



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola–Murtoa–Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

23rd Sunday Ordinary Time - 6th September 2020



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary:
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SCHOOLS

Ss Michael & John Primary
Principal: Andrea Cox
Phone: 5382 3000

St Brigid's College
Principal: Peter Gutteridge
Phone: 5382 3545

Our Lady Help of Christians
Principal: Cathy Grace
Phone: 5385 2526

Nhill: St Patrick's
Principal: Kingsley Dalgleish

A Prayer for Father's Day

Gracious God, bless fathers and all father figures with love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in joy and uprightness. For those who work and struggle to provide for their family, give them strength. For those who mourn a child, hold them in your love. For those who play, laugh, sing and dance with their child, you share in their joy. Lord God, who is Father of all, walk with these fathers, in the light times and the dark. Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of your fatherly love; a symbol to their children and all who they encounter. Bless those for whom this day is difficult

Happy Father's Day to dads, grandads, special friends, spiritual father's, and families.

Annual Good Friday Collection:

next Sunday September 20th the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. Please leave an Envelope marked "Good Friday" at the Office.**

Fr Richard Leonard will come to our Parish for an Advent Mission this year **DECEMBER 5th to 9th**

Protecting children is

EVERYBODY'S

BUSINESS

6-12 SEPTEMBER 2020

This year National Child Protection Week will celebrate its 30th year with the theme *Putting children first...*

'Putting children first' was chosen when National Child Protection Week was launched in 1990, with the aim of bringing abuse and neglect out of the shadows and putting child wellbeing on the national agenda, engaging the whole community in caring for children.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK



Listen
to what the Spirit is saying
Catholic Education Week 2020

Catholic Education Week

celebrated this

week **6-12 September.**

The theme is ***Listen to what the Spirit is saying***, focuses on listening and discernment which is borne from rich dialogue. Pope Francis defines discernment as more than intelligence or common sense: *"It is a gift which we must implore. If we ask with confidence that the Holy Spirit grant us this gift, and then seek to develop it through prayer, reflection, reading and good counsel, then surely we will grow in this spiritual endowment."*

Catholic Education Week Prayer

Gracious God, nurture in us a discerning heart, to hear the Holy Spirit in the voices of others, to challenge our own will, desires, fears and prejudices and to be open to your will. Amen

Sadly, no Combined Schools Mass this week, hopefully next Term we can come together. We pray for our Schools at this time.

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 at least September 13th.

Mass online is at these times
Saturday 6.30pm.
Sunday 10.30am.

Tuesday 5.30pm.
Wednesday 9.30am.
Thursday 9.30am
Friday 9.30am.



Eucharistic Group
FRANCISCA - JI MENEZES

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

ONLINE MASSES: (Eucharistic Group Facebook page)

Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 10.30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament WEDNESDAY 10-11

Tuesday 8th	5.30	Birthday of Our Lady. Paddy Purcell anniv.
Wednesday 9	9.30	Kath Delahunty anniv. St Peter Claver
Thursday 10	9.30	Mick & Roma Hogan, Mary Armour, Mary Ryan.
Friday 11th	9.30	Mick Scutti ann, Pat McBean.
Saturday 12th	—	No 10am Mass. Mass tonight 6.30pm on line

Staying Connected.

A phone call, text message, email, dropping off food.

Thank you to those who bring food to me, to Sr Nonny

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Recent Deaths: Mary Armour, Mick Hogan, Daniel Ryan (Koroit, Lisa Gladtz father).

Anniversaries: Domenico "Mick" Scutti, Kath Delahunty, Jean McManus, Ambrose Lim, John Barber, Mary Ryan, Jim White, Gerard Coughlin, Danny Magee, Monica Shinnick, Tim McArdle, Ann Harrison, Tony Reicha, Pat McBean, Mark Murray

Sick: Debbie Nolen, Fleur Armstrong, Ken Dowsley, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Sr Tirsia Bale, Doris McDonald, Angela Walsh, Kobe Davison, Shane Kennedy, Norm Griffin, Rick Burchell, Des Gaynor

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): \$900.00

Planned Giving Envelopes: \$2280.00

PG Direct Debit: \$2000.00

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/ or Parish if you have no envelopes.

**THANK
YOU**

Making Connections: One of the greatest prayers about peace is the prayer of St Francis of Assisi: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Living The Word: This gospel emphasises the worth of each member of the community; we are all interconnected and we are all responsible for others. Love should govern our responses, not the desire to humiliate or chastise.

Marriage Tip: Don't let mistakes ruin your relationship. Put them behind you, so you can move on and grow stronger.

Daily Prayer: God of unity and peace, your Son has taught us that where two or three are gathered in his name he is present in their midst and you will grant their request. Grant us a new heart to presume the goodness of every person, and a spirit sensitive to the burdens each bears, that by loving our neighbour as ourselves we may bear witness to that love which is the fulfilling of the law.

A Vocation View: How much would the world be changed if everyone were completely forgiving? Probably totally! Jesus' stories of forgiveness are so loved because they are so needed. Re-tell them! Re-live them!

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett and Jill McGennisken** as 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.

*Sacraments of Eucharist, Confirmation
Reconciliation will be in Term 4.*



To help us pray Mass for 23rd 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: Gathered in the name of Jesus we know that he is with us, and so we can be confident in our prayer, especially on this Fathers' Day.

May Pope Francis, our Holy Father, continue to be a strong voice for the poor during this COVID-19 pandemic, and awaken the conscience of every world leader to care for them with commitment.

May fathers and father-figures be blessed by God, be confident in their role in loving their children and those in their care.

We pray for children and adults unable to read, that International Literacy Day will prompt renewed investment in teachers and resources for them.

May the 'Season of Creation' initiated by Pope Francis in September, move nations, communities and individuals to discern how best to care for our 'common home'.

May September Appeals bring support for the diverse ministries of our Church among children and youths with special needs, the homeless, Good Friday Collection, people seeking support to deal with life's difficulties.

May those whose mental health has become more fragile during this COVID-19 Pandemic, receive help they need to overcome heightened anxieties.

May the street violence in the United States come to an end, the political crisis in Belarus be overcome, the violence against Christians cease in Nigeria, and communities affected by bushfires, cyclones and storms in the United States and Australia be helped.

May the departed fathers of all here present and of other parishioners enter the heavenly Father's eternal home, along with Mary Armour, Mick Hogan, Daniel Ryan, who died recently, and Domenico "Mick" Scutti, Mary Ryan, Kath Delahunty, Jean McManus, Ambrose Lim, John Barber, Gerard Coughlin, Danny Magee, Tony Reicha, Monica Shinnick, Tim McArdle, Ann Harrison, Mark Murray, Pat McBean whose anniversaries occur at this time. Celebrant: Almighty God, who sent your Son among us as the source of reconciliation, give us the grace to be at peace in our families and communities.

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.

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to **PAT SHERIDAN** on her 93rd birthday on September 4.

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

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 a 90 minute online workshop on staying connected and ministry safely online. Book: www.trybooking.com/BKZSO

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

Mass for You at Home: 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>; <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat: Mass livestreamed daily at 10am on St 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](#).

Mass Online In addition to the Masses above, you can google *Mass Online* to find Masses in English and other languages from all over the world.



This Tuesday 8th September 2020 is the Birthday of Our Lady. This feast originated in Jerusalem about the sixth century, a development of the feast of the dedication of the church of Saint Anne, built in Jerusalem 'where Mary was born'. Because of her importance in salvation history, Mary's birthday is celebrated as well as those of her son Jesus, and John the Baptist (24 June). **Rosary at 6pm on Tuesday after Mass**

Springtime Prayer - Dear God, We rejoice and give thanks for Spring, for bees, for people tending their gardens, animals, cleaning, for the fragrance of growth, thank you for flowers, trees, crops farmers, forests, friends, carers, for emergency services....

A Prayer in Isolation, for 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, reigns with you in glory.

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,

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. **If the lockdown ends (we will know today) Mass of Welcome will be Saturday September 26, at 6.30**

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."



SEASON OF CREATION

Season of Creation
1st September to
October 4th the Feast of
St Francis of Assisi

The theme for Season of Creation 2020 is "Jubilee for the Earth" in which we are invited to consider the integral relationship between the rest for the Earth and ecological, economic, social and political ways of living, the need for just and sustainable systems revealed this year by the global COVID reflect and further act on the urgency of the situation of our world today and act for future generations with local to national responses. Liturgically, we celebrate remembering God's action in prayer. Liturgical resources: www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-catholic-season-of-creation-sundays- · Season of Creation and Resource, <https://seasonofcreation.org/celebration>



'St. Francis asked that part of the friary garden be left untouched, so that wild flowers & herbs could grow there & those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty.' (LS 12)

THE SEASON OF CREATION – The Spirit in Creation
September 6 1st Sunday in Creation – [Forest Sunday](#)
September 13 2nd Sunday in Creation – [Land Sunday](#)
September 20 3rd Sunday in Creation – [Wilderness/ Outback Sunday](#)
September 27 4th Sunday in Creation – [River Sunday](#)
October 4th St Francis of Assisi – [Blessings of Animals](#)

You are warmly invited to find an oasis of peace and calm for 45 minutes with a guided meditation 'Finding God in Creation Examen', held via Zoom on Wednesday, 16th September at 7.30pm. This Ecological Examen reflects with gratitude on our personal relationship with God in creation. **Please respond by email and you will be sent a link to Zoom closer to the 16th Sept.** catholicearthcare@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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 & Tirsa.

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation: 2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between you two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd23 Veronica Lawson rsm:

'As we celebrate this first Sunday of the Season of Creation, we are conscious of the need for the human community to be reconciled with Earth and with all that inhabits our common home. The theme for the 2020 Season of Creation is "Jubilee for the Earth". The Earth needs a rest from so much industrial activity, from the proliferation of single use plastic, from reliance on fossil fuels, from mindless consumption. The planet needs a "Rest" of biblical proportions, a Jubilee. Covid-19 has given the planet a rest in some respects...' Should those who refuse to listen to the science on the climate crisis be shamed? Should the few who flaunt the restrictions necessitated by pandemic be shamed? Should they be deterred by heavy penalties? Or should we appeal to their better selves? Most agree that, while it is imperative that bad behaviour at every level be challenged, there is little to recommend the shaming of offenders. So, what does a just society do with its persistent offenders, with those whose behaviour continually disrupts the unity of a group on the one hand and the very future of life on the other? There is no easy answer. What does the gospel tradition say to this? Today's gospel indicates that the power to deal with transgression is firmly in the hands of the community. All care must be taken to allow offenders to recognise their offences

without being publically shamed. If that fails, the matter is referred to a group of witnesses, in line with Israel's ancient legal practice (Deut 19:15). The next step is referral to the assembled community. Those who refuse to listen are to be treated as "Gentiles" or "tax-collectors". Some scholars suggest that the Matthean Jesus is proposing expulsion of those who refuse to listen. Others that he is advocating the sort of compassionate approach he has personally shown to outsiders, to those in need of conversion. Since every one of us is in need of conversion in relation to planetary health, compassionate persistence is an attractive option. We do well to seek the wisdom of others. We have the assurance that Jesus, God-with-us, is present in the assembly. We also have the assurance that our failure to deal with transgression can leave perpetrators unreconciled, susceptible to reoffending. We need to "loose" the sins of those who acknowledge their offences. We are called to forgive them and thus set them free from the burden of their sins. While the gospel passage focusses on forgiveness, our first concern must be with those who suffer at the hands of offenders, including the Earth itself. We must "surrender to the sky [our] heart of anger" (James K. Baxter) and work actively to provide our planet and all of its inhabitants with the Jubilee it surely needs.

Next Week's Gospel 24th Sunday: Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give

me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

