



# Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

## BULLETIN

21st Sunday Ordinary Time - 23rd August 2020



### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson

Parish Secretary:

Camille Del Castillo

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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 Dalgleish

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.**

**Child Protection Sunday** 13th September 2020. **Annual Good Friday Collection:** delayed from Good Friday, Pope Francis moved this collection to Sunday September 13th to coincide with the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.** (No public Masses..)

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

Tuesday 25th	5.30	Bindu Joseph death
Wednesday 26	9.30	Sr Therese Stubbs, Terry Moroney, Eunice Taylor
Thursday 27th	9.30	St. Monica. Barry Latanzio anniv.
Friday 28th	9.30	St. Augustine. Frank Delahunty anniv.
Saturday 29th	10	Passion of St John the Baptist. Paul Connors ann.



**Bishop Paul Bird has informed Fr Peter that the Diocese will not be renewing the agreement we have with the Baptistine Sisters for Sr Manuela and Sr Tirsa.**

**When the current agreement concludes on October 6th, Sr Manuela will return to the Philippines.**

It was with deep sadness I told this to the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday night. Bishop Paul said their visa Required that we support them with full-time positions. The Diocese will not be able to continue this agreement.

*Bishop Paul writes: "I am very grateful to you and to the Horsham Parish Community for the welcome you have given to the Sisters. Your personal encouragement and that of parishioners has been important for Sr Tirsa and Sr Manuela in their service as a Baptistine community in our midst. Sadly, we will not be able to sustain positions for the Sisters beyond the present agreement. After Sr Tirsa needed to return to the Philippines for health reasons, Sr Manuela has done very well in adapting to life without a Baptistine companion."*

**May the current pandemic restrictions be lifted enough for us to have a fitting farewell to Sr Manuela. I thank Manuela for all she does.**

### 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**

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

**Mass online at these times:**

**Saturday 6.30pm.**

**Sunday 10.30am.**

**Tuesday 5.30pm.**

**Wednesday 9.30am.**

**Thursday 9.30am**

**Friday 9.30am.**

**Saturday 10am.**



**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 -12.30pm

### Staying Connected.

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

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

*God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid of isolation, in their loneliness be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness be their light; through Jesus who suffered alone on the Cross, but reigns with you in glory.*

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

**Recent Deaths:** Pat Craig, Arthur Ballinger, Joy Plozza (Ballarat), Joseph (Jossey & Bindhu Dan's father in India)

**Anniversaries:** Barry Lattanzio, Ellen Fewster-Hynes, Evelyn Duffus, Frank Delahunty, Jewel Hooper, Paul Connors, Margaret Cotter, Sr Therese Stubbs rsj, Terry Moroney, Eunice Taylor, Megan O'Neill.

**Sick:** Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, 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**

**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):\$253.00**

**THANK**

**Planned Giving Envelopes: \$1055.00**

If you wish to give via our Parish BSB

Account : BSB: 083 680 Account: 515830337

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

**Making Connections:** Keys are a symbol of authority. Jesus says to Peter, 'I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.' Jesus entrusts his authority to Peter, and to successive Popes. This authority must be used with wisdom and compassion and with it comes responsibility. The crossed keys are part of the emblem of the Pope.

**Did you Know?:** The great stone temple built by Herod was at a natural spring which is the source of the Jordan River. It was here that Jesus told Peter, that he would be a rock on which the church is built, dedicated to the one God

**Marriage Tip:** Kids are one of the joys of marriage (much of the time). But they take their time off the top of your energy reserve. You aren't married to your kids so don't let them substitute for the intimacy you owe each other.

**Daily Prayer:** God, well-spring of all wisdom and font of every insight, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of the living God, and on the rock of this faith you built your church. Pour out your Spirit in abundance, that all may join in this profession, and so become living stones built up into your church, standing firm upon the one foundation, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

**Vocation View:** As Christians we are called to see those in authority use their power as service and love.

**21st Sunday:** St. Paul reminds the Romans, and us, that all things come from God: "For from Him and through Him and for Him all things are." Good stewards understand that all is gift and share generously gifts of time, talent, and treasure with which they've been blessed.

**"Today's readings highlight two different but related themes:** the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it." So what would Jesus be doing if he was in our parish now? What if the lockdown goes for months or a year? It's been nearly six months to date. The AFL is wondering whether it won't start next year's season until May! What if we're restricted to our 10's and 20's until Christmas or May or ..? Just wondering. Make sure you survive that long. Mask up!

## To help us pray Mass for 21st 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:** Cel: We come humbly before the rich depths of God's wisdom and knowledge.

For Pope Francis, successor of St Peter, that he will confirm our faith, lead us to a deeper commitment to Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the living God.

For our Bishops and Priests, that Divine Grace may hold them in safety and peace, good health and pastoral care  
For our world living in this Covid 19 pandemic, that God will deliver us from present danger, heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful, enlighten researchers, make wise the leaders of nations, guide our teachers and families of our Schools in online learning, and help all to grow in charity, integrity and justice.

For those who have been forced into the modern forms of slavery, that on this International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition, a new energy will confront and overcome this new evil.

For Christians suffering violent persecution and those whose religious freedom is seriously restricted, that they will know the truth of Jesus' words that no forces of evil will overcome the Church.

For all who have died, Pat Craig, Arthur Ballinger, Joy Plozza, and Joseph (Bindhu Dan's father in India), for our relatives and friends, that they will enter the glory of God. We remember Barry Lattanzio, Ellen Fewster-Hynes, Evelyn Duffus, Frank Delahunty, Jewel Hooper, Paul Connors, Margaret Cotter, Megan O'Neill, Sr Therese Stubbs, Terry Moroney, Eunice Taylor, whose anniversaries occur about now.

Cel: Almighty God, whose love is everlasting, receive our thanksgiving, and increase the strength of our souls.

**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.

**Mercy Sisters Prayer :** God of Compassion, help us during this time of isolation, fear and uncertainty. Give us the courage to remain faithful and strong. Guide us to the people and tasks neglected by our busyness. Allow this time, gifted to us by staying home, to be used to form stronger relationships and connections with our families, friends, communities and the Earth. Through our physical distance may we find new ways to act in love, solidarity and unity as we journey onwards together in hope and faith. Amen.

**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.**

**Online training - For people working with Children and Young People in church communities.**

This is a free online training opportunity for people who work with children in church communities. On Thursday 10th September at 5:00pm. For an 90 minute online workshop on staying connected and practising ministry safely online during COVID 19. This workshop is designed for people working with Children and Young People in church communities. Workshop presentations from : Liana Buchanan-Victoria's Principal Commissioner for Children and Young People; Linda Franco -Senior Policy Advisor, Professional Standards Unit Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne; Mathew Pendle- Family and Children's Worker in the Uniting Church in Melbourne Amanda Lincke - Child safe Consultant for the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. Book at: [www.trybooking.com/BKZSO](http://www.trybooking.com/BKZSO)

**Cancellation of Chrism Mass for 2020.** Bishop Paul has cancelled the Chrism Mass, on September 21st, due to the coronavirus restrictions which do not allow for large gatherings. We pray the Mass can be Monday of Holy Week in 2021.

**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**

**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, next Sunday.***

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.**

**May You.** May you speak the words you need to hear. May you have gratitude with each breath. May you build your dreams with faith. May you embrace your soul with kindness.

**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/>

**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 make a donation: [www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon).

**Please leave donations marked 'Lebanon' at the Parish Office anytime, thank you.**

**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: Isaiah 22:19-23**

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8**

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you, I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

**Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36**

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and

knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 16:18**

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

**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.

**Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd21 Veronica Lawson rsm:**

"Be yourself. Everybody else is taken", sings Melinda Schneider. The lyrics of this song, composed for Melinda's dying father, affirm some fairly obvious truths. Even though we know that "everybody else is taken", most of us spend energy trying to measure up to other peoples' expectations and fail to be truly ourselves. In our self-absorption, we can also misread others and fail to know them as they are. Being accepted as we are is among the most precious of gifts. Jesus knew this. He was utterly true to himself and he allowed others time to discover for themselves his real identity and the nature of his mission. If the mission was to succeed, then his followers needed to look beyond their preconceptions about him and accept him as God's anointed one, as the revelation of the living God. Jesus' true identity is a key issue for Matthew's community as it is for us. From the outset, he is presented as the anointed one of God, the Messiah or Christ. Before his birth, the reader knows him as "Emmanuel", God with us. What the narrator asserts at the outset, certain characters in the story come to understand. Jesus' fearless teaching and his healing ministry bring the crowd to recognise him as a prophet in the tradition of Elijah or Jeremiah or John the Baptist, and as the incarnate Wisdom of God. The power of God at work in Peter leads him

to a deeper understanding of Jesus' identity. Peter has faltered in the past and will falter again, even to the point of denying any knowledge of or association with Jesus. He finally arrives at deep insight, however, and proclaims his faith in Jesus as both Christ or Messiah and son of the living God. Insight is a gift, and God can work wherever there is openness and goodwill. Peter has both in abundance. He is declared "blessed" on account of this gift of insight, and entrusted with the "keys" of God's empire. The specific power of binding and loosing that is given to Peter is subsequently given to the community of disciples (18:18) where the saying is framed on the one hand by instructions about dealing with transgressors and on the other by the assertion that where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus, he is there in their midst. "Binding and loosing" belongs to all who gather in the name of Jesus whom Matthew presents as God-withus, as prophet and Wisdom, as the Christ and as the revelation of the living God. The exercise of the power "to bind and to loose" demands the same wisdom and insight as does the capacity to recognise and affirm the true identity of Jesus. Gathering in the name of Jesus is a challenge right now as we face the restrictions required to deal with pandemic. We pray for the wisdom to find new ways of being church and of truly dealing with transgression.

**Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27**

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

**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.

**Taking Place This Week:** Monday— St Bartholomew

Tuesday — St Louis. Thursday— St Monica

Friday—St Augustine.

Saturday— The Passion of St John The Baptist, International Day Against Nuclear Tests

Sunday—Social Justice Sunday

**Pat Craig** Funeral Prayers at Cemetery 1.30 Tuesday.

**Maria Macchia** Funeral Mass Wednesday 11am.