmed and her daughter is healed. Justa is vindicated and Justina restored to a state of well-being or eudaimonia. Justina has her counterparts across the globe, especially in these troubled times of pandemic. The challenge for us is to be Justa in our times for the sake of our Earth community, whose well-being or eudaimonia is impaired by illness or fear or lack of access to the means to flourish.

**Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

**Taking Place This Week:**

Tuesday: St Helena, Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Wednesday: St John Eudes, World Humanitarian Day

Thursday: St Bernard. Friday: St Pius X .

Saturday: Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Position Vacant** – Catholic Prison Ministry CatholicCare are seeking a Pastoral Care Practitioner to be an integral part of the Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Team at Ararat and Trawalla. More information is available from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program** – Registrations now open Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. The next cycle begins August 30. Study is 5 weeks. Registrations open now until August 19. More information at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or email [kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or 0407 523 424.