

ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



LITURGY for 18/19 January

6pm **Welcomers:** G&U O'Toole **Gifts:** M&U Williams Family **Readers:** B Gladman, T Harney

Ministers: J Moorfield, M Page, S Reimert, J Tankard, T Treffry, C White

9am **Welcomers:** C Cooper, D Duynhoven **Gifts:** M Barnes Family **Readers:** L McKenzie, J O'Brien

Ministers: A Sanderson, C Spencer, C Swarbrick

CHURCH CLEANING:

Week commencing

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

19 January Group 1: A Sanderson, D Porter, D Lawler

COUNTING TEAMS:

12 January Team 8: Michael Soulsby, Dion Bartlett

19 January Team 9: Peter & Geraldine Kenna, Kevin Perera

COMMUNION TO LYNDOKH: 19 January: Margaret Dunne, Peter Flynn

New Rosters are now Available



Reflection on the Gospel-Baptism of Jesus Year A (Matthew 3: 13-17)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

According to the Church calendar, today's celebration of the Baptism of Jesus marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. In many cultures, this feast coincides with the end of the Christmas break, the return to work and to the regular patterns of life. Some of us have been fortunate enough to get some "down time" since Christmas, precious time to reflect on the past year, alone or with loved ones, to set goals for the year ahead and to move into Ordinary Time with renewed life and vigour. For those affected by the prolonged and increasingly devastating bush fires in this land and on the west coast of the United States, Ordinary Time this year will be anything but ordinary. Their struggle to rebuild their lives and their homes invites us in the first place to open our hearts and to share our resources. It invites us to open our eyes to the changes we can expect as our planet warms. It also alerts us to our particular personal and collective responsibility to change the way we live so that life on this planet might actually have a future.

The baptism story is an initiation or commissioning story. We hear it against the backdrop of the first reading from Isaiah 42. Jesus is God's chosen one on whom God's Spirit rests. The voice of God commissions God's chosen to bring forth justice, sensitively and without fanfare: to be a light to the peoples; to open the eyes of the blind and to set the captives free. A Spirit-filled life consists in fulfilling such a mission.

In Matthew's account of the baptism, "the heavens are opened" and Jesus sees God's Spirit descending on him "like a dove". While the image of the heavens opening presents an ancient three-tiered understanding of the structure of the cosmos, we might nonetheless appreciate the sense it evokes of the all-encompassing cosmic nature of this commissioning event. God's words are addressed to all who listen to the gospel: "This is my Son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Jesus' mission is to be understood in terms of "righteousness" or right relationship. Jesus' insistence that John baptise him despite John's reluctance points to the reversal of values that will characterise his mission. There is no pursuit of status or personal aggrandizement in a gospel way of life. Right relationship lies rather in respecting as God's creation the entire Earth community, in bringing forth justice and setting the captives free. Each one of us can make a difference to the "ordinary time" of those with whom we share life on this planet. The image of "the heavens" opening might serve as a reminder of the destructive effects of human-introduced space debris and of our responsibility to promote global legislation that might inhibit further devastation of this kind.



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



PARISH BULLETIN

Baptism of the Lord — 12th January 2020

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: Annette Brebner, Bernard Gleeson, Stephen O'Neill

Anniversaries: Frs. Kirby and Sexton, Catherine O'Loughlin, Allan Wallace, Graeme Horan

Mass Times	Monday	7.30am at St Pius
	Tuesday	10.00am
	Wednesday	9.30am
	Thursday	9.30am
	Friday	9.30am (Feast of St. Anthony)
	Saturday	10.00am at St Pius

THE LORD'S DAY	Saturday	6.00pm
	Sunday <td>9.00am</td>	9.00am
	Allansford <td>10.30am</td>	10.30am



*White is the colour of
rejoicing*

The Word of God:

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

Next Week: Is 49: 3.5-6/ 1 Cor 1: 1-3/ Jn 1: 29-34

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

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

Our Lady Help of Christians East Warrnambool is a Child Safe Parish



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. Lawrie, 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)*



THE LORD WILL BLESS HIS PEOPLE WITH PEACE

O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court. **R.**

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **R.**

The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits as king for ever. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened the voice of the Father thundered; this is my beloved Son listen to Him.

HYMNS:

- Entrance 14 O Come all Ye Faithful
- Gifts 3 O Little Town of Bethlehem
- Communion 18 Silent Night
- 4 Come, Come, Come to the Manger
- Recessional 19 Joy to the World

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

Today the Church concludes The Christmas Season with "The Feast of the Baptism of Jesus; The Lord". We look back on the past year with **appreciation** to our Parishioners for all they have done for our Parish Family and Visitors. "For all that has been thank you and for all that will be in 2020, Yes."
Our Lady Help of Christians, Sts. Carthage and Mary MacKillop, Pray for us.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Catholic Church plans national response to bushfire crisis (President Archbishop Mark Coleridge)
Parishes across the country are taking up a special collection at Masses on the Australia Day weekend, with all funds to be donated to Vinnie's bushfire appeal.
A genuinely Catholic response to a crisis of this magnitude must draw strength from prayer which inspires concrete and compassionate action.

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.

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/

Marriage Tip: What makes a happy marriage? Many things of course, but one glue that helps a lot of couples is being able to laugh when things go wrong.

"Life in a Whole new Light and Clothed with
Power from on High"
Today we welcome with great joy
Connor Davey
who is being baptised into the family of God,
who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

'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)

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

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 Thursday 7.30pm in meeting room.

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

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

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. Please invite "Old Friends".

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.

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

Cards Solo & Euchre on Tuesday 1pm. All Welcome.

On January 15th, 1842, Mary MacKillop was born in Fitzroy.

St John of God Auxiliary is conducting a **Book Sale** on 18th and 19th January at The Offshore and Light Game Fishing Club (located behind 'The Pavilion'), 10.00am-4.00pm.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land—2020: A wonderful opportunity to visit Petra, Jericho, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and many other places. The pilgrimage is being led by Fr John Fitzgerald, 28th May to 10th June. Brochure & booking form available from Parish Office of contact info@harvestjourneys.com.

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!

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.**

