



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk- Rupanyup- Nhill

BULLETIN

1st Sunday of Advent - 29th November 2020



Advent First Sunday of Advent

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
 Parish Secretary:
 Camille Del Castillo
 10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400
 PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
 Phone: 5382 1155.
 Email:
 horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Diocesan Website:
 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

SCHOOLS

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

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

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

Nhill: St Patrick's
 Principal: Kingsley Dalgleish

Covid Safe Plans for coming to Mass or Church this week:

- Face masks must be worn in Church. Legal requirements apply to these.
- Social distancing is adhered to. * Hand sanitiser provided.
- Reminder, if people are sick or unwell, do not attend, please get tested

Dear Parishioners, our Church has been measured and we are able to accommodate 150 at each of our Masses.

To facilitate the signing in process at each door way, here is the simplified way. **Write only your given name, no surname**

Your first Name(s) only	Phone number
Eg. Gid and Mary	
Rob and children	
Clare and Bill	
Peter	0419323397

Husband and wife (eg Gid and Mary), plus phone number.

If you have children (eg Rob and children), plus phone number.

If you are brother and sister living in same house (eg Clare and Bill), plus phone number.

If you are on your own, just your first name and phone number.

For weekday Masses, we will still use the side door near the Presbytery, and same signing (given name and phone number)

DIMBOOLA CEMETERY

MASS This Thursday
 December 3rd, at 6pm.

- Please bring a chair
- Shared Tea at Church after

Planned Giving Program

2021: New boxes of envelopes and single white envelopes are in SMJ Foyer for pick up.
 Thank you.



The Advent and Christmas
ADORE Daily Reflections

booklets. \$5 each
 Please purchase booklet(s) from the Office in mornings
 You can use these individually, in groups with daily prayers.

Fr Richard Leonard Advent Parish Mission

Saturday December 5th to Wednesday December 9th.
 Fr Richard will celebrate SMJ Masses on December 5/6 at 6.30
 Saturday, Sunday 10.30.

Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 9.30am, then a Talk in the Church.

There will be a Talk at 7pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in **SMJ Church**, to accommodate numbers and distancing.

There will be a Collection at each Session.

Fr Richard will develop his Mission around these themes:

Advent - the season of preparedness and anticipation.

As a community we are re-gathering and re-connecting following COVID-19 restrictions. We are entering a time when "joy and gladness" can really come to the fore. It is a time for looking forward, not back.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING Thursday Dec 17th, 5.30, with tea after.

Our Schools can have Graduation Masses capped at 150. OLHC at St Marys Murtoa Tuesday 15th, 6pm. SMJ Wednesday 16th 12noon in Church. Nhill Wednesday 16th at 6pm. SBC Yr 12 Mass Dec 9, 5.45pm

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

Thank you for Staying Connected with phone calls, texts, emails, food.

ONLINE MASSES: (Eucharistic Group Facebook page)
Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm. Sunday Mass 9am, 10.30am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: NONE this WEDNESDAY.

Tuesday 1st	5.30	Special Intentions
Wednesd 2	9.30	CWL Mass for Deceased members.
Thursd 3rd	9.30	St Francis Xavier. Kevin Doyle anniv.
Friday 4th	9.30	Anthony Hynes anniv.
Saturday 5	10am	

WELCOME BACK - WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU!
 Welcome to our Ministries and Choir

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS: Dawn Woodhead, Maxine Manwaring, Barbara Tobin (Sister-in-law of John & Joan Parker)

ANNIVERSARIES: Alberto Luciani, Bob Arnott, Joyce Mackay, Martin Ryan, Kevin Doyle, Anthony Hynes. Frank Lawson

SICK: Ken Dowsley, Des Gaynor, Heather McPhee, Shiipa Joe, Joan Glen, John McNamara, Elsie Thomas, Doris McDonald, Kobe Davison, Shane Kennedy, Norm Griffin, Rick Burchell, Mary Thompson, Bob Atkins, Moira Kelly snr, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Debbie Nolen,

Emergency Care: Contact Parish Office 5382 1155

Saturday Morning Devotions:
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9am. Rosary. Prayer of the Church. **Mass 10am.** Confessions 10.25

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent 6th December 2020

Horsham **Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am**
Murtoa **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Dimboola **Sunday Mass 10.30am**
Nhill **Sunday Mass 5pm**

Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.

Regular Activities in the Parish

Craft Group : in recess until 2021
Meditation Group: Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm.
CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm. Meeting Room.
Men's Group Meeting will be at the 3rd Thursday of the month in the Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428847455
St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm for assistance. Phone 53812371
BAPTISM PREPARATION. For enrolment and appointment contact Parish Office 53821155.
CHOIR PRACTICE Second Wednesday in the Church at 6pm.

Funeral Prayers for Dawn Woodhead this Friday December 4th at 11am in SMJ Church (private)
Memorial Mass for John Sharry Friday December 11th at 11am in SMJ Church (150 can attend)



Mr Peter Gutteridge announced to St Brigid's College Staff on Friday that he will not be seeking a 4th term as Principal. 2021 is the last year of his Contract. Over the past 16 years Peter has accumulated various leave entitlements which he will take during 2021. Catholic Education Ballarat has appointed Mr Gerard Raven, currently Deputy Principal at Sacred Heart College Geelong as Interim Principal, commencing in January 2021 while the recruitment process for a new Principal of St Brigid's College is undertaken in First Semester, with the hope of an appointment of a new Principal to commence in July 2021. College families, staff, students will be involved in the consultation process. The College will have an opportunity to farewell Peter. We thank Peter.

ROSTERS

5/6 Dec	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Micky Robarts	Anna Robertson
Commentator	Kevin Dunn	Angela Murphy
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob Hayes John Parker Maree Plazzer	Lynda Hutchinson Bob Pritchett Zita Cannane
Projector	Anita Masiero	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Combined Choir
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	Lyn Starr Nanette Freckleton
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	6th December Zita Cannane Mary Lawson Lorraine Clancy Veronica Berker	13th December Lucille Pekin Pauline Breen Sue Chalkley Judie Delahunty

FINANCE: 1st Collection—Basket (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$ 127.00
Horsham	\$ 733.35	Dimboola	\$
Total		\$ 860.35	

2nd Collection—Bag (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 921.00	Loose	\$
Total		\$ 921.00	

Philippine Typhoon Appeal: \$320.00

If you wish to give via our Parish BSB Account :
BSB: 083 680 Account: 515830337
REF: Your Envelope number/surname or put "Presbytery"

Making Connections: Waiting is the dominant symbolic activity for Advent. It is difficult for modern humans to spend time waiting. We are so used to technology making things happen almost instantly and tend to become frustrated at being made to wait. But the waiting of Advent is an active waiting, not a frittering away of time. It is a waiting spent in preparation and reflection. **Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!** This invocation of Christ is one of the most ancient prayers of the Church. It conveys the sense of urgency felt by the first believers and their hope for a swift union with Christ. It is a fine short prayer to use often during Advent.

Advent is a 4 week season of preparation for Christmas. During this time we reflect on the coming of Christ into human history as a small baby, the coming of Christ at the end of time and the coming of Christ into our own lives each day. Thus Advent has a past, present and future dimension.

Marriage Tip: Can social media harm your marriage? Set clear boundaries when it comes to using technology in your home. Instead, make time for quality time with your spouse. Christmas is traditionally a time when adult children return home and blended families gather together. This can be both a joyful and stressful time as family systems reshuffle. Be patient and remember that charity can go a long way.

Daily Prayer: Keep us faithful to building your kingdom, alert to your presence in those around us, and blameless in our witness until the dawning of the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, who was, is and who is to come.

A Vocation View: It's Advent; almost Christmas! A Season of expectation. Be on guard. The Lord calls us all to follow Him.

Liturgical Roster: The celebration of Mass relies on the assistance of volunteers. Camille has sent out new Rosters. It is presumed all who have been included on the roster (pre-Covid) will continue, unless you notify the Parish Office to the contrary. Thank you.

COUNTRY MASS TIMETABLE:

Sunday Nov 29: Murtoa 10.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 5
Sunday Dec 6: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30. Nhill 5p
Sunday Dec 13: Murtoa 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Nhill 10
Sunday Dec 20: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30. Nhill 5.
Sunday Dec 27: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30.
 Murtoa 10.30

From January 15th 2021,

Monsignor Glynn Murphy, currently Administrator of Warracknabeal and Hopetoun Parishes, is the **new Parish Priest** of Horsham, Nhill, Warracknabeal, Hopetoun.
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,.



From Sr Manuela and Sr Jesusita:

Thank you for your support \$1504 + \$320

Please leave money in an envelope marked Sr Manuela on the Collection or at the Office.

You can send your donation directly to:

Account Name: The Superior of CSSJB – Phil. Inc.
 Account Number: 2574-0384-59
 Bank: BPI North Green Hills, San Juan, M.M.
 Swift Code (BIC): BOPIPHMM



Advent Wreath and Jesse Tree.

At each weekend Mass Chris and our Choir will lead us in singing as we light each week the

Candles on our Wreath.

To our Jesse Tree you are invited to bring wrapped gifts of non-perishable food and gifts for children (write age & gender). These will be distributed by St Vincent de Paul to needy families.

Jesuit Social Services: On Thursday 3 Dec at 7.30p Jesuit Social Services: Just Voices Speakers Program, participant **Cyrus** will share the story of his journey in an online event over Zoom. Between the ages of 15-19, Cyrus slept on the streets of Melbourne. From his difficult beginning, Cyrus started his first media and entertainment business, and went on to work as a leading User Experience (UX) consultant for companies including ANZ Bank and Webjet. With brutal honesty and clarity, Cyrus talks about trusting and his journey of experiencing genuine liberation from mental anguish and suffering. Book now through TryBooking: www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=679104

If we do not have your email address please forward it to horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au to receive Parish Bulletins, Parish and Diocesan news

Taking Place This Week:

Monday—St Andrew Apostle. Tuesday—World AIDS Day. Wednesday—World International Day of Slavery Abolition. Thursday—St Francis Xavier, International Day for Persons with Disability. Friday—St Damascene, UN Bank Day. Saturday: East Timor Independence, Volunteer Day, World Soil Day



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Thursday December 24th:
Horsham: Family Mass 7pm
 (no children's story)
Mass with Choir: 10pm.
Christmas Day: 9am.

Thursday December 24th:

Murtoa: 5pm. Nhill: 5pm. Dimboola 7pm

ADVENT BEGINS TODAY

Sunday Readings from Yr B, with Mark's Gospel. Weekday Readings from Year 1.

ANOINTING MASS TUESDAY December 8th at 2pm in SMJ.

Advent Reconciliation Service Tuesday Dec 22nd at 7pm in SMJ Church. Hymns, Readings Prayers, Examination of Conscience, Fr John and Fr Peter will give Individual Absolutions.

Fr John will celebrate Horsham Masses on the weekend of December 12/13, his final Masses in Horsham. There will be cuppa after each Mass to thank Fr John and to say farewell to him.

Fr Peter will celebrate Horsham Masses on the weekend of December 19/20. There will be cuppa after each Mass to thank Fr Peter and to say farewell to him. Fr Peter will celebrate Horsham Masses on December 26/27, and then he retires.

Fr John's Farewell Mass in Dimboola will be Sunday December 13th 8.30, with a cuppa after and Murtoa on December 20th after 10.30 Mass.

Columban Calendars \$8, and Christmas Cards at the Piety Stall. Also Sacrament Gifts.



Palms Australia: Reaching Beyond 2020

People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes...See www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email palms@palms.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. Camille Del Castillo

Child Safety Standards. Ss Michael & John Parish has **Bob Pritchett** and **Jill McGennissen** 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: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours is like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see, Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon

your name. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation: Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Gospel Reflection: SunBAdvent01 Veronica Lawson rsm:

Eyes wide open” is the proper stance for gospel people. The little parable that is the gospel reading for this first Sunday of the new liturgical year forms the conclusion to Mark’s so-called apocalyptic discourse. Apocalyptic literature emerged within Judaism in the context of crisis or persecution. It was intended to provide hope in the midst of disaster: God’s coming can reverse the sufferings of the present. The Markan discourse is delivered as a farewell teaching to the inner circle of Jesus’ disciples. The concluding verse indicates that it is intended for a wider audience, however: “what I say to you, I say to all...” Like Peter, James, and John, Christian disciples through the ages are invited to stay awake, to be on the lookout, to be alert. This cycle of the liturgical year begins and ends with Mark 13 and a focus on the end of the present order of things. It may seem strange to begin the year with such a reflection. Is Advent not a time of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Christ child into the world? Mark has no account of the birth of Jesus. His gospel begins with the immediate preparation for the adult ministry of Jesus. From the very outset, his interest is in the coming of God’s reign of justice and compassion. That is, in fact, what Advent

is about: living in hopeful expectation that God’s dream for a transformed world might be realised. The parable of the watchful gatekeeper forms the conclusion to a farewell discourse that the Markan Jesus addresses to his disciples. The disciples are told to be alert and watchful through the four watches of the Roman night: in the evening, at midnight, at cockcrow, and at dawn. The parable thus foreshadows aspects of Jesus’ suffering that was to be compounded by the abandonment of his closest friends. Peter, James, and John will fall asleep in Gethsemane. The disciples will all disperse and Peter will deny him. We find our own experience mirrored in that of the disciples. It is easy to lose hope in the face of overwhelming violence and even to lose focus. Advent is about recognising our own tendency to be less than vigilant and even to turn away when our presence is most needed. It is about allowing the grace of God to take hold in our hearts, keeping us watchful for the sake of those on the edge and for the sake of a regenerated Earth. Most of us would agree that our Earth communities are in crisis. We need to be alert to causes as well as to consequences so that the cycles of violence might eventually be broken. Our gospel asks no less of us.

Next Week ‘s Gospel (2nd Week of Advent): Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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Advent has a two fold purpose: to prepare for Christmas Christ’s birth, to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time



Sacrament Mass at SMJ Church.

Today at 12 noon Mass, we welcome these children, their families and Sponsors, to celebrate the Sacraments

of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. We thank the Families for their support during this difficult year, and Alison McKinnon for coordinating our Programme.

The children celebrating today are:

Evie Ward, Oliver King, Finn O’Loughlin, Poppy Murray, Elodie Dickinson, Charlie Hobbs, Jack Robertson, Cooper and Neeve Robertson, Declan Tuohey, Gretel Blake.