

## ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



### LITURGY for 25/26 January

**6pm** Welcomers: P Walsh, S Hargreaves Gifts: Bouchier Family Readers: S Hogan, J Mahony

Ministers: D White, D Bartlett, P Bolte, M Bonner, K Bouchier, R Coffey

**9am** Welcomers: J McCosh, J Zanos Gifts: S Brittain Family Readers: C Morriss, C Porter

Ministers: M&L Taggart, P Allan

### CHURCH CLEANING:

#### Week commencing

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

26 January Group 2: P Jubb, P Bolte

### COUNTING TEAMS:

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

26 January Team 10: Cross Family

**COMMUNION TO LYNDONCH:** 26 January: Louise & Michael Taggart

*New Rosters are now Available*



## Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

(John 1: 29-34)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

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 provided in the reference. John the Baptist took it upon himself to provide a reference for Jesus. His testimony reverberates across the centuries, offering an introduction to Jesus for those who seek to understand this Jewish prophet and teacher who 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”. 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 with 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 in relation to the death of Jesus might point in this direction. Is “God’s lamb” the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53 who assumes the sins of the many? Is it an image of the lamb that God provides for Abraham’s sacrifice in 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”).

There is never a simple explanation when it comes to John’s gospel, but it seems to me that the symbol of strength in vulnerability has potential 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 and the distress of God’s Earth.



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



## PARISH BULLETIN

**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th 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:** Father Sean McGearty, Ninu Susan Eidho, Abin Thonbara, Maureen Schram, Anne Nguyen (Vietnam), Bridie Ryan (Ireland), Pauline Ludhams, Margaret Kelly  
**Anniversaries:** John Shanley, Michael & Mary McInerney, Kathleen McCarthy, Patricia Treya, Michael O’Sullivan, Sr. Emmanuel Cook RSM, John Malone, Annie McCutcheon, Rachel O’Donoghue

**Mass Times** Monday 7.30am at St Pius  
Tuesday 10.00am (St Agnes)  
Wednesday 9.30am  
Thursday 9.30am  
Friday 9.30am  
Saturday 10.00am at St Pius

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

*Green is the colour of  
hope and growth*



### The Word of God:

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

Next Week: Is 8: 23—9: 3/ 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**

Monday —he gave me the gift of love.  
Tuesday —peace came from above.  
Wednesday—he told me to have more faith  
Thursday —he gave me a little more grace.  
Friday —he told me just to watch and pray.  
Saturday —he told me what to say.  
Sunday —he gave me the power divine,  
to let my little light shine.

**To mark the return to Ordinary Time in the  
Church’s Year, a litany called  
“Now the Work of Christmas Begins”**

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to rebuild the nations, to release the prisoner, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart, to listen with the ear of your heart, to work for justice and peace, to care for the environment, to build our lives in Mass/prayer/service.

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



**HERE I AM, LORD; I COME TO DO YOUR WILL**

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **R.**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **R.**

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **R.**

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of Truth and Life.**

To the humble and the lowly you reveal the Kingdom's mystery.

**HYMNS:**

Entrance	28	Praise to You
Gifts	89	Isaiah 49
Communion	65	To Be Your Bread
	27	Song of the Body of Christ
Recessional	90	Here I Am Lord

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

**“With you O Lord is the Fountain of Life and in Your Life we see Light”**

*“The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.” (Mark Twain)*

**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.

**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.

**Marriage Tip:** Give yourself a break today or tomorrow – from kids, a chore, worries. It doesn’t have to be long to refresh. Take your cue from God, our Creator, who rested on the seventh day.

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/)

*‘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](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. Please invite “Old Friends”.

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

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

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** will take place for Year 2 and Year 6 children on March 18th and 19th. Parent Information and Enrolment will take place in the Church foyer on February 12th. All welcome.

**The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC)** Welcome volunteers for their Missions. 02 9697 0983 or [msscmission@msscmission.org](mailto:msscmission@msscmission.org)

**Next Sunday** is Australia Day, Mass 6pm Saturday and 9am Sunday.

**A Cloud of Witness** the Story of Christianity. The first 100 years of the Christian Faith. Thursdays for 8 weeks commencing Feb 6th, 7.30-9pm at the Presbyterian Church, Spence St.

**Thank you** from Fr. Lawrie on behalf of Bishop Paul and the Priests of the Ballarat Diocese for your generous Christmas Offerings. These together with loose money on the collection support our living costs and equal allowance.

**Diaries** are now available with compliments of Catholic Missions.

**Fully furnished room to let** in Bacchus Marsh in a quiet modern family home. Ten minutes to railway station then forty minutes to Melbourne on a comfortable V-line train. Internet included in rent, all other bills are split four ways so low cost yet very comfortable living. \$100 a week, students most welcome, there is a desk in the room. Phone Angela: 0428 265 951.

**Emma Llewellyn**, a novice of the Sisters of Mercy, will make her first vows at St Alipius’ Church Ballarat, on Saturday 18th Jan. Emma is a Melbourne person and will undertake a Secondary Teaching position in Perth, following her Profession. Please pray for her as she steps out to follow Catherine McAuley.



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.**