



# St. Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee

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

## BULLETIN

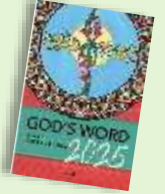
### 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

8th December 2024

#### Publications Available for Purchase



Delivery of **God's Word 2025** has arrived.  
Please contact the office to secure your copy.  
**\$20 each**



A limited supply of **The Light** for Advent and Christmas daily reflections are also available at the Parish Office.  
**\$8 each**

**2025 Columban Calendars** and packs of Christmas cards are available through the St Vincent de Paul piety store which is open after weekend Masses, located in the Horsham church foyer.

#### St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The society of St. Vincent de Paul is now conducting its annual Christmas Appeal. Previously there has been a strong response from our Parish Community and we hope that can continue.

Thank you again for all your support to this ministry.

#### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE



##### Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

##### Christmas Day Mass

5.30pm Murtoa

9am - Warracknabeal

5.30pm Hopetoun

7pm Horsham - Carols  
7.30pm Horsham - Mass

9am - Horsham

8.00pm Nhill

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 10th December

5pm

Warracknabeal

5pm

Horsham

Wednesday 11th December

NO MASS

Warracknabeal

9.30am

Horsham

Thursday 12th December

9.30am

Warracknabeal

12pm

Funeral Mass - Maurice White

Friday 13th December

9.30am

Warracknabeal

9.30am

Horsham

Saturday 14th December

9.30am

Warracknabeal

9.30am

Horsham

#### Funeral Mass for

**Maurice Leslie White**

Ss Michael & John Church, Horsham

Thursday 12th December at 12pm

Rosary will be offered at 6pm on Wednesday the 11th December



#### 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](mailto: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 are deleted weekly, and will be available until Friday each week)

##### YouTube Channel Link:

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

<b>HORSHAM MINISTRY ROSTER</b>			<b>WARRACKNABEAL LITURGY ROSTER</b>		
<b>7th &amp; 8th December</b>	<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	<b>10.30am Sunday</b>		<b>8th December Mass 8.30am</b>	<b>15th December Mass 8.30am</b>
<b>Reader</b>	Micky Robarts	Nerrida Holland	<b>Reader</b>	P. Winsall	K. Downes
<b>Commentator</b>	Betty Heinrich	Alison McKinnon	<b>Prayers</b>	P. Winsall	M. Walder
<b>Eucharist Ministers</b>	Pat Glaubitz Lesley Price Anthony Amor	Lynda Hutchinson Bob Pritchett Zita Cannane	<b>Collectors</b>	D & K Baxter	L. Casey
			<b>Cleaning</b>	Working Bee	Working Bee
<b>14th &amp; 15th December</b>	<b>6.30pm Vigil</b>	<b>10.30am Sunday</b>	<b>NHILL LITURGY ROSTER</b>		
<b>Reader</b>	Emelia Sudholz	Bob Pritchett		<b>8th December Mass 11am</b>	<b>15th December Mass 11am</b>
<b>Commentator</b>	Maree Plazzer	May Rosello	<b>Sacristan</b>	C. Kennedy	C. Kennedy
<b>Eucharist Ministers</b>	Micky Robarts Cath Taylor	Nerrida Holland Gerard Raven Alison McKinnon	<b>Reader</b>	I. Dart	D. Munro
<b>Projector</b>	Geoff Simpson	Gabby Mills	<b>Collector</b>	J. Kennedy	J. Kennedy
<b>Musicians</b>	Chris Robarts	Embedded	<b>Music</b>	Paul Ramas	Paul Ramas
<b>Livestream</b>	Robert Sartori	N/A	<b>Cleaning</b>	C. Kennedy J. Gurry	C. Kennedy J. Gurry
<b>Welcomers</b>	Bill & Josie Phelan	Denise Vallance Helene Bush	<b>HOPETOUN LITURGY ROSTER</b>		
<b>Tea/Coffee After Mass</b>	N/A	Jayson Agustin Janeth, Pam, Ruby, Maria, May		<b>7th November Vigil 6.30pm</b>	<b>14th November Vigil 6.30pm</b>
<b>Prayers</b>	Anita Masiero & Mary Dalglish		<b>Reader</b>	Cynthia Maiden	Coral Cox
<b>Church Cleaning &amp; Flower Arranging</b>	<b>15th December</b> Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi	<b>22nd December</b> Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn	<b>Offertory</b>	Alex & Anju	Marilyn & Therese
			<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	N/A	N/A
			<b>RUPANYUP MASS</b> 6.30pm Mass on Thursday, 12th December at 13 Stewart St, Rupanyup		
			<b>NATIMUK MASS</b> 6.30pm Mass on Thursday, 19th December at 1 Mitchell Street, Natimuk.		
<p><b>Child Safety Standards:</b> St Paul VI Parish <b>Bob Pritchett</b> is our Safeguarding Officer, Horsham and <b>Cynthia Maiden</b>, Hopetoun.</p> <p>A <b>Child Safety Policy</b> and <b>Code of Conduct</b> has been adopted for all who work with children and vulnerable adults in the Parish, to ensure the safety of all.</p> <p><i>Our Parish seeks to always be a child safe Parish.</i></p>			<p><b>Our Parish Finance</b></p> <p>For all wishing to support either our Parish or Clergy through online banking transfer:</p> <p>St Paul VI Parish Account (NAB) BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830337 <i>(Please state envelope number and name)</i></p> <p>St Paul VI Presbytery (Clergy Support) Account (NAB) BSB: 083-680 Acc. No: 515830345</p> <p>The option of regular automatic Direct Debit contributions can be arranged by contacting our office.</p>		
<p><b>HOLY COMMUNION TO SICK, ELDERLY OR HOUSE BOUND</b></p> <p>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.</p>					
<p><b>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</b> <b>THIS WEEKEND</b> 2nd Sunday of the month: <b>8th December, 2024</b></p> <p>Horsham: <b>Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am</b> Hopetoun: <b>Saturday Vigil 6.30pm</b> Dimboola: <b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b> Warracknabeal: <b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b> Nhill: <b>Sunday Mass 11am</b> Murtoa: Sunday LLA 9.00am Minyip: Sunday LLA 10am Rainbow: Sunday LLA 10am Beulah: Sunday LLA 9.30am</p>			<p><b>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</b> <b>NEXT WEEKEND</b> 3rd Sunday of the month: <b>15th December, 2024</b></p> <p>Horsham: <b>Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am</b> Hopetoun: <b>Saturday Vigil 6.30pm</b> Murtoa: <b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b> Warracknabeal: <b>Sunday Mass 8.30am</b> Nhill: <b>Sunday Mass 11am</b> Beulah: Sunday LLA 9.30am Dimboola: No LLA Rainbow: Sunday LLA 10am Minyip: Sunday LLA 10am</p>		

## PARISH EVENTS AND NOTICES

### Please Remember in Your Prayers

#### RECENT DEATHS

Maurice White

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Domenico Gasparini, Kevin O'Connor, Frank Lawson

#### SICK OR INJURED

Pat Hateley, Ted Haynes, Alex Kavoor, Elliot Pumpa, Kevin Clancy, Jodie White, 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, Peter Dybing

#### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We are currently calling for volunteers for the Ss Michael & John Church Roster and St Mary's Warracknabeal Roster. If you are interested, please reach out using the info below details:

**St Marys:** (David Baxter): tedbax17@gmail.com  
**Horsham:** wimmeramalleeballarat.catholic.org.au

**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: Nerrida Holland

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's 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: 5385 2886

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 meet weekly on Tuesdays, at 2.00pm in the Church meeting room.

#### Prayer Group

Final meeting for 2024 **Monday 16th Dec at 1.30pm.**  
 Will then resume **Wednesday 5th February 2025.**

### Happy Birthday Kath McGenniken

Wishing you a wonderful 98th birthday recently on the 2nd of December. We pray you had an enjoyable day!

### St Vincent de Paul

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

**Mon, Wed and Fri** mornings between 11am - 12noon

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

#### Next Weekend's Readings - Third Sunday of Advent

**1st Reading:** Prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18

**Response:** Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

**2nd Reading:** St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7

**Responsorial Psalm:** PS 12:2-6      **Gospel:** Luke 3:10-18

## 2025 Sacramental Program EARLY ENROLMENT

Reconciliation – Holy Communion – Confirmation

Reconciliation & Holy Communion is available to children in Year 4 and above. Confirmation is available for children in Year 6 and above who have completed Reconciliation & Holy Communion.

Early Enrolments help us decide where sessions are held and how many are needed.

**Early Enrolments close - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 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



8th December 2024

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

*A reading from the prophet Baruch 5:1-9*

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 125

**R.** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said:  
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as  
streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears will sing  
when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears  
carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come  
back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

**R.** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

### Second Reading

*A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the  
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11*

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

### Gospel Acclamation LK 3: 4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

*A reading from the Gospel according to Luke 3:1- 6*

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

The season of Advent invites us to reflect on the profound promise of hope and transformation that God offers each of us.

In Baruch 5:1-9, we find a passage of hope and salvation directed to displaced people who suffer. Here, the ancient prophet promises hope, "for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort." This striking image reveals that God is our companion on our life journey, even in the midst of trials. It is a powerful reminder that God's presence is always with us and can turn our sorrow into celebration. God urges us to trust these promises, regardless of the circumstances.

Psalms 125 also has a message of hope. The psalmist declares that those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, unshakable and enduring. Like Mount Zion, our faith becomes deeply rooted when anchored in God's steadfast love. The psalm invites us to reflect on where we place our trust.

In Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11, Paul writes to the community in Philippi from prison. Despite his circumstances, Paul's joy and peace reveal an unwavering trust in God. Difficult times do not diminish his joy or trust; instead, they draw him closer to Jesus. He shares his confidence that God, "who began this good work in you will see that it is finished." This powerful affirmation of God's faithfulness reassures us that we are not alone. We are en-

couraged to support one another, nurturing a community that reflects Christ's love and opens us to an ongoing encounter that brings healing and inspires us into action. Together, we are journeying toward the same destination — the "Day of Christ." To walk this path, we must stay close to Jesus, a disposition Pope Francis describes as "contemplating the face of Jesus." May we never lose confidence in God, who invites us to persevere in hope.

In Luke 3:1-6, we meet John the Baptist, who calls the people to prepare the way for the Lord. His message of repentance and conversion challenges us to examine our lives, clearing the paths of our hearts to welcome Christ Jesus.

John the Baptist called all who heard his message to enter the Jordan River and be immersed in its waters. This symbolic act represented their need for renewal and pointed toward the coming Saviour. Just as God brought forth creation from the chaos of the waters (Genesis 1) and led the Israelites to freedom through the parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21-31), John's "baptism of repentance" called for a transformation of heart and mind, inviting believers to embrace the redemptive promises of God and prepare for the life-changing grace of Christ.

The cry of John in the wilderness resonates with urgency: "Make straight the paths." This call compels us to consider what obstacles we may need to remove — whether pride, indifference, or fear

— in order to truly encounter God. John reminds us that preparation is not merely an external act but a profound inner transformation that opens us to God's grace and mercy.

Together, these readings weave a narrative of hope, community, and preparation. They remind us that God is constantly at work, calling us from our physical, emotional, or spiritual wildernesses into the fullness of God's joy.

The season of Advent is not just about waiting. It is about actively becoming more like Christ Jesus. We are invited to nurture our faith, support one another, and clear the way for God's transformative love to enter our lives and the lives of those around us.

As we reflect on these passages, let us ask ourselves: How can we embody the joy and hope that Baruch speaks of? In what ways can we trust in God's unwavering support, like those who dwell on Mount Zion? How can we foster a community of love and encouragement, as Paul describes? And what paths in our hearts need to be made straight to truly prepare for the coming of the Lord?

In our answer lies the beginning of a new journey — one of faith, hope, and joy as we await the birth of our Saviour. May we embrace this Advent season with open hearts, ready to receive and share the love of Christ with the world.