



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola–Murtoa–Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

30th Sunday Ordinary Time - 25th October 2020



PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary:
Camille Del Castillo
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Phone: 5382 1155.
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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 Dagleish

Horsham Parish will be merged with Nhill, Warracknabeal and Hopetoun Parishes into one Ministry District called, initially, Wimmera Ministry District. From January 15th 2021, in the first 6 months of 2021, Monsignor Murphy will prepare our Parishes for the canonical transfer into the new Ministry District.

To help our Parishes to prepare for this, myself and Monsignor Glynn Murphy, will have Meetings in each Parish this week.

There will be a paper presented, to explain the process.

These Meetings, open to all Parishioners, will be from 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Nhill this Wednesday October 28th. Please gather outside St Patrick's Church, chairs provided.

Hopetoun Thursday October 29.

Warracknabeal Friday October 30th.

Horsham Friday November 6th.

Location of each meeting notified closer to date, taking into account COVID restrictions and numbers permitted.

From January 15th 2021,

Monsignor Glynn Murphy, currently Administrator of Warracknabeal and Hopetoun Parishes, will be the **new Parish Priest** of Horsham, Nhill, Warracknabeal, Hopetoun, to be a new Ministry District.

Fr Jim McKay, currently Assistant Priest in East Wimmera Parish, will be Assistant Priest in these Parishes.

* The parish office will be based in Horsham, to provide services for all four parishes.

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

Planned Giving Program has been renewed for the coming year of **2021**.

For those doing their pledge via cash, new bundles of envelopes are now available for pick up at the Parish Office.

Office hours:

Monday to Friday 8.30am

Popes Intention for October

The Laity's Mission in the Church. We pray that by our Baptism, the laity faithful, especially women, can participate in more Ministries in the Church. *October in particular honours women in the Church*

This Friday October 30th, we will sign over our Parish Schools to DOBCEL Tom Sexton, the new Director of Ballarat Catholic Education, together with Monsignor Glynn Murphy, a member of the DOBCEL Board as a Canon Lawyer, and our new Parish Priest, will accompany Fr Peter to each School for this signing. We will be at St Patrick's School Nhill Friday at 9am with the Principal Kingsley Dagleish and Board member Helen Cannell, on to OLHC School Murtoa at 10.45 with the Principal Cathy Grace and Board on to Horsham for lunch, then at 1.15 at SMJ School with the Principal Andrea Cox and Board, and at 2.15 at SBC with the Principal Peter Gutteridge. Because of Covid restrictions we would love to have more present. Photos will be taken. We pray for the success of this day.

How does our commitment to God measure up against the Ten Commandments? How does it measure against the love command of Jesus? May we express our love for God in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Express our love for our neighbour, in concrete and significant ways. The great commandment of Jesus doesn't give us the option of evil. Loving God with heart, soul and mind is a pretty exclusive commitment.

Parish Bulletin is online

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
select Horsham Parish, click 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 27th	5.30	Gordon Matheson anniv. Mollie McCullum,
Wednes 28th	9.30	Sts Simon & Jude, Joe Rice anniv.
Thursday 29	9.30	Vincent Keane, Pat Irwin, Jean Ivess.
Friday 30th	—	NO MASS. Fr Peter at Schools' DOBCEL signings
Saturday 31	—	No 10am Mass. Mass 6.30pm tonight Saturday

Staying Connected.

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

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Recent Deaths: Vincent Keane (Josie Phelan's brother)

Anniversaries: Mary Ferneé, Jean Ivess, Pat Irwin, Eileen Arnott, Gordon Matheson, Joe Rice, Mary Margaret (Mollie) McCallum, Richard Savien Walsh

Sick: Ken Dowsley, Des Gaynor, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Doris McDonald, Angela Walsh, Kobe Davison, Shane Kennedy, Norm Griffin, Rick Burchell, Mary Thompson, Bob Atkins, Moira Kelly snr.

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. 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):\$411.00

Planned Giving Envelopes: \$296.00

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: At the end of each day this week, spend a few moments reflecting on how you experienced God's love today and how you extended God's love to others. **Sharing the Tradition:** We may sometimes feel that the call to 'love as ourselves' may be egotistical. The Church has always insisted that knowing and accepting ourselves is a first step to knowing and loving God. Christians believe that, although we are wounded by sin, we are created in the image and likeness of God and have been redeemed by Christ, so we are fundamentally good and worthwhile. Unless we appreciate this truth about ourselves, it is difficult to see and love the good in others and to relate lovingly to god. **Living the Word:** The words 'with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind' express the totality of the response to God which Jesus calls for. This balanced by the command to love our neighbour, whomever that may be, as ourselves. Both of these are needed in our faith. **Marriage Tip:** See your spouse as the most precious gift you will ever receive. Do not underestimate God's ability to send you the spouse who will help you grow spiritually and personally. **Daily Prayer:** Drive from our hearts the idols this world worships, money and power, privilege and prestige, that we may be free to serve you alone, and, by loving our neighbour as ourselves, may make your Son's new commandment of love the law that governs every aspect of our lives. **A Vocation View:** We must stop putting band-aids on the wounds of society. Tell the world that we are God's people. God loves us and we were created to serve God, and others in God.

November is Holy Souls Month

Holy Souls Mass Envelopes in the Church, if you wish to have a Mass offered for the Holy Souls.

Holy Souls Remembrance Book in the Foyer.

Please add names of loved ones who have died in the past twelve months, or names you wish remembered in our Holy Souls Month Masses

To help us pray Mass for 30th 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: Celebrant: Love God and love our neighbour are united in one commandment of Jesus, and are the foundation of how we live our Christian life.

We pray for Pope Frances, that the loving commitment which he shows toward refugees, will convert world leaders to welcome strangers, free of all oppression.

We pray that the cries of widows and orphans, the poor and needy will reach the heavens and also penetrate and convert the hearts of the powerful, rich and comfortable in our world.

We pray that each one of us will receive the gospel with the joy of the Holy Spirit and live it in the service of God and neighbour.

We pray for political stability in Belarus and Lebanon, for dignified elections in the United States, for greater progress towards peace in Afghanistan, and for wisdom among health and government leaders during this pandemic. We pray for children during this National Enviroweek, that they will connect with nature and the community and so show us how to care for our common home.

For our VCE students as they end their formal schooling this week. Give them peace and wisdom in their preparation for and during their exams.

We pray for those who died recently, Vincent Keane, and all who are waiting for the Lord Jesus with hope, that glory and peace will be theirs forever. We remember Mary Ferneé, Jean Ivess, Pat Irwin, Eileen Arnott, Gordon Matheson, Joe Rice, Margaret (Mollie) McCallum, Richard Savien Walsh, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Cel: Lord God, our strength, our rock, our fortress, our Saviour, shield us with your mighty help, save us from all danger

Senior

thesenior.com.au



**We honour our Seniors
in October**

Livestreaming of Mass at SMJ Church. Those on Facebook, go to a group page, titled "Eucharistic Group" and click on invite, free to join.

October is Mental Health Month

Take fresh Courage...

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARY MACKILLOP'S CANONISATION





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 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 of Australia; be primarily employed in farming.* 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. The cycle begins October 18. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Diocesan e-news is published every two weeks and distributed via email. If you wish to receive updates and information about the life and activity of the parishes and schools of the diocese, to register, go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au and click 'News & Events'

Throughout this pandemic, there have been some uphill battles for many individuals. Yet through the eyes of our children we need to be more thankful than ever.

Thankful for the digital technology that has been a lifeline for staying connected with family, friends, faith and children's education.

Thankful that our children are resilient and were able to adjust to changes while learning to play independently and collaboratively with each other.

Thankful for our family unit that has stayed healthy, active, close, spending quality time with each other.

Thankful for the essential workers who have been on the frontline.

Thankful that we can still gather as a family on a Sunday in God's name in online Mass and know that the Lord is with us. We give thanks and count our blessings.



My dear parishioners and friends!
Thank you for your support, goodness, love and concern, It meant a lot . I'll keep you safe in my heart.
God bless you.
Praying for you always,
Sr. Manuela

VCE & University Students Exam Prayer

Lovingly Father, we bring before you our VCE and University Students. Give them the gifts of wisdom, right judgement, knowledge and courage. Bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind as they sit for their exams. May they be affirmed in their efforts and may they know that you are there with them. We pray that they will stay calm under pressure and work to the best of their ability. May they feel your loving presence in their lives, now and always, and may they be strengthened by the prayerful support of us, their parish community. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.



Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Church Appeal through your kind gifts and prayers.

You can leave money in an envelope marked "Missions" at the Office. Thankyou.

The sense of looking forward to a happy Christmas has perhaps never felt more real than in 2020. In a year hallmarked by isolation, suffering, financial pain and dislocation, we have all had to find ways to endure what has been a year like no other. Here in Victoria, we battle against frustration as we try to understand the various steps of what is called a roadmap towards a "Covid Normal" life. The roadmap is one which gives us an anchor – a way of understanding what is required of us. The reality is that many of us long for getting on the move and returning to normal. The celebration of our faith has changed along with everything else, but this presents opportunities for seeing new ways of moving forward. Many people, whether or not they have a religious framework that serves as a guide for their lives, speak often of "life's journey". It would seem, then, that we are a people most fully alive when we have a clear sense of direction – where we have come from, and where we are going. In this context, a sense of "mission" is relevant. To be on mission is surely to have our eyes set on the future: a future enabled by decisions made in the present. While many of us miss the local football club or farmer's market – the good news is that our sense of Church is multi-dimensional: family, neighbourhood, parish, and also the global community.

This weekend the Psalm response is *'I love you, Lord, my strength'* It is fitting, we all need God's strength that we can be a physical and spiritual strength for each other by the way we respond to each other. Some of us are struggling and need help spiritually and physically, so let's remember parishioners in our prayers. Ring an elderly person, cook, take it to them.

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. Camille Del Castillo (Sec)

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: Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare, I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. "If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.
I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed.
I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you,

which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Gospel Reflection: SunAOrd30 Veronica Lawson rsm:

Until fairly recently, Jesus as a Jew was often downplayed, even ignored. Today's gospel passage has Jesus affirming the most central of Jewish traditions, namely the command of Deuteronomy 6 known as the Shema (so called from the first word in the statement meaning "hear"). The words of the Shema are recited repeatedly every day by every faithful Jew. Although not a prayer in itself, the Shema is an integral part of Jewish liturgy and prayer. It is a creedal statement that continues to function as an overture to Jewish life and practice. The doorpost at the entrance to a Jewish home generally features a tiny rectangular box known as a mezuzah. It contains a scroll bearing the text of the Shema. Those who enter touch the mezuzah with the greatest reverence. When I first encountered this practice, I was deeply affected by the power of the symbol to link one with the deep story of a people, in this case with that of the Jewish people. In Matthew, Jesus the Jew provides an honest response to the less than honest questioning of an expert in Jewish law. He overlooks the hostility of the lawyer and the Sadducees with whom the lawyer has aligned himself. He evokes the text of the Shema. Jesus invites the lawyer to return to the heart of their shared tradition. He links the

teaching of the Shema on wholehearted love of God with a second commandment taken from Leviticus 19: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself". The lawyer's unfair "testing" of Jesus is evidence that this is precisely what he fails to do: he addresses Jesus as teacher, a term of respect, and yet fails to show him the respect due to him as neighbour. For Jesus, the whole of the Torah and the teaching of the prophets can be summed up in the commandments to love God with all of one's being - heart, soul and mind, and to love one's neighbour as oneself. Not just love, but intensity of love. One is to love with the whole of one's being. One is to care for others as one cares for oneself. We see such intensity of love in those who are giving their lives to save those infected with Covid-19. Front-line health workers are more likely to contract the infection than others and yet few hesitate to turn up day after day for their patients. Amnesty International estimates that some 7000 health professionals have lost their lives to the virus. The witness of their commitment functions like the mezuzah in our lives: it draws us back into the heart of the gospel tradition and calls us to a deeper, more intense love. It also helps us to deal with the insincerity of those who seek to score points and undermine the dignity of others.

Next Week: All Saints Day's Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Taking Place This Week: Disarmament Week

Wednesday: St Simon and Jude
Saturday: World Cities Day. **Next Sunday All Saints Day.**

** We continue to wear face coverings outside home. In Church we need to sign in, sanitise hands, spray seats, ++**SMJ Church will be open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm for private prayer** (keep a 2 metre distance). * **We will continue the live-stream of Mass. Our Masses: Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 9am, 10.30am** **No good news, more outside Church, same up to 5 inside. We are bitterly disappointed with this decision**

Annual Knox Public Lecture on "Safe Church: Commitment, awareness and action for cultural change" presented by Sheree Limbrick, Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Professional Standards. The lecture will be held online on Thursday, November 5 at 7.00pm. For information and bookings go to <https://ctc.edu.au/catholictheological-college/news-and-events/knox-public-lecture/>