Sacred Heart Parish Mildura



257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

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Presbytery: 5022 9959

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Our Lady of Lourdes Werrimull St. Francis Xavier Elms Street, Irymple

GOSPEL REFLECTION

To provide a reference for someone is a serious responsibility as well as a privilege because, more often than not, a good deal depends on the testimony one provides. John the Baptist took it upon himself to be a referee for Jesus. His testimony reverberates across the centuries, offering an introduction to Jesus, year in year out, for those who seek to



understand this Jewish prophet and teacher who was and is more than a prophet or teacher. John wants his disciples to understand that the whole purpose of his water baptism is that Jesus "might be revealed" to God's people. He wants them to know that Jesus is "of God". He is the "lamb of God", the "chosen one of God". He is the one on whom God's Spirit descends and remains. Jesus comes before the Baptist and so ranks before him.

Is the author of this gospel using the character of the Baptist as a vehicle for his particular Christology or presentation of Jesus? That's what many scholars think, although some of the images in the Baptist's testimony are firmly grounded in Jewish tradition and could well come from a prophetic figure like John the Baptist. Maybe the answer to the question is "yes, but not exclusively".

Whether the images have their origin with John the Baptist or John the gospel writer, we might reasonably wonder what it means to say that Jesus is "God's lamb". Does the expression refer to the Passover lamb whose blood signifies liberation or deliverance? The imagery in John's gospel relating to the death of Jesus might point in this direction. Is "God's lamb" the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53 who takes on the sins of the many? Is it an image of the lamb that God provides for Abraham's sacrifice (Genesis 22)? Is it evoking the apocalyptic lamb of Jewish literature of the time, the powerful conquering lamb that destroys evil in the world? Is it intended to suggest vulnerability as in the prophecy of Jeremiah 11:19 ("I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter").

here is never a simple explanation when it comes to John's gospel, but it seems to me that the symbol of strength in potential vulnerability has for understanding the characterization of Jesus in this gospel. The Lamb of God of John 1:29 "takes away" the sinful condition of the world. Twenty-one centuries down the track there is still violence and hunger and exploitation on a massive scale. The work of the one strong enough to risk vulnerability so that others may have life, the work of God's Lamb, is never done. Witness to that is part of the gift that Pope Francis is offering to the world: despite opposition, even among those closest to him, he never wavers in his response to the distress of God's people, of God's Earth. Veronica Lawson rsm

Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP Fr. James Kerr Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo Office Hours: Tues—Fri 9am—4pm

> 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time / Year A 14th & 15th January 2017

Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6:00 pm Sun: 9:00 am, 5:00 pm Irymple: 8:30 am Werrimull 11:00 am (last Sunday of each month)

Weekday Masses

Tues: 7:00 pm Wed: 9:10 am Thurs: 9:30 am Fri: 5:40 pm Sat: 9.30 am

Please note: The Funeral Mass of Mr. Mario Venneri at 9:30am this Tuesday will replace the 7:00pm Mass

Weekly Prayer Opportunities

Prayer of the Church: Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8:40 am

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am

Parish Prayer Room

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am



RECENT DEATHS: Joe Jeffries, Mario Venneri, Melanie Muller

ANNIVERSARIES: Charlie Pongraz, Mary & Andrew Matulin, Giuseppe Cavallo,



Only immediate members of the deceased's family are permitted to arrange anniversary Masses.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

If you want a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Names will be included for the duration of one month after which family or friends can request more time.

Yvonne Ash, Don Lewis, Moataane Vatuvei, Brian Ramsay, Graeme Lewis, Joan Appleby, Ron Morello, Monica Crimmins, Daniel Ralli, Dan Rodan, John Devilee, Ethan Neyland, Georgie Manning, Dorothy Norris, Eileen Flanner, Fr Denis Dennehy, Eli Madden-Andrews, Kel Townsend, Vince Alicastro, Judy Hunt, Hailey Crossan, Teresa Panuccio, Geraldine Brunner, Siliako Lolesio

PARISH FINANCE	
Last weeks collections	
1 st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1210.95
2nd Collection (not including DD, CC & EFT)	\$1249.00
Loose Plate	\$ 527.00

Our Parish Vision "Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community united by our faith in Jesus Christ. We work together in the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of God's Kingdom."



Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Primary School Principal: *Des Lowry* 5023 1204

St Paul's Primary School Principal: *Vince Muscatello* 5023 4567

St Joseph's Secondary College Principal: *Marg Blythman* 5018 8000

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14th & 15th January 2017				21st & 22nd January 2017		
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS		NEXT WEEK'S READINGS				
First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 Resp Psalm: Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10 Response: Here I am , Lord; I come to do your will. Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 Gospel: John 1:29-34		First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3 Resp Psalm: Ps 26:1, 4, 13-14 Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23				
EUCHARIST MINISTERS		EUCHARIST MINISTERS				
SATURDAY	ATURDAY SUNDAY		SATURDAY SUNDAY			
6PM	9AM	5PM	6PM	6PM 9AM		5PM
6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	6 Ministers required		7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required
Anita Naray	Nada Zudetich	Melanie Ransome	Margaret Sheal	nan	Maryanne Modica	Myrna Rodi
Maria Cirillo	Sara Visona	Bill Dolence	Irene Morello		Lyn Welsh	Maree Irvin
Christine Carmichael	Juliet Cresp	Jacqui Willis	Anne-Maree Greville		Loretta Thompson	Sue Hermans
Ellen Frauenfelder	Louise Belej	Barbara Bunting	Taiana Fatai		Giuseppe Scopacasa	Danielle Mazzini
Jacinda Deacon	Nancy Leonardis	Katrina Groves	Margaret McDo	onald	Maria Scopacasa	Greg Johnston
Katy Quinlan	Elena Garreffa	Judy Hall	Trish McNama	ra	Susan Lewis	
	Volunteer		-		Volunteer	
MUSIC		MUSIC				
Youth Group	Tongan Choir	NO MUSIC	Sacred Heart	Group	Youth Group	NO MUSIC
K Mafi	M Guthrie		Leader		K Mafi	
			M Faingaaı	nuku		
ALTAR SERVERS			ALTAR SERVERS			
Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunte	er	Please volunteer	Please volunteer
OFFERTORY PROCESSION		OFFERTORY PROCESSION				
2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers re	equired	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required
	Colin & Lyn Welsh				Louise Belej	
READERS		READERS				
Jen Ditchfield	Cathy/Paul McErvale	Christine Slattery	Gary Huxt	able	Narie Lewis	Barb Bunting
COUNTING TEAM 3		COUNTING TEAM 5				
KEVIN SCHULTZ 5023 8778		JIM FARRELLY 0477 140 759				
IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM		IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM				
READER	EUCHARIST MINISTER		READER		EUCHARIST MINISTER	
D Nichols	G Schmidt		K Modoo		K Night	