



St. Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee

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

BULLETIN

Baptism of the Lord - YEAR C 12th January 2025

EMAIL ISSUE

We have identified an internal issue with our weekly bulletin **NOT** being sent to **gmail** email accounts.

Unfortunately this means some people may not have received our last 2 bulletins. If you would like any previous copies, please visit the Parish Office.

We will endeavour to get this issue sorted as soon as possible.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED - MASS

We are currently **calling for volunteers** for the Ss Michael & John Church Roster and St Mary's Warracknabeal Roster. If you are interested, or need more details contact:

St Marys: (David Baxter): tedbax17@gmail.com

Horsham: wimmeramallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Or visit the Parish Office

METANOIA

LENTEN PROGRAM 2025

Journey through Lent with our **Metanoia—Lenten Program 2025!**

The Lenten Program Book includes a daily reflection from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday for personal reflection in addition to longer-form Sunday scripture reflections, readings, responsorial psalms, prayers and reflection questions that are a traditional part of group Lenten programs.

Please contact the Parish Office to order your copy for individual and or group purchases.



CONTACTS

Parish Priest

Mons. Glynn Murphy
Ph: 0419 683 773

Assistant Priest

Fr Sajan Mathew
Ph: 0416 194 825

Parish Office

CLOSED MONDAYS

Office Hours: **TUES - FRI**
9am-12.30pm - 1.30pm-4.00pm
Closed between 12.30pm -1.30pm

Ph: (03) 5382 1155

Staff

Olivia & Josh

Please submit notices for our weekly Bulletin to the Parish Office by **C.O.B Thursday**.
Thank you

Email

wimmeramallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Address

10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham.

Mailing

PO Box 212, Horsham, VIC.
3400

Website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/wimmera-mallee/>

Mass Livestreaming

Vigil Mass will be livestreamed from the Horsham Church at 6.30pm Saturday Night and will be available to watch 'live', or for replay viewing at a time convenient.

(Recordings will be available until Friday each week)

YouTube Channel Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@smjchurchhorsham/streams>

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 14th January	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Wednesday 15th January	NO MASS	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Thursday 16th January	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Friday 17th January	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
	6.30pm	Syro-Malabar Rite Mass (Horsham)
Saturday 18th January	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham

<u>HORSHAM MINISTRY ROSTER</u>			<u>WARRACKNABEAL LITURGY ROSTER</u>		
<u>11th & 12th January</u>	<u>6.30pm Vigil</u>	<u>10.30am Sunday</u>		<u>12th January Mass 8.30am</u>	<u>19th January Mass 8.30am</u>
Reader	Maree Plazzer	Anna Robertson	Reader	D. Baxter	M. Aitken
Commentator	Emelia Sudholz	Dianne Noy	Prayers	D. Baxter	K. Downes
Eucharist Ministers	Geoff Simpson Micky Roberts Cath Taylor	Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon Fay Wills	Collectors	D. & K. Baxter	D. & K. Baxter
<u>18th & 19th January</u>	<u>6.30pm Vigil</u>	<u>10.30am Sunday</u>	Cleaning	T. McKenzie K. Moloney	T. McKenzie K. Moloney
Reader	Anthony Amor	Alison McKinnon	<u>NHILL LITURGY ROSTER</u>		
Commentator	May Rosello	Bob Pritchett		<u>12th January Mass 11am</u>	<u>19th January Mass 11am</u>
Eucharist Ministers	Anne Newton Bernadette Trounce Maree Plazzer	Zita Cannane Rosie Taylor Karen Hill	Sacristan	J. Gurry	C. Kennedy
Projector	Geoff Simpson	<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</u>	Reader	I. Dart	M. Millington
Musicians	Embedded	Embedded	Collector	J. Millington	J. Millington
Livestream	Geoff Simpson	N/A	Music	Gwin	Gwin
Welcomers	Connie Besselaar Pat Glaubitz	Denise Vallance Helene Bush	Cleaning	M. Millington	M. Millington
Tea/Coffee After Mass	N/A	Jayson Agustin Janeth, Pam, Ruby Maria, June	<u>HOPETOUN LITURGY ROSTER</u>		
Prayers	Anita Masiero & Mary Dagleish			<u>11th January Vigil 6.30pm</u>	<u>18th January Vigil 6.30pm</u>
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	<u>19th January</u> Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi	<u>26th January</u> Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn	Reader	Coral Cox	Marilyn Clancy
Child Safety Standards: St Paul VI Parish Bob Pritchett is our Safeguarding Officer, Horsham and Cynthia Maiden , Hopetoun. A Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct has been adopted for all who work with children and vulnerable adults in the Parish, to ensure the safety of all. <i>Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish.</i>			Offertory	Kevin & Maureen	Claire & Kevin
HOLY COMMUNION TO SICK, ELDERLY OR HOUSE BOUND Any family members who are aware of relatives (or friends) in the above situations who would like to receive Holy Communion at their place of residence. Please advise details to our Parish Office at any time. Ministry will be arranged.			Eucharistic Minister	N/A	N/A
<u>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</u> THIS WEEKEND 2nd Sunday of the month: <u>11th & 12th January</u> Horsham: Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am Hopetoun: Saturday Vigil 6.30pm Dimboola: Sunday Mass 8.30am Warracknabeal: Sunday Mass 8.30am Nhill: Sunday Mass 11am Murtoa: Sunday LLA 9.00am Minyip: Sunday LLA 10am Rainbow: Sunday LLA 10am Beulah: Sunday LLA 9.30am			<u>RUPANYUP MASS</u> TBA <u>NATIMUK MASS</u> TBA		
<u>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</u> NEXT WEEKEND 3rd Sunday of the month: <u>18th & 19th January</u> Horsham: Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am Hopetoun: Saturday Vigil 6.30pm Murtoa: Sunday Mass 8.30am Warracknabeal: Sunday Mass 8.30am Nhill: Sunday Mass 11am Beulah: Sunday LLA 9.30am Dimboola: No LLA Rainbow: Sunday LLA 10am Minyip: Sunday LLA 10am			<u>Our Parish Finance</u> For all wishing to support either our Parish or Clergy through online banking transfer: St Paul VI Parish Account (NAB) BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830337 <i>(Please state envelope number and name)</i> St Paul VI Presbytery (Clergy Support) Account (NAB) BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830345 The option of regular automatic Direct Debit contributions can be arranged by contacting our office. <i>All amounts are an active support to our faith</i>		

PARISH EVENTS AND NOTICES

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS

Michael O'Brien (Melbourne), Jodi White,
Jeanette Kershaw, David Phelan

ANNIVERSARIES

SICK OR INJURED

Pat Hateley, Ted Haynes, Alex Kavoor, Elliot Pumpa,
Kevin Clancy, Bernie Ryan, Brendan McKinnon,
Cynthia Maiden, Peter James, Noel Kearns,
Patricia Simpson, Frank White, David Gillard, Jason
O'Connell, Tim Clancy, Cassie Simpson,
Jean Simpson, Adam Cooper, Joan McNamara

Prayer for January The right to an education

*Let us pray for migrants,
refugees and those affected by war,
that their right to an education,
which is necessary to build a better world,
might always be respected.*

Lord, hear us.

2025 Sacramental Program

Reconciliation – Holy Communion – Confirmation

Reconciliation & Holy Communion available to
children in Year 4 and above.

Confirmation is available for children in Year 6 and
above who have completed Reconciliation & Holy
Communion.

Enrolments close - Friday 14th Feb at 4pm

If you would like more information or to enrol your
child, please visit the Parish Office at 10 Roberts Ave
or Email: wimmeramallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au



St Vincent de Paul

A representative of St Vincent de Paul is available to assess
and assist cases in **Horsham** on

Mon and Fri mornings between 11am - 12noon

Appointments essential - Phone **5381 2371** to book.

Next Weekend's Readings - Second Sunday Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5

Response: Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95: 1-3, 7-10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

St Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee has six schools governed by DOBCEL

Schools can be contacted at the details below.



St Joseph's Primary School, Hopetoun

Principal: Cynthia Maiden

Contact: 5083 3296

principal@sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Primary School, Warracknabeal

Principal: Julie Leonard

Contact: 5398 2001

principal@smwarracknabeal.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Primary School, Nhill

Principal: Kingsley Dalgleish

Contact: 5391 1575

principal@sphill.catholic.edu.au

St Brigid's College, Horsham (Secondary)

Principal: Gerard Raven

Contact: 5382 3545

principal@stbc.vic.edu.au

Ss Michael and John Primary School, Horsham

Principal: Louise Chesterfield

Contact: 5382 3000

principal@smjhorsham.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christian's Primary School, Murtoa

Principal: Chris McCumstie

Contact: 0434 508 994

principal@olhcmurtoa.catholic.edu.au

As partners in Catholic education and open to God's presence, we pursue fullness of life for all.

ACTIVITIES IN SMJ CHURCH HORSHAM

Morning Craft Group

The Craft Group gather weekly in the Parish Office meeting room
on Wednesdays, 9.30am - 11.30am

Choir Practice

2nd Wednesday of the month, 4pm at the Church
Any newcomers always welcome

Men's Fellowship

Breakfast - **3rd Thursday** of the month
7.30am - 8.30am at the Parish Hall. All men welcome.

Meditation Group

The Meditation Group will resume the first Tuesday in February, 2025

Prayer Group

Will resume Wednesday 5th February 2025.

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace

Forgive us our trespasses, Lord,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

In this cycle of forgiveness, grant us your peace,
the peace that you alone can give
to those who let themselves be disarmed in heart,
to those who choose in hope to forgive the debts of
their brothers and sisters,
to those who are unafraid to confess their
debt to you, and to those who do not close their
ears to the cry of the poor.

SUNDAY MASS

12th January 2025

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

'Console my people, console them,' says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103: 1-4, 24-25, 27-30

R. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch our the heavens like a tent.

Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servant.

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small.

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill.

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

R. Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to Titus 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 3;16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Much has been written about John the Baptist and his role in the gospel. In many ways, he is portrayed as a bit of a firebrand – he preaches with a sense of urgency that is both critical of his listeners but which demands immediate repentance.

In the verse immediately prior to today's Gospel reading, his language is condemnatory: 'You brood of vipers...Who warned you to flee from impending doom...even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees.' John even raised the ire of Herod Antipas whose adulterous relationship with his brother's wife, Herodias, John condemned.

Little wonder that his words induced fear in his listeners and forced them to exclaim: 'Teacher, what should we do?' The one exception here was Herod himself who removed John from the scene and had him summarily executed.

Luke notes that at this particular point in time – a time he situates historically at the start of this particular chapter – there was a sense of expectancy among the people. John's voice in the midst of this expectancy is 'of one crying in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.' It is a time now not of *promise* of a Messiah as we read so often in the Old Testament prophets but, as one writer puts it,

the start of a time of *fulfilment* – a fulfilment of the prophecies of the angel Gabriel to Mary, the fulfilment of the promises to Zechariah, John's father, and, of course, the fulfilment of the prophecies of Isaiah of which we read in the First Reading.

John's baptismal practice is portrayed as a cleansing ritual, so that all will be 'clean', as it were, for when the Lord appears: 'I baptise you with water' – it is water only. When the Messiah comes, John says, 'he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire'. Immediately, our minds are alerted to the start of Luke's other New Testament book, the Acts of the Apostles where tongues of fire appeared on everyone's head at Pentecost and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. The start of the Church is characterised by the gift of the Spirit which comes down on Jesus at his baptism and who appears as tongues of fire on the heads of the apostles. John's baptism is completed, as it were, by faith in the one whose God's favour now rests upon – God's Son, the Beloved.

The words of Isaiah in the First Reading bear the hallmarks of a special commissioning of those whom God is calling – messengers – to prepare a new way: not the old way of Moses in the desert but a 'straight highway for our God...where the glory of the Lord will be revealed.' The voice of

God implores the messengers to 'console my people...speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her...' It is the messenger who will exclaim: 'here is your God,' who is 'like a shepherd feeding his flock.' The references here are not lost on us, as Jesus himself later in the gospel identifies as the Good Shepherd tending his flocks.

We find in the Second Reading – St Paul's Letter to Titus – almost a blueprint for living the Christian life, a life that leads to God. The theme of today's Mass is once more reiterated here in baptismal images of the cleansing water of rebirth and renewal in the Spirit which enable us to be one with Jesus and heirs to the kingdom.

So, what does this mean for us today? Today's readings talk of putting aside the old and embracing the new: a new way of the Lord, a new life of water and the Holy Spirit, an end of prophet ministry and the start of the new saving ministry of Jesus. As we begin this new year of 2025, let us put aside those old aspects of our lives that are holding us back and let us embrace all that the Spirit of God puts into our hearts so that we can transform ourselves both inwardly and outwardly to be people of peace, of compassion and hope.