



The Parish of St. Michael & St. John

Horsham

(Murtoa :: Rupanyup :: Dimboola :: Natimuk)

Catholic Presbytery
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16/3/93

To whom it may concern

Father G. F. Ridsdale

I have been a colleague of Fr. Ridsdale as a priest in the Diocese of Ballarat for thirty years. In that time as well as sharing a common overall mission in the Diocese, I have worked closely with him on various committees, boards and groups.

For about three years (1986-1988) he was my assistant here in the parish of St. Michael & St. John at Horsham.

In my judgement Fr. Ridsdale has been quite an outstanding priest in almost every facet of his work. He has been blessed with real talent which he has used with exceptional energy and zeal. I have always felt, and am on record as saying, that the most fruitful years of my entire ministry, was the period shared with Fr. Ridsdale at Horsham.

He was noted as having a particular care for those who were in difficulties and perhaps the lower profile members of the community. He was always available and responsive when called upon for support (material and spiritual) or advice and counselling of any kind.

On a diocesan level he was equally generous with his time and talents, in serving as secretary, chaplain or co-ordinator of various societies and committees, and always operated with great effort.

To the best of my knowledge, Fr. Ridsdale is held in high regard by the vast number of people he has ministered to throughout the Diocese.

Sincerely

Rev. J. F. Madden. Parish Priest