



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

26th Sunday Ordinary Time - 27th September 2020



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
 Parish Secretary:
 Camille Del Castillo
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 PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
 Phone: 5382 1155.
 Email:
 horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Diocesan Website:
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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 Dagleish

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

From Bishop Paul. What Step 3 means for churches, religious ceremonies?
Weddings 10 people (including the couple and two witnesses), plus celebrant.
Funerals up to 20 people, plus those required to conduct the funeral.
Outdoor religious gatherings up to 10 people, plus a faith leader.
Churches can open for private worship but only for households, social bubbles and faith leader.

We can open our churches, for some time each day for people to spend time in personal prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

SMJ Church will be open 9am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday.

**** We continue to wear face coverings outside home. In Church we need to sign in, on the sheets provided, sanitise hands, spray seats.**

We can still live-stream Mass. This can only involve up to 5 people.

Our Masses: Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 9am and Sunday 10.30am.

The provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate Mass as we would dearly wish to. The Bishops of Victoria are making representations to government for an easing of the restrictions in places of worship.

LIKE JESUS CHRIST, FORCED TO FLEE

WELCOMING, PROTECTING, PROMOTING AND INTEGRATING INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Like Jesus, forced to Flee



WORLD MIGRANT and REFUGEE SUNDAY

there is a need to encourage initiatives to foster fraternity among all local cultural, ethnic and religious groups. Situations of conflict and humanitarian crises, aggravated by corrupt powers and climate change, are increasing the numbers of displaced persons and affecting people already living in a state of dire poverty. Many of the countries experiencing these situations lack adequate structures for meeting the needs of the displaced.

Pope Francis

The National Police Memorial Service this Tuesday September 29th, the Feast of St Michael, Police Patron Saint, will not be a public Service in the Church, but be a zoomed Service online from the Victoria Police.

At 10.30am you are welcome to a Laying of Wreath Ceremony at the Horsham Police Station.

Camille will be away this week, returning Monday 5th. The Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, **open Wednesday, Thursday, Fri.**



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 to search, and in the results you shall find one with the image above, tap into it and once loaded click 'Join'.

Office open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am to 12.30

We, the Sisters of St. John the Baptist in the Philippine Vice-Province deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness during our time of sorrow. The greatest comfort during this moment is the expression of sympathy conveyed to us in many ways. We thank you sincerely and assure you of our prayers.

Thank You

4th Oct 1955 to 18th Sept 2020

Our Parish Bulletin is online www.ballarat.catholic.org.au select Horsham Parish, click on the yellow magnifying glass symbol, open Horsham which appears below.

Anointing of the Sick and Individual Confession, on request to Fr Peter.

ONLINE MASSES: (Eucharistic Group Facebook page)
Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 9am, 10.30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament WEDNESDAY 10-11

Tuesday 29th	5.30	Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael. Police.
Wednesday 30	9.30	St Jerome. Bev Delahunty, Lin Couper.
Thursday 1st	9.30	St Therese. Sr Kathleen Finnigan, David Lewis
Friday 2nd	9.30	Guardian Angels. Gertie Brophy, Jenny McLaurin
Saturday 3rd	—	No 10am Mass. Mass 6.30pm tonight

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: Frances Coller (Geelong, Tim's mother), Dean Jones.

Anniversaries: Police, Fr Con O'Sullivan, Lin Couper, Beverley Delahunty, Bali Bombings 2005, Gertie Brophy, Sr Kathleen Finnigan sgs, Jenny McLaurin, David Lewis, Bruce Chamberlain,

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

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, Good Friday, BCSF In these difficult times, with so many not having an income. Any contributions to any of these Collections, is gratefully received. **You can drop Envelopes or money into the Parish Office anytime: Office is open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 12.30pm.**

Collections: Presbytery (plate):\$85.00

Planned Giving Envelopes: \$385.00

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: Each night this week, reflect on your day. What were the 'no' moments? What were the 'yes' moments? What 'no' of today might you make a 'yes' of tomorrow?

Marriage Tip: Speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in turn must share with others. Pick a person to lavish love on who may not appear to deserve it.

Daily Prayer: Let your Spirit make our hearts docile to the challenge of your word, and let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus: may we walk the path of obedience and sacrifice, finding in the self-emptying love of the cross, the way to exaltation and glory at your side.

A Vocation View: We cannot act overly proud just because we have responded to God's call. Responding is our duty and source of happiness; serving God with perseverance and happiness fulfills us.

That the dedication of St Jerome to the translation of the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into Latin in the 5th century may inspire us to read the Holy Scriptures ourselves, for as St Jerome said: '*Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ*'.



The Senior
thesenior.com.au
There is no substitute for experience
We honour our Seniors in October

When this is over, may we never again take for granted a handshake with a stranger, conversations with neighbours, a crowded theatre, Friday night out, the taste of Holy Communion, a routine checkup, the school rush each morning, coffee with a friend, the stadium roaring, each deep breath, a boring Tuesday, life itself.

When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be, we were called to be, we hoped to be. And may we stay that way – better for each other because of the worst.

To help us pray Mass for 26th 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.

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.

Intercessions: Cel: Today we mark the 106th World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees with its theme, *Forced like Jesus Christ to Flee*, this year on the pastoral care of internally displaced persons.

May the commitment which Pope Francis has shown towards the spiritual, emotional and material needs of refugees inspire our parishes to provide welcome and a place of safety and support for them.

May we see in the face of every refugee the face of Jesus Christ, who himself, along with his parents, was forced to flee from the land of his birth to a place where language, culture and faith were alien

We pray for the people of Syria, who in the devastation and grinding poverty and fear caused by war, are feeling hope draining away as their anxiety for the safety and future of their children overwhelms them.

May refugees and migrants, who have bought to our land and to our Church, a rich diversity of culture and faith, of resilience and hope, be welcomed as sisters and brothers, as together we shape this country into a place of harmony, peace, justice, welcome and compassion.

May our families be filled with the Holy Spirit, and with the heart and the ways of Jesus, the Servant.

May our community be filled with courage and strength, and with the help of each other's prayers, have the blessing of peace and health.

For those who died recently, Frances Coller and Dean Jones. May they live in the presence of Jesus and acclaim him as Lord to the glory of God the Father.

We remember our deceased Police, Fr Con O'Sullivan, Beverley Delahunty, Lin Couper, Bali Bombings 2005, Sr Kathleen Finnigan sgs, Gertie Brophy, Jenny McLaurin, Bruce Chamberlain, David Lewis, anniversaries occur now Cel: Lord, your word is truth for us, a guide for justice, an energy for mercy, a blessing for peace; be merciful to all people, mindful of refugees who are homeless, destitute, fearful, who feel abandoned with no place to call home.

St Vincent de Paul Society, "Assist a Student" Program assists poor students in countries to attend school who may without this assistance, not be able to afford to attend. A \$100 donation provides access to education. Administrative costs are met by the St Vincent de Paul Society. For more information go to https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Our_Impact/

DO YOU LIVE IN A DROUGHT AFFECTED COMMUNITY?

DROUGHT COMMUNITY SUPPORT INITIATIVE - ROUND 2

YOU COULD BE ENTITLED TO GOVERNMENT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR DROUGHT AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF UP TO \$3,000

St Vincent de Paul Society

St Vincent de Paul Drought Community Support Initiative

The Drought Community Support Initiative funding offers \$3,000 per application available for farming households who meet the following eligibility criteria: *over 18 years of age; live/work in an eligible drought declared LGA: includes Buloke, Gannawarra, Mildura, Moira, Pyrenees, Swan Hill, Yarriambiack; be permanent residents/citizen of Australia; be primarily employed in farming related activity.* Staff will assist applicants who need help completing the questions for eligibility. For more information call the Drought Team 1300 846 643 or www.vinnies.org.au/drougthelp.

Centacare's family and relationship team offer support during COVID-19. View the flyer for programs on offer and contact details. Website: www.centacareballarat.org.au

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program Online Study Low-cost online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parish and other ministries. 5 week study cycles include Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Registrations open now until October 12 for the next cycle which begins October 18. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Engaging Your Catholic Faith is a series of short sessions offered online by Catholic Theological College lecturers on a range of topics including theology, scripture, pastoral studies and spirituality. Sessions will be held from September 14 - October 31, cost \$20 per session. The sessions will be held via Zoom and will run for approximately 90 minutes.

Thursday 8th October, 2pm: Fr Mark O'Brien OP.
 "God of Violence (OT) God of Love (NT). True or False?"
 Tuesday 13th October, 7pm: "Catholics and the Eucharist"
 Rev Dr Kevin Lenehan. Wednesday 21st October, 7pm:
 Rev Trevor Tibbetsma. "How Jewish was Jesus?" Enrol Now.
 Email: rose.sultana@ctc.edu.au or www.ctc.edu.au.

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission is hosting a zoom webinar next Sunday, October 4th from 2.00pm – 3.00pm, about mental health in Australia and to empower participants to understand mental health, the supports available and provide an opportunity to reach out, to encourage hope and bring fullness of life to those we love and care for.

Bishop Paul Bird will introduce the 2020-2021 Bishop's Conference Social Justice Statement 'To Live Life to the Full, Mental Health in Australia Today'. [Graeme Davy-Watts](http://www.graeme-davy-watts.com) is the mental health manager for Centacare, will talk about the current reality of mental health in Australia, and what supports are available for preventing mental ill health in Australia. Please register your name and email to Dr. Rachel Smith at social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Pope Francis' daily Mass: Pope Francis' daily Masses are available online through the Vatican's website and YouTube channel. **Mass for You at Home:** is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day.

CathNews YouTube Channel: Daily Mass on Demand.
EWTN Global Catholic Network: Daily Catholic Mass [here](http://www.ewtn.com).

Mass Online. You can google *Mass Online* to find Masses in English and other languages all over the world

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.

Mass of Welcome next Sunday Oct 4th, 10.30 Mass

SEASON OF CREATION Season of Creation
1st September to October 4
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.



'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 27 4th Sunday in Creation – [River Sunday](#)
 October 4th St Francis of Assisi – [Blessings of Animals](#)



St Mary MacKillop's 10th Anniversary of Canonisation is on October 17th.

To mark the 10th anniversary the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in of honour Mary throughout September and October <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

May you meet mercy each day: in the light of your own heart, at the hands of your loved ones, in the eyes of the stranger and the needy. And if by chance you do not at first meet it, then search your heart for it, listen patiently for word of it, and it will tap you on the shoulder, a quiet surprise, a small gesture the tender look, given and received in the encounters of your day. Mercy Sisters

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 McGennicken** 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.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you,

Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd26 Veronica Lawson rsm:

As we celebrate the fourth week in the Season of Creation, we might ponder again the ways in which Earth cares for us. Vineyards have provided nourishment for countless families in the ancient Mediterranean world since about 10,000 BCE. It is not surprising then that the biblical record frequently references vines and vineyards and that the vineyard becomes a metaphor for God's "workplace". In today's gospel, Jesus tells the story of a father who sends his sons to work in the vineyard. One refuses and then reconsiders: he has the courage to change his mind and engage in life. The second son agrees then fails to do as his father requests: he is not prepared to make his contribution to family life and wellbeing. These siblings find their counterparts in every age. There are those who make an art form of saying yes and failing to follow through with action: such people can seriously undermine the most worthy of projects or plans. And then there are the slow starters, those who take time but eventually come on board. Jesus' parable is a response to the Temple authorities who are angered by the "amazing things" he does and by the public recognition he receives from the children in the temple. Like the second son, the chief priests and elders profess to do the will of God, but their actions belie their words. Jesus spells out the meaning of the

Next Week's Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring

no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

parable as it relates to the disjunction between what they say and what they do. They have rejected the prophet John who came to them "in the way of righteousness". The tax collectors and prostitutes, "sinners" in the eyes of authorities, accepted John's message, albeit belatedly like the first son, and are making their way into God's empire ahead of the guardians of the religious institutions. Changing one's mind is seen as a sign of weakness in our society. For evidence of this, one has only to listen to the taunts in parliament when a political leader changes course in the light of new information. Changing one's mind or one's course of action can be an act of great courage and humility, even heroism. This is so if it involves abandoning a self-serving direction for the sake of justice or compassion or the "common good". We have the example of those who refused to politicize the pandemic and chose rather to work for the common good across political affiliations: some have paid a heavy price. Voluntary changes in behaviour come from a change of heart, from what the gospel calls "metanoia". There is always a cost in the pursuit of justice, generally less dramatic than the cost to some in public office who challenge the refusal to act on the climate crisis. Today's parable invites us to bring our actions into line with what we profess, no matter the cost. That is what it means to take up the challenge of working in the vineyard.

those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?' 'I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to people who will produce its fruit.'



Daylight Saving begins next Sunday October 4th. Put clocks **f o r w a r d o n e h o u r** Saturday before bed.

* Primary Schools all return on Monday Oct 5th
 Tuesday: UN Day Awareness of Food Loss and Waste
 * Thursday Oct 1st: UN Day for Older Persons
 * Friday Oct 2nd: UN Day of Non-Violence,
 World Habitat Day, 1869 birth of Mahatma Ghandi