



St. Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee

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

BULLETIN



Third Sunday of Lent - YEAR C 23rd March, 2025

Bulletin Email Issues

We are aware of spasmodic issues with the delivery of bulk emails to Gmail addresses, unfortunately this is out of our control, however if you have any issues in receiving the bulletin, it can also be found on the Diocese of Ballarat Website by 3.30pm each Friday afternoon.
<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/wimmera-mallee/>

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 & Naomi
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>

COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE

For those who choose, Holy Communion is again available from the chalice at Sunday Mass across St Paul VI Parish. The method/point of distribution will vary dependent upon the church location. (Size of congregation, access aisles, etc.) Such distribution locations in a church **may change over future weeks**, dependent upon 'test and adjust' for best ease of access and return to seating for communicants. We will monitor from week to week in each location. Parishioners are always free to return to their seats after receiving Holy Communion through the host alone, without the chalice.



**MASS OF THANKSGIVING
- Kaniva Church**

After almost a century since it was opened, a final Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered on the grounds of St Michael's Church, Kaniva at **1pm** on Sunday **6th April**. Former parish families, parishioners and others are invited to 'bring a chair and a hat' for the **out-door Mass**, celebrated beside the church.

The church itself has been closed for some time and there are elements of structural insecurity that present some OH&S risks inside the building.

We give thanks to God for the generations whose faith was nourished and sustained by the Sacraments, prayer and spiritual life of St Michael's community. An opportunity for social gathering, sharing memories and catching up with past families/parishioners will be available after Mass, at *Little Guys Pizza and Café*, Kaniva.

WEEKDAY MASSES

	9.30am	
Tuesday 25th March	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Wednesday 26th March	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Thursday 27th March	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
Friday 28th March	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham
	10.30am	Sunnyside Lutheran Rest Home Mass
	6.00pm 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross - Syro Malabar Rite - Horsham Syro-Malabar Rite Mass - Horsham
Saturday 29th March	9.30am	Warracknabeal
	9.30am	Horsham

HORSHAM MINISTRY ROSTER

<u>22nd & 23rd March</u>	<u>6.30pm Vigil</u>	<u>10.30am Mass</u>
Reader	Betty Heinrich	Dianne Noy
Commentator	Kevin Dunn	May Rosello
Eucharist Ministers	Micky Roberts Cath Taylor	Nerrida Holland Gerard Raven Alison McKinnon
<u>29th & 30th March</u>	<u>6.30pm Vigil</u>	<u>10.30am Mass</u>
Reader	John Parker	Alison McKinnon
Commentator	Anthony Amor	Bob Pritchett
Eucharist Ministers	Anne Newton Bernadette Trounce Maree Plazzer	Faye Wills Rosie Taylor Bob Pritchett
Projector	Geoff Simpson	Robert Sartori
Musicians	Embedded	Embedded
Livestream	Geoff Simpson	N/A
Welcomers	Gary Coutts	Alistair Castle
Tea/Coffee After Mass	N/A	Janeth, Pam Ruby, Maria May
Prayers	Anita Masiero & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	23rd March Josie Phelan Pauline Irwin Joan Butler Margo Hogan	30th March Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi Louise Guest

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.
Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish.

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.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES **THIS WEEKEND**

4th Sunday of the month: 22nd & 23rd March

Horsham: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am**
Dimboola: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Warracknabeal: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Beulah: **Saturday Vigil 7pm**
Nhill: **Sunday Mass 11am**
Minyip: **Sunday LLA 10am**
Murtoa: **Sunday LLA 9am**
Hopetoun: **Sunday LLA 9am**
Rainbow: **Sunday LLA 10am**

WARRACKNABEAL LITURGY ROSTER

	<u>23rd March Mass 8.30am</u>	<u>30th March Mass 8.30am</u>
Reader	L Casey	A Van den Akker
Prayers	K Downes	M Farrell
Collectors	B Bentley & L Downes	B Bentley & L Downes
Cleaning	F Casey & O Phelan	F Casey & O Phelan

NHILL LITURGY ROSTER

	<u>23rd March Mass 11am</u>	<u>30th March Mass 11am</u>
Sacristan	J Gurry	A Munro
Reader	M Millington	J Gurry
Collector	J Kennedy	J Kennedy
Music	Quyen	Quyen
Cleaning	C Kennedy	C Kennedy

HOPETOON LITURGY ROSTER

	<u>23rd March LLA 9am</u>	<u>30th March LLA 9am</u>
Reader	Lana & Toby	Ellerdy Seipolt
Collectors	Jacki & Brian	Claire & Kevin
Offertory	Claire & Marilyn	Cynthia & Joan
Eucharistic Minister	Cynthia Maiden	Marilyn Clancy

RUPANYUP MASS

TBA

NATIMUK MASS

TBA

Our Parish Finance

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

(Please state envelope number and name)

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.

All amounts are an active support to our faith community and are greatly appreciated.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES **NEXT WEEKEND**

5th Sunday of the month: 29th & 30th March

Horsham: **Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am**
Nhill: **Sunday Mass 11am**
Minyip: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Warracknabeal: **Sunday Mass 8.30am**
Murtoa: **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30pm**
Hopetoun: **Sunday LLA 9am**
Dimboola: **No LLA**
Beulah: **Sunday LLA 9.30am**
Rainbow: **Sunday LLA 10am**

PARISH EVENTS AND NOTICES

Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS

ANNIVERSARIES

Alan McGennisken, John & Patricia McCluskey, John Baviello
Kerry Hartigan, Norma Grayling

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, Tim Clancy,
Cassie Simpson, Jean Simpson, Adam Cooper,
Mary Hallam



Third Sunday of Lent 22nd and 23rd of March 2025

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. **Or online at:** caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413 413.

Next Weekend's Readings Fourth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-7
Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

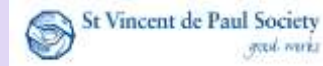
Pope Francis' message for Lent

"Let Us Journey Together in Hope" is Pope Francis' message for Lent 2025. He reminds us that we cannot stay where it is comfortable, that we must always accompany others, and that we must always do everything with the hope that never disappoints. The Dicastery for Integral Human Development have provided resources for Lent. (Web-Vatican)

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.



**Warracknabeal Conference of
St Vincent de Paul will meet at St Mary's Church
Warracknabeal on Wednesday 26 March at 2:00pm.**

**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 Dalglish
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.**

NHILL LUNCHEON THANK YOU!

The Nhill Faith Community of St Paul VI Parish, would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to all who attended the luncheon at the Farmer's Arms in Nhill, last Friday. Special thanks also to those who travelled substantial distances to be with us. It was great to share a meal and spend quality time in conversation with people from many of the St Paul VI Parish Communities. Please know how much your attendance was valued, appreciated, and enjoyed. May God continue to bless and keep all in the St Paul VI Parish.

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 meet weekly on Tuesdays at 2pm in the Church meeting room.

Prayer Group

Prayer Group meet 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 1.30pm in the Church meeting room.

Sunday Mass

23rd March 2025

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father's' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: 'I Am has sent me to you' and God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered.

It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.