

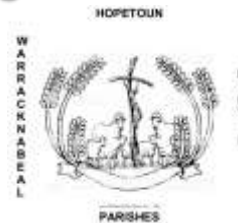


Ss. Michael & John's Parish



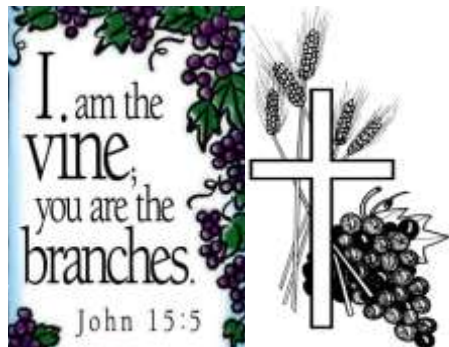
West Wimmera & South-Western Mallee District Parishes

Horsham – Dimboola - Murtoa – Natimuk - Rupanyup - Nhill - Kaniva - Warracknabeal - Hopetoun - Minyip - Rainbow - Beulah



BULLETIN

5th Sunday of Easter - Year B - 2nd May 2021



PATRONAGE OF MERGED PARISH REGION

In Diocesan pastoral planning over some years, it has emerged that from 2021 the merger of Hopetoun, Nhill, Horsham and Warracknabeal parishes into **one parish** will be brought about by a decree from Bishop Paul, our Diocesan Bishop. Every church and school **maintain** the patronage (prayers) of the saints that have been dedicated to their spiritual care: St Mary, St Joseph, St Augustine, St Patrick, Sts Michael and John, etc.

However, we seek an 'overarching patronage' for the entire new parish pastoral region (21,300 sq. kms). By such patronage **our region** (with its 10 churches and 6 Catholic schools) will be known, when referred to as a whole.

Any parishioner wishing to suggest a saint or saints (or angels) for this honoured patronage is invited to **lodge their suggestion at the Parish Office** by **Friday 21st MAY**. Mons Glynn will consider any/all suggested patronage and discuss them with Bishop Paul, prior to a decision being reached.

CONTACTS:

Parish Priest: *Mons. Glynn Murphy*

Contact No:
0419 683 773

Assistant Priest: *Fr Jim McKay*
Contact No: 0418 664 083

Horsham Parish Secretary:
Camille Del Castillo

Horsham Office Phone:
(03) 5382 1155

Email:
horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Address:
PO Box 212,
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham 3400

NOMINATIONS: PASTORAL COUNCIL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Nominations are being called across our Parish region for **membership/ministry** within either the (to be merged and expanded) *Pastoral Council or the Finance Committee*. Meetings will be monthly to 6-weekly, or sooner as might be occasionally suitable. Statutes will be reviewed in early meetings, to ensure we have bodies that best assist the pastoral and resource ministry of our wide and diverse Parish region, from city to farmland. Diocesan guidelines and regulations will be respected.

Attendance at meetings will be possible either personally (at parish centre) or via internet conference connection – for members where family constraints exist or distance provides some 'tyranny'. (Something good out of a 'covid year' gone.)

Therefore, **any interested and committed** parishioner can participate!

Nominations for either Council or Committee (or both) membership are requested – in writing and signed – at the Parish Office by **COB Monday 31st MAY**.

June will see the launch of both expanded ministry bodies, for the benefit of our Parish life. This will set us in good stead for the expected 1st July merging of our 4 into 1 parish, of many faith communities. God bless! Mons Glynn.

NOTICES FOR BULLETINS:

To our church representatives; please submit any upcoming notices to Camille by **Thursday**. Thank you.

If you would like to keep up with our Weekly Bulletin electronically,

Please send your email address to horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au or call (03) 5382 1155.

Praying with Pope Francis

Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service.

Universal intention for the month of May: Evangelisation – finance:

"Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers."

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday 3 May	9.00am	Warracknabeal
Tuesday 4 May	9.00am 9.30am	Warracknabeal Horsham
Wednesday 5 May	9.00am 9.30am	Warracknabeal Horsham
Thursday 6 May	9.00am 9.30am	Warracknabeal Horsham
Friday 7 May	9.00am 9.30am	Warracknabeal Horsham
Saturday 8 May	9.00am 9.30am	Warracknabeal Horsham

2021 National Mass Count of Attendance

Mass Counts will take place during weekends in May.

CWL Meeting: Wednesday 5th May 2021, 1.30pm at the Horsham Parish Meeting room

Latest COVID Requirements:

Wearing a mask is no longer mandatory in churches. However, it is recommended when we cannot distance 1.5m apart.

ROSTERS, TIMETABLES & FINANCES

Child Safety Standards: (Ss Michael & John Parish)
Bob Pritchett and Jill McGinnisken are our Safeguarding Officers.
 We have a **Child Safety Policy** to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **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.

HORSHAM MINISTRY ROSTER

1/2 May	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Eucharistic Ministers	Anne Newton Bernadette Trounce Micky Robarts	Timothy Lannen Karen Hill Lynda Hutchinson
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Dianne Noy
Reader	Maree Plazzer	Michael Connellan
8/9 May	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Reader	Anthony Amor	Anna Robertson
Commentator	Micky Robarts	Angela Murphy
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Jacinta Rice Joan Parker Lorraine Clancy	Bob Pritchett Zita Cannane Andrea Cox
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Robarts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	Nanette Freckleton Lyn Starr
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	9th May Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda tursi	16th May Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEK

2nd Weekend of the Month:

Horsham: Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am
 Dimboola: Sunday 8.30am
 Beulah: Saturday 6pm (Winter season)
 Warracknabeal: Sunday 8.30am
 Minyip: Sunday 10am
 Murtoa: Sunday Lay-led Assembly (LLA) 9am
 Hopetoun: Sunday LLA 9am
 Rainbow: Sunday LLA 10am
 Nhill: Sunday LLA 10am

OTHER MASSES:

Natimuk: 6.30pm Tuesday 4 May at Mark & Elaine Uebergang's home at 1 Mitchell Street Natimuk.

Rupanyup: Next session is to be confirmed...

FINANCE: 1st Collection (Presbytery Account):

Natimuk	\$	Murtoa	\$
Horsham	\$ 1061.00	Dimboola	\$ 99.00
Total		\$ 1160.00	

2nd Collection (Parish Account)

Envelopes	\$ 650.00	Loose	\$ 42.20
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit	\$
Total		\$ 692.20	

The Shared Table Project

Fr Michael McKinnon invites us again this year to share one plate of food a day from our table with a child living in poverty in Lima.
[The 2021 report and forms to make a donation are now available at the Church Foyers \(to be submitted to Horsham Parish Office\).](#)

NHILL LITURGY ROSTER

	May 2: LLA 10am	May 9: LLA 10am
Reader & Prayers	M Millington	C Kennedy
Lay Leaders	I Dart	M Millington
Eucharistic Minister	C Kennedy	J Gurry
Offertory	-	-
Monthly Collector	J Millington	J Millington
Counter	J Kennedy	E Cameron
Cleaning	A Munro	A Munro

HOPETOUN CHURCH ROSTER

	May 2: Mass 9am	May 9: LLA 9am
Readers	Neha Koor	Coral Cox
Offertory/ Lay-led	Koor Family	Joan Bellinger & Marilyn Clancy
Ministers	-	Olive Wellington

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN SMJ CHURCH HORSHAM:

Morning Craft Group:

Mondays @ Parish Office Meeting Room, 9.30-11.30am.

Meditation Group:

Tuesdays 2pm in the Church Meeting Room.

Choir Practice:

6pm, 2nd Wednesday of the each month.

Stations of the Cross:

Fridays, 10.30am at the Church with Fr Jim McKay.

Saturday Morning Devotions:

8.30am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
 8.50am - Rosary and prayers of the Church,
 9.30am Saturday Morning Mass

Please note: Public Holidays, Seasons and times where the Priest/Coordinator is away are observed.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH (Warracknabeal) —2021 LITURGY ROSTER

Date & Time	Time	Readers	Prayers	Offertory	Collectors	Special Ministers
May 1: Sat.	6.30pm	D Baxter	D. Baxter	L. Gibson/K. Moloney	D & K Baxter	M Muller & J McFarlane
May 9: Sun	8.30am	J McFarlane	J. McFarlane	M & J Lardner	D & K Baxter	M Lardner & K Downes

EVENTS, NOTICES & PRAYERS

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS: Lily Flanagan, Terry O'Callaghan

ANNIVERSARIES: Terry Turvey, Michael Reinsma, Sr Veronica Carr, Terence Keenan, Allitt Robinson, Nell Mullins

SICK: Ken Dowsley, Des Gaynor, Heather McPhee, Shilpa Joe, Joan Glen, Elsie Thomas, Doris McDonald, Kobe Davidson, Mary Thompson, Bob Atkins, Moira Kelly snr, Jill & Christie Higginbottom, Debbie Nolen, Kevin & Maureen Clancy, John Hickey, Les White, Leo Bourke, Laurie Grayling, Pat Hateley, Patricia Simpson, Ted Haynes, Helen Polack, Brendan Frew

ANOINTING AT HOME:

On request to Fr Jim McKay - mobile number: 0418 664 083. Or Contact the Parish office at 5382 1155.

*To all Ministers of the Eucharist who visit the Hospitals/Nursing Homes in our Parish:
Please contact Fr Jim to plan/schedule for Anointing Masses in the homes/hospitals which you visit.
We thank you for your ministry.*

All trades and professions are being called to **share your skills** to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. Enquire now by visiting palms.org.au, or call 02 9560 5333



St Vincent de Paul April Media Release:
This year, during National Youth Week 16-24 April, the National Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia celebrated the growing number of younger people who enthusiastically give their time and expertise to help others. According to a media release from Vinnies, 28,500 people under the age of 40 make up more than a third of the volunteer base.
Read more at: https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/News/National_Media_Releases/National_Media_Releases_2021/Media_release_test/



Plenary Council Program:
Share your thoughts and become part of the discussion to help us understand the current realities of the Catholic Church in Australia. Visit: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

A way to re-ignite the spark:

An invitation to all in the diocese to join a conversation about faith during and after COVID-19, looking at people's experiences, where to next and how does the Plenary Council fit in. Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7.00pm via zoom – you can zoom in yourself or perhaps organise a zoom gathering in your local community and join together. Please register with Jane Collins jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au and details will be sent.

Help for marriages under stress:

The BreakThrough Online Course created by SmartLoving will enable you to identify your conflict triggers, learn strategies to de-escalate an argument and find constructive ways to re-establish connection. Restore hope for your relationship's future. Visit: smartloving.org/breakthrough Divine Mercy Discount - 50% | until May 10, 2021.



SAFE CHURCH AWARENESS WORKSHOP

A safe Church Awareness Workshop will be held on May 22nd at Horsham Church of Christ. Runs from 9.30am—4pm Cost \$45.00 (**PARISH FUNDED**) which we would like to see all our volunteers attend.

This workshop is a detailed look at all the requirements by volunteers, staff and clergy in our Diocese.

Please contact the office if you are interested.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are changes to Victoria's COVIDSafe settings from 11.59pm on Friday, April 9, 2021. <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony>. Further information is also available from the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

PRAYER FOR SICK and CARERS:

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source and creator of all healing power. We entrust our sick to your loving care. We pray your blessings upon all in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice care, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort in pain, of hope in times of despair, woundedness, sorrow, their solace and inspiration when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them with courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and love. Bless caregivers, as channels of your love, they are your hands on earth. Give them gentleness as they help the sick, give them respect for their dignity and value to You... Give carers and helpers patience and courage as they manage their time, to best serve those who are needful of their care, to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands and when they need your enduring help. Give them love and understanding to be a caring companion, on the path of pain and sadness with the sick. Bless the ministry of those who take Holy Communion to the elderly, sick, in Homes or in Hospital.

Making Connections: 'Cut off from me you can do nothing.' How are you connected to Christ? In what ways are you connected to all the other 'branches' who are the followers of Christ.

Exploring the Word: The vine carries the idea of the life which flows into the branches from the thick stalk of the vine. Jesus becomes that giver of life and prosperity, but behind his life-giving presence is the Father. Jesus exists to make the Father known and so it must be with disciples of Jesus.

Living the Word: 'Make your home in me'. Jesus invites his disciples to place complete trust in him and not be distracted by the cares of the world. Being 'at home' is a powerful image appealing to the desire of all people for acceptance, love and security. Even if our lives are troubled, in Jesus we can always be secure and at peace.

Marriage Tip: Always think loving thoughts. Never let evil creep in with negative talk.

Daily Prayer: As a Vinegrower, O God, you have grafted us onto Christ, that we may abide as living branches joined to the true Vine. Bestow on us the comforting presence of your Holy Spirit, so that, loving one another with a love that is sincere, we may be the firstfruits of a humanity made new.



Aid to the Church in Need Australia: Consider offering up a Mass for your loved ones and supporting priests in need. Visit www.aidtochurch.org/ways-to-give/mass-offerings for more info.

First Reading: Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 21:26-28, 30-32

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.'

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Gospel Reflection by Veronica Lawson rsm: SunBEaster5

15:1-8 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. Again and again, life's experiences teach us that, as members of the Earth community, we cannot make it on our own. We need one another, other living beings, the sun, the soil, the water and everything else that formed from exploding stars in the distant past. The gospel reading reminds us that as baptised Christians we are not just intimately interlinked but that the source of our unity is the Risen Christ. As limbs and leaves and sap of the same vine, we simply cannot survive in isolation. The vine image

picks up one of the most potent biblical images for God's relationship to the people of Israel. It is an image of life and growth, of colour and vibrancy. It holds the promise of a life-sustaining grape harvest that is ultimately transformed into wine, the biblical symbol for joy. God brought Israel "the vine" out of Egypt (Psalm 80:9). For the prophet Isaiah, Israel is also a vineyard planted and nurtured by God (5:1-7; 27:3). For Jeremiah, Israel is the choice vine "of fully tested stock" planted by God (2:21). The Johannine Jesus makes the claim: "I am the true vine/vineyard" and God is the "vinegrower". He goes further: "I am the vine/vineyard and you are the branches". The potency of this image resides in the fact that a vine without branches is inconceivable. It draws us into the mystery of the mutual interchange of life between us and the risen Christ, into the mystery of God. It also invites us to acknowledge our interconnection with the whole of the Earth community, to nurture the wonderful biodiversity of our planet, and to accept the inevitability of "pruning" if we are to "bear fruit" and "become disciples". "Pruning" can take various forms. A chance encounter, a sudden inspiration, a word from a friend, an unexpected illness, a confronting story: any such experience can bring us to our senses and serve as a "pruning" device.



Catholic Education Week: May 23-29.
Theme: "Faith in the Future."
In celebration of 200 Years of Catholic

Education in Australia: A central focus will be the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, on **May 24**.

Join together across Australia in thanksgiving & prayer for the future of Catholic education.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

God, my creator, breathe on me, renew me, refresh me, extend my abilities, comfort me in adjusting to changes in health, mobility and activity. Body of Jesus Christ flow through every fibre of my being. Keep me well, and hope filled, always. Holy Spirit use me in my situation, for the good of others. Amen.

