

ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



LITURGY for 7/8 December

6pm Welcomers: P Walsh, S Hargreaves Gifts: M McCulloch Family Readers: R&T Treffy

Ministers: B Gladman, G McMeel, M&T Harney, L&S Jenkins

9am Welcomers: Timor Leste Gifts: Timor Leste Readers: L&T Taggart

Ministers: H Goddard, L&T Kenny

CHURCH CLEANING:

Week commencing

1 December Group 6: A Moloney, H Chisholm, J Squires

8 December Group 1: A Sanderson, D Porter, D Lawler

COUNTING TEAMS:

1 December Team 2: Des Arundell, Bryan O'Keeffe, Ces/Min Cooper

8 December Team 3: Terry & Pat King, Maureen & Ron Gillin

COMMUNION TO LYNDPOCH: 8 December: Robert McLaren

New Rosters are now Available



Reflection on the Gospel-1st Sunday of Advent Year A (Matthew 24: 37-44)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

"Where is the Life we have lost in living?" asks the Chorus in T. S. Eliot's The Rock. The Jesus of Matthew's gospel is implicitly asking the same question as Eliot's Chorus. He is making much the same observation as Henry David Thoreau, "Most [people] lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them." We are invited to find Life in our living and to sing the songs that are in us. We are to be agents of our own future rather than unthinking participants in the destruction of our planet. Right now, the human community is challenged in unprecedented ways to restore the life we have lost by living beyond our means and by destructively exploiting the riches of the Earth.

As we begin a new liturgical year, Matthew's Jesus invites us to contemplate the ultimate realities even as we attend to the demands of the present. He tells us to be "awake", to be "ready" all the time, not because death or the end of the world are around the corner, but because we need to recognise the multiple "advents" or arrivals of the Christ, the Human One, who calls us beyond self-absorption to Life. He reminds us that we are no different from our forebears who from earliest days have gone about their daily business without being sufficiently attentive to what really matters.

In our times, we have allowed thieves to break in and plunder our planet, our common home, because thieves come in guises that we fail to recognise. They so often look just like us and do the things we do. It may be that we must first be attentive to our own ways of plundering the house that is home to all of God's creatures.

We spend much of our time looking back. That has its place, since our history informs our present and helps us in shaping our future, though all the while we know with Auden that '[t]he past is foreign country: they do things differently there'. Advent invites us to look forward rather than back and to dream gospel-inspired dreams that will enable creative change in our own lives and in the life of our planet. It invites us to be awake, to be ready for any eventuality.

Dreams and visions have always been the precursors to effective and life-giving change. We need the grace to see visions and to dream dreams that make for justice and peace and that permit us to walk more freely in the light of God's ways. We seek the grace to "see" God's word as did the prophet Isaiah in the first reading (Isa 2:1-5). We need to put our energy into creating life-generating systems that enable us to move forward in the paths of gospel compassion and love.



*Our Lady Help of Christians Parish
East Warrnambool - Allansford
'A Star in the East'*



PARISH BULLETIN

Holy Family — 1st December 2019

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

Emmanuel College: Peter Morgan - Phone 5560 0888

St. Carthage's Church—Grauers Rd, Allansford

Child Safety Officer—Dion Bartlett 0458 778 935

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

"PEACE TO ALL WHO ENTER HERE"

Recent Deaths: Dot Doman, Terry Board, Jessie Mathison, Marvia O'Brien, Allan Freeman, Brian Lane, Sister Mary Stainsby RSM

Anniversaries: Nell Braybrook, Philip Rea, Sister Mary Ellen Ryan, Des Ryan, Frs. McCunnie, Martin & Martin Gleeson



Mass Times	Monday	7.30am at St Pius
	Tuesday	10.00am (St Francis Xavier) (Sr Ena Tobin SJG)
	Wednesday	9.30am
	Thursday	9.30am Celebrant Fr. Van De Camp 10.00am Lyndoch Living Chapel
	Friday	9.30am
	Saturday	10.00am at St Pius



THE LORD'S DAY

**Saturday
Sunday
Allansford**

**6.00pm
9.00am
10.30am**

*Purple is a colour of
preparation and
anticipating joy*

The Word of God:

This Week: 1 Sm 1: 20-22, 24-28/ 1 Jn 3: 1-2, 21-24/ Lk 2: 41-52

Next Week: Is 11: 1-10/ Rom 15: 4-9/ Mt 3: 1-12

Sacraments: *Baptisms and Marriages* by Appointment Please phone 5561 1533

Reconciliation —Friday 10am; Saturday 10.20am at St Pius



Our Parish Rose Show and Flower Festival Theme: 'Celebrations of Life'

We are proud of our Festival with good attendances, hospitality and participation at many levels including 420 children. This was our 20th Show and was organised by our Parish Flower Ladies—Helen Murphy and Sue Smith. Both were awarded for their efforts. Friendships were renewed and begun.

Thanks, Parish Co ordinating Team.

"Sing to the earth, who makes life grow, the creatures you made to let your life show, the flowers and trees that help us to know the Heart of Love." (M. Haugen)

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:

6pm—Family Mass

7.30pm—Christmas Carols

8pm—Mass

Christmas Day:

8.30am

10am—Allansford

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *(Keep for Daily Prayer)*



LET US GO REJOICING TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R.**

Mystery Of Faith
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

WREATH:

Open the heavens, Lord, come to your people, Hide not your face, O God. Open the heavens, Lord, come to your people, Open the heavens and come.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
Stay awake pray at all times, praying that you may be strengthened, that with confidence you can meet the Son of Man.

HYMNS:

- Entrance 71 Gather your People
- Gifts Taize 2 Wait for the Lord
- Communion 6 Lord To Whom Shall We Go
- 86 We Are Many Parts
- Recessional 2 Christ Be Our Light

Plenary Council Prayer

Lord
You once told us, 'Just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me.'
May our eyes be opened to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and imprisoned.
May our minds be freed from the bounds of self-interest, fear and prejudice.
May our hearts be moved to recognise and respond to the needs of your people.
May we be open to the fruits of your Spirit, so that our thoughts, words and actions can be infused with love, peace, compassion and selflessness.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Marriage Tip: Today, make a list of things you love about each member of your family and share it with them.

Pope's Prayer Intentions for December

The Future of the Very Young
That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.



Plenary Council
Theme: Missionary and Evangelising.
As we move into this second phase of the Plenary Council journey we are invited to reflect on Scripture, Church teaching and our contemporary situation to discern what it is that God is asking of us through the lens of the National Themes. Our community will be praying and reflecting about the first National Theme for Discernment: **How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is missionary and evangelising?** This is one of the six National Themes for Listening and Discernment that is preparing the Australian Church for the Plenary Council. **A community Listening and Discernment experience will be held at St. Joseph's on Tuesday December 3rd at 7.30pm.** To prepare for this session, you may wish to reflect on the following Scripture passage:
You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem ... and to the ends of the earth.
-Acts 1:8
This theme arose as a result of communal listening and dialogue, with people sharing their hopes and dreams about the mission of the Church. We are now invited to **deepen** our discernment as we pray, reflect and listen to what the Spirit is calling us to in Australia

Forthcoming Events (December):

Tuesday Dec 3rd—Plenary Council Prayer Meeting "Missionary & Evangelising", St Joseph's 7.30pm;
Wednesday Dec 11th—Anointing Mass and High Afternoon Tea for Senior Parishioners, 1pm;
Wednesday Dec 18th—Mass for the Forgiveness of our Sins 7pm.

PARISH LIFE—LIFE TO THE FULL

OLHC Community acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians of this land—the Gunditjmara People and other tribes. We deeply respect the Aboriginal Community upon whose land our parish resides.

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 everyday with the saints. "It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards our progress nor the nature of the task, but the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken."

Holy Hour at OLHC Monday 10am

Worth Watching "Songs of Praise" Sundays 11.30am on ABC1.

View ABC1 Compass 11am Sundays.

"Australia's most liveable city and district is Warrnambool!"

"May every sunrise bring you hope, may every sunset bring you peace"
(Irish Blessing)



Second Hand Novels and Young Adult Fiction are being collected by the St John of God Auxiliary for a fundraiser in January.

Now Selling Christmas Cards to support St Vincent de Paul; Columban Calendars 2020 to support Columban Missionaries

Compliments of the Parish the latest edition of "Australian Catholics" and "Our Diocesan Community" are available.

Preparing for a Holy Christmas Wednesdays 10am and Thursdays 7.30pm in the Church Meeting Room. All welcome.

Catholic Charismatic Retreat Jan 14-17 at St Mary's College, Parkville. RSVP 9486 6544 by Dec 12th.

Parish Co ordinating Team meets Wednesday 7.30pm.

Platinum Jubilee (70 years) of Sr. Ena Tobin's Profession (SJK) will be celebrated at St. Macartan's, Mornington, on Tuesday at 9.15pm. Sr. Ena will be prayed for here at OLHC 10am on Tuesday. (Sr.'s address is 2/102 Barkly St, Mornington, 3931).

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program—now open for new participants A low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Study over 5 weeks per subject. Next study cycle begins January 12. Registration open now until December 23. More info at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au ph. 0407 523 424.

Morning Tea after Mass **next Sunday.** A plate please. Hosts Family Groups.

The Saint Vincent De Paul invite us to include our poor with a Christmas Gift.

Christmas Carols in the Allansford Hall on Sunday 8th December at 7.00pm.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;

disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.



If you wish to give to our Parish Finances via bank transfer:
BSB: 06 3533
Acc. No: 0090 3353
Ref: Planned Giving
All donations are greatly appreciated.

If they, why not I? If these men and women could become saints, why cannot I with the help of him who is all-powerful?
-St Augustine