

## ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



### LITURGY for 11/12 January

**6pm** Welcomers: C McMeel Family Gifts: White Family Readers: L Flaherty, D Friebe

Ministers: L&S Jenkins, K&M McKenzie, M Mills, F Moloney

**9am** Welcomers: Timor Leste Gifts: Timor Leste Readers: Z Lukies, T Kenny

Ministers: H Goddard, L&T Kenny

### CHURCH CLEANING:

#### Week commencing

5 January Group 5: J McCarthy, J Carroll

12 January Group 6: A Moloney, H Chisholm, J Squires

### COUNTING TEAMS:

5 January Team 7: Terry & Laine Kenny, Ann & Gerard Peoples

12 January Team 8: Michael Soulsby, Dion Bartlett

**COMMUNION TO LYNDOKH:** 12 January: Robert McLaren, Christine Di Palma

*New Rosters are now Available*



## Reflection on the Gospel-Feast of the Epiphany Year A (Matthew 2: 1-12)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The ancient feast of the Epiphany reminds us that the whole universe is in God and that God is in us. It celebrates the presence of God who is revealed to us in wondrous ways: in creation; in our dreams; in our day to day experience; in our sacred stories. Readiness to encounter God in these diverse ways has nothing to do with naïve dependence on our own judgment or on the judgement of others. It has more to do with a way of being in the world that involves openness to the unexpected and a critical and careful communal dialogue between our life experience and our faith tradition. A deep awareness of our place in the Earth community and kinship with the more-than-human teaches us respect for all being and respect for the power of God's Spirit to lead us beyond ourselves towards a more profound encounter with the divine.

Epiphany has long been associated with the wise ones or astrologers "from the East" who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. Their questioning in Jerusalem attracts the attention of Herod, the Roman-appointed "king of the Jews" who turns to the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures for information on the birthplace of the Messiah. They follow the star that leads them to Bethlehem, to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child who has already been named in the text as Emmanuel, God-with-us. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have traditionally been associated with three different characters, usually kings, of diverse nationality and colour. These strangers are the first to recognise "God-with-us" in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. They also come to recognise in a dream the duplicity of Herod, who senses a threat to his political power from the birth of a new-born king of the Jews. They have the good sense not to accede to Herod's request to bring him word of the newborn king. They return home "by another road".

The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew's drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of different cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, and to follow the star that leads to truth and lasting peace. There is also an invitation to be wary of those who find their positions threatened by a different sort of power, power based on vulnerability and openness to new life.



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



## PARISH BULLETIN

*Epiphany – 5th January 2020*

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

[olhcwbl@bigpond.net.au](mailto:olhcwbl@bigpond.net.au) [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

OLHC Primary School: Eugene Dalton - Phone 5562 5559

[www.olhcwarrnambool.catholic.edu.au](http://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:** John McKeever, Peter McNamara, Robyn Vesey, Father Barry O.S.A., Jenny Glare, Kath Gardiner

**Anniversaries:** Milan Maglica, Nance Kelly, Marie Kermond, Ron Eales, Zita McInerney, Frank McCarthy, Rita Smith, Maureen O'Sullivan

<b>Mass Times</b>	Monday	7.30am at St Pius
	Tuesday	10.00am (For our Deceased)
	Wednesday	9.30am
	Thursday	9.30am
	Friday	9.30am (Annie Seabright RIP)
	Saturday	10.00am at St Pius



**THE LORD'S DAY** *Saturday* **6.00pm**  
*Sunday* **9.00am**

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

### The Word of God:

This Week: Is 60: 1-6/ Eph 3: 2-3. 5-6/ Mt 12: 1-12

Next Week: Is 42: 1-4.6-7/ Acts 10: 34-38/ Mt 3: 13-17

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

**Reconciliation** –Friday 10am; Saturday 10.20am at St Pius

*White is the colour of  
rejoicing*



*Greetings for the Christmas Season  
to Parishioners and Visitors, from  
the Parish Co ordinating Team—  
Marion Bugge, Minn Cooper, Rachel  
Kelly, Dion Bartlett, Theresa Bant, Fr.  
Lawrig, John Tankard, Paul Torpy &  
Catherine White  
Wishing you peace happiness and  
God's abiding love at Christmas and  
throughout the coming year.*

### Jesus of Nazareth

The mystery of Christmas and the secret of Nazareth radiate the beauty of **family life** and fill us with hope and joy. May **every family**, despite weaknesses, become a light in the world when there is darkness. May Nazareth teach us the meaning of **family life**, its loving communion, its simple beauty and its sacred character. Amen.

(prayer based on Pope Francis' 'The Joy of Love', *Amoris Laetitia*, paragraph 65)

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *(Keep for Daily Prayer)*



**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

You are the Christ everlasting born for us all of a Virgin, you have conquered death, opened heaven to all believers.

**HYMNS:**

Entrance	6	The First Nowell
Gifts	13	Carol of the Drum
Communion	21	Child of Mercy
	16	Born in the Night
Recessional	20	We Three Kings

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

**6 January—Feast of the Epiphany**

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on 6 January and commemorates the visit of the wise men to worship the baby Jesus. Tradition tells us that their names were Casper, Melchior and Balthassar. The men were astrologers who were looking for the star that would lead them to the promised Messiah, which was prophesied in the Book of Micah. According to the Gospel narratives, the wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh with them.

**Pope's Prayer Intentions for January**

**Promotion of World Peace** We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

**Marriage Tip:** For no particular reason make tonight's dinner special: light candles, sip a glass of wine, and turn on soft music. Relax and enjoy each other's company.

**The world is the first Bible that God made for the instruction of man.**  
- St Clement of Alexandria

**MAY THE TEARS YOU  
CRIED IN 2019 WATER  
THE SEED YOU'RE  
PLANTING FOR 2020**

*Family* like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions yet our roots remain as one.

*'On the last and most important day of the festival Jesus stood up and said in a loud voice "Whoever is thirsty should come to me and drink."' (John 7: 37)*

Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year A-2  
This e-book, which may be downloaded free of charge to a computer/tablet/phone, offers the Gospel for every day of the coming Liturgical Year A -2 (Sundays Year A, weekdays Year 2) beginning with Advent, together with a reflection of some 750 words on each daily Gospel. The e-book may be passed on for downloading to friends or acquaintances as desired. It may be accessed at the following URL address:  
[www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/](http://www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/)

*Mother Teresa, "Love: A fruit always in season"*

**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.** *"Just as you learn to speak by speaking, so you learn to love by loving."* (St Francis De Sales, 24 Jan)

**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"**

**Bible Study** Recess until Lent.

**"Summer School of Evangelisation** Jan 12-19, 2020 in Bacchus Marsh, 16-35y/os looking to deepen their faith in Christ. Ballarat Diocese Youth Ministry is offering financial support.

Contact Patrick on 5337 7160.

**New Rosters** are available. **Volunteering** at St John of God Hospital is welcome. Contact Felicity Barker on 5564 0600.

**Thank You** to our Parishioners for their generous support of our Parish in 2019 with time and talent. We need you to look after each other in 2020. Christmas reminds us God is with us.

**Thanks** to the generosity of the Treffry family we have a Baby's Changing Table installed in the new amenities.

**Plenary Council Preparation** OLHC will host a discernment in late February on the Church being a joyful, hope-filled and servant community.

**You are welcome** to join a **Parish Family Group**, a social group. See Fr Lawrie or Laine and Terry Kenny.

*"Let us pray to Christ the Lord, the sun who enlightens all, whose light will never fail us: Lord Our Saviour, give us life!"*

**Plenary Council Delegates from the Diocese of Ballarat** Bishop Paul is inviting us to nominate delegates from our diocese for the sessions of the Australian Plenary Council to be held in 2020 and 2021. Copies of Bishop Paul's letter are available through parishes and through our diocesan website at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Nominations need to reach Bishop Paul by **Friday, February 7th, 2020.**

**Allansford Parishioners** Present and Past are invited to the 130th Anniversary of the Opening of the Church of St Carthage with Mass at 10.30am on March 29th.

**Visit** the Mary MacKillop Museum and School House in Penola. They are opened daily. 08 8737 2092.

**Acoustic Concert** by Shane Howard (Goanna) and John Schumann (Redgum) at St Brigid's, Crossley, Friday January 17th. Doors open at 7pm. \$45/35. [www.trybooking.com/BGSON](http://www.trybooking.com/BGSON).

**Thank you and Congratulations** Our Christmas collection for the poor amounted to \$2603.

**Request for Board** from Mildura, an African Student from Burundi who is coming to Deakin, contact Rev. Robyn Shackell, 0419 365 824 or [drshackell@bigpond.com](mailto:drshackell@bigpond.com)

**Thank you** to all parishioners for the generous contributions to the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal.

**Clinical Pastoral Education Placements 2020** There are a couple of places available for the Clinical Pastoral Education program including at St Joseph's Parish Warrnambool and South West Healthcare. Please contact Bernadette Wurlod for further information and Application Form, 0455 033 321 or [Bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au](mailto:Bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au)

*Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.*

*Calvin Coolidge*

Feliz Navidad / Bon Nadal / Boas Festas / Bones Fiestas / Buon Natale / Joyeux Noël  
Frohe Weihnachten / Feliz Natal / Ksolok Natal / Selamat Natal!

