

ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



LITURGY for 6/7 January

6pm **Welcomers:** R Kelly Family **Gifts:** R Kelly Family **Readers:** C Bolte, M Bugge

Ministers: D Friebe, B Gladman, M Harney, G McMeel, K&M McKenzie

9am **Welcomers:** A Bamford, M Brown **Gifts:** S Brittain Family **Readers:** T Baker, B Bourke

Ministers: A Jubb, L&T Kenny

CHURCH CLEANING:

Week commencing

31 December Group 2: P Jubb, P Bolte, P&S Smith

7 January Group 3: D Arundell, J Mahony, H Stoll, A Basford

COUNTING TEAMS:

31 December Team 2: Des Arundell, Bryan O’Keeffe, Ces Cooper

7 January Team 3: Terry & Pat King



COMMUNION TO LYNDPOCH: 7 January: Colin Ryan



The Holy Family

Making Connections: What holds families together is a commitment to love and serve each other in good times and bad. This is what allows families to grow in maturity and wisdom.

Did you Know?: Points of interest and Catholic lore. According to Jewish Law, after giving birth a woman had to undergo a purification which consisted of a ritual bathing and the offering of a sacrifice. The offering of turtle doves or pigeons was the offering of the poor. Also according to Jewish Law, the first born male child of a family was dedicated to God in acknowledgment that all life comes from God. Mary and Joseph were devout and observant Jews.

Sharing the Tradition: The feast of the Holy Family is a rather new feast in the Church’s calendar. It was instituted by Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903) at a time when the Industrial Revolution and other social forces were destructive of family life. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes the Christian family as ‘a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit’ (§2205). It calls on society to support and strengthen families, but it notes that family ties are not absolute. For the Christian, following Jesus is always the first priority.

Marriage Tip: Don’t put away your Christmas decorations yet! Remember that Christmas isn’t just a day, but a whole season. So keep singing those Christmas carols and rejoicing in the birth of Our Lord.

Daily Prayer: O God, Give to parents the life giving fruitfulness of your own divine love. To daughters and sons give wisdom, godliness and grace. Make us all grow as your own Son did within the holy family to the praise and glory of your name.

A Vocation View: The Old Law said that every first born male shall be dedicated to the Lord. Is there a priest, deacon, brother, or sister from your family? Now is the time for families to encourage a vocation!



Pope’s Prayer Intentions for December

The Elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

A Christmas Prayer

God and Father of Jesus, You have sent your Son to be our saviour, our light in the midst of darkness, our hope in the face of threats, our peace amid turmoil. In His word and presence we have seen Him and know that your promises are true. Send us forth from this assembly to live in hope and peace, until we gather again at His table. Amen.

THANK YOU FOR AN AWESOME YEAR!

“Go in peace glorifying the Lord by your life.”



Our Lady Help of Christians Parish
East Warrnambool - Allansford
‘A Star in the East’



PARISH BULLETIN

Holy Family—31st December 2017

P.P.: Fr Lawrence O’Toole - Phone 5561 1533

olhcwbl@bigpond.net.au www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

OLHC Primary School: Eugene Dalton - Phone 5562 5559

www.olhcwarrnambool.catholic.edu.au

Facebook: [Our Lady Help of Christians Parish](#)

Emmanuel College: Peter Morgan - Phone 5560 0888

St. Carthage’s Church—Grauers Rd, Allansford

*“I AM THE WAY,
THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE”
JN 14, 18.*

“PEACE TO ALL WHO ENTER HERE”

Recent Deaths: Sean Murphy, Mary Carroll, Aurora Canada, Dick Prendergast

Anniversaries: Colleen Ryan, Clare Haylock, Peter Morrissey, Fathers Culligan & Maguire, Sister Oliver O’Dowd, Ray Mugavin, Karen Finn, Bernie Moloney, Alison Arundell, Cyril McNamara

Mass Times	Monday	10.00am NEW YEAR’S DAY (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
	Tuesday	10.00am (St Basil)
	Wednesday	9.30am
	Thursday	10.00am Lyndoch Living Chapel
	Friday	9.30am
	Saturday	10.00am at St Pius

THE LORD’S DAY

Saturday Sunday

6.00pm 9.00am

EPIPHANY

10.30am at Allansford



The Word of God: This Week: Gn 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3, Heb 11: 8.11-12.17-19, Lk 2: 22-40
Next Week: Is 60: 1-6, Eph 3: 2-3a.5-6, Mt 2: 1-12

Sacraments: Baptisms and Marriages by Appointment Please phone 5561 1533

Reconciliation—Fridays 10.20am,
Saturdays at St Pius 10.20am

Holy Family

“Whatever you do, “ says St Paul to the Colossians, “...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through Him.” And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist “through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.”



God of Newness

At this time of year, you invite me to imitate both Mary and Joseph. You call me to listen carefully to dreams, strangers, intuitions and angels, You call me to ask questions with an open heart and mind, You call me to respond with courage and trust, You call me to bring the precious, fragile and delicate message of love to birth in the world. Amen.



Christmas and many blessings in the coming year.

Thank you very much for your support of our mission during this year.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Keep for Daily Prayer)

THE LORD REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT FOREVER.



Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. **R.**

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
The Word of God became flesh and came to dwell among us. All accepting him will become children of God.

HYMNS:

Entrance	9	Angels We Have Heard
Gifts	6	The First Nowell
Communion	18	Silent Night
	21	Child of Mercy
Recessional	8	Hark the Herald Angels

Mystery Of Faith
When we eat this Bread
and drink this Cup, we
proclaim your Death, O
Lord, until you come again.

Year of Youth 2018

“Open new horizons for Spreading Joy”

A time of festivity can be a lonely time. Visit a neighbour who is on his or her own.

We turn our thoughts to Mary

As a very young woman, she was to enter into a great mystery, for which she deemed herself unfit. Let us ponder on her faith and deep trust in her God. On the human level, she entrusted herself to the care of Joseph. Together, they set off on the incredible path which led to the birth of Jesus, our Saviour.

So, we pray, ‘Blessed are you Mary. Help us to learn from you how to live with faith, trust and love, as we try to become increasingly aware of God’s will for us in our daily lives, and to do whatever he tells us.’



Sacraments for Children 2018

Reconciliation for Year 2, March 20th; for Year 6, March 21st.

Parent Information: February 15th

Confirmation for Year 3, May 19/20 & 20/27

Parent Information: April 18th

First Eucharist for Year 4, August 18/19

Parent Information: July 18th

A Christmas Blessing

Let us remember Mary this Christmas, and may God bless our Mothers.

Let us remember Joseph this Christmas, and may God bless our Fathers.

Let us remember Elizabeth, Zachariah and John this Christmas, and may God bless all our relatives.

Let us remember the Shepherds this Christmas, and may God bless all those who will be working.

Let us remember the Wise Men this Christmas, and may God bless those who will be travelling.

Let us remember Jesus this Christmas, and may God bless all of us and make us His children.



Mass on New Year’s Day 10am (World Day of Peace)

PARISH LIFE—LIFE TO THE FULL

OLHC Community acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians of this land—the Gunditjmara People and other tribes.

WELCOME TO OLHC & ST. CARTHAGE In imitation of Jesus Christ, we welcome all people to worship and celebrate God’s all-inclusive love with us. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life, we thank you for choosing to be here with us today.

Our Parish Vision “Bringing People together in an atmosphere that is welcoming, nurturing and challenges all to share in the Mystery of God’s Love.”

Spend December with the Saints “Throw wide the gate of your heart, and stand before the sun of everlasting light.” (St Ambrose, 7 December)

For Sale and supporting the St Vincent De Paul Society: **Columban Calendars** \$8 (great gift idea) (and for the family).

“The Woodford Cup” which supports St John’s School, Dennington. **Today**

Fr. Michael Gatt’s **Christmas Time Help Line** is 08 9440 5379 or gattline@bigpond.com.

Brother Frank O’Shea invites us to the web page of **The Ruben Centre** Nairobi www.rubencentre.org

You are **welcome** to join a **Parish Family Group** for a monthly social occasion. See Louise Taggart, Sue Smith or Fr. Lawrie.

Situation Vacant Director of Mission Integration at St John of God Health Care, Warrnambool.

Our Christmas Gift to be distributed to the poor by Bishop Paul is \$ 2957.10. Thanks.

Copies of Bishop Paul’s Christmas Message “Joys and Sorrows 2017” are available.

Clergy Appointments: Bishop Paul has appointed Frs Eugene McKinnon and Peter Jose CMI to the parishes of Charlton and St Arnaud, effective from January 1st 2018. Fr Eugene, as Parish Priest and Fr Peter as Assistant, will continue to minister in each of the parishes of the North Central Ministry District. The Ministry District will encompass pastoral care, education chaplaincy and governance, financial consolidation, and resource sharing.

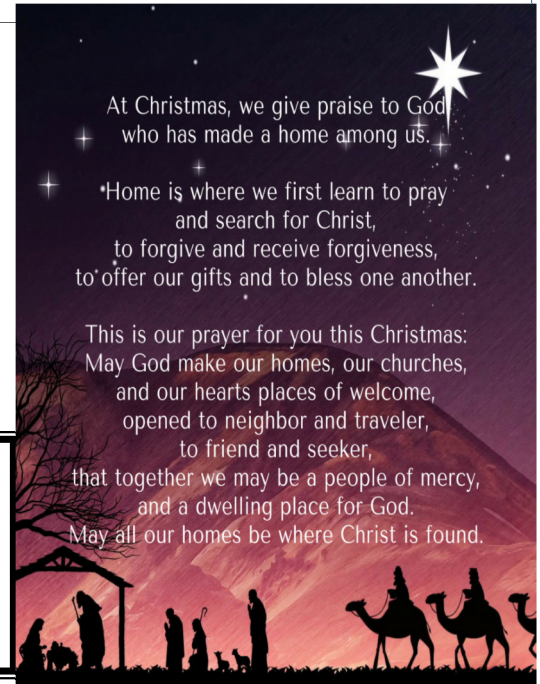
Thank you to all who helped with our Christmas Masses and Churches in many ways. Your assistance helped us experience good community prayer at both OLHC and Allansford. Thank you for being part of our Parish Family Living in 2017. Please accept my gratitude for expressing kindness and love this Christmas time. Fr. Lawrie

His First Coming

A gentle Babe, caved in helpless way
Where straw would be His resting place
Of bodied power of Love, all graced
In deep humanity! Ah, the Mystery
Of it all, steadies my heart to deepened joy
At His coming, for the saving of us all...!
Let us recall this Mystery of Love
In a depth-wise silent way...
With His Mother there, embracing Him,
And us in Him, within a gentle love,
Stand still and will His Presence
In its vast, embracing way.
Pauline Fitz-Walter SGS

“Life in a Whole new Light and Clothed with Power from on High”

Today we welcome with great joy
Lenny Smith & Natalie Corrigan
who are being **baptised** into the family of
God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



At Christmas, we give praise to God who has made a home among us.

Home is where we first learn to pray and search for Christ, to forgive and receive forgiveness, to offer our gifts and to bless one another.

This is our prayer for you this Christmas: May God make our homes, our churches, and our hearts places of welcome, opened to neighbor and traveler, to friend and seeker, that together we may be a people of mercy, and a dwelling place for God. May all our homes be where Christ is found.