

## ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



### LITURGY for 15/16 February

**6pm** Welcomers: D Bartlett, S Byron Gifts: Jenkins Family Readers: G McMeel, F O'Connor

Ministers: M Mills, F Moloney, J O'Sullivan, M Page, S Reimert, J Tankard

**9am** Welcomers: J Zanos, J Bouwman Gifts: D Duynhoven, A Vielhabor Readers: T Kenny, Z Lukies

Ministers: A Jubb, J Moorfield, K O'Leary

### CHURCH CLEANING:

#### Week commencing

9 February Group 4: J Hales, T Woolley, M&J McLean

16 February Group 5: J McCarthy, J Carroll

### COUNTING TEAMS:

9 February Team 2: Des Arundell, Bryan O'Keeffe, Ces Cooper/Min Cooper

16 February Team 3: Terry & Pat King, Maureen & Ron Gillin

**COMMUNION TO LYNDOKH:** 16 February: Robert McLaren, Christine Di Palma



## Reflection on the Gospel-5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 5: 13-16)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

In today's gospel, Jesus addresses two short parables to his disciples in the presence of the crowds. The crowds as well as the disciples hear what he has to say. Parables were intended to tease their hearers, inviting them to see things differently or from a new perspective, to see themselves in a new light. One of the difficulties for us is that Jesus told these parables in early first century Palestine with its particular symbol system, while we hear them through the multiple layers of our own twenty-first century contexts and symbol systems. "Salt" and "light" have slightly different resonances in different contexts, as do "earth" and "world". Exploring those resonances or nuances can bring us to a deeper appreciation of the text.

This short reflection allows for a focus only on "the salt of the earth" parable or metaphor. For Jesus' Palestinian audience, salt was used to preserve and to season food. It also functioned as a cleansing or purifying agent. It could only lose its savour if contaminated by additives. We can resonate with all of that. For some of the Jewish rabbis, salt signified wisdom: a "salted" disciple was a "wise" disciple. In some parts of the ancient world, as in Pakistan today, salt was used in dyeing processes as a way of intensifying as well as preserving the colour of fabrics. Many Westerners are not aware of this practice. These days we are rightly concerned about high levels of salinity in overworked soil. That was certainly not so for first-century Palestinians.

When we declare someone to be "the salt of the earth", we are generally referring to the sheer goodness of the person in question, her/his down to earth reliability, lack of pretentiousness and practical wisdom. To be salt of the earth is to season the earth community, to intensify its beauty, to be wise in one's judgments, to be just and compassionate in all of one's dealings. This parable, with its multi-layered symbolism, certainly teases the mind.

In the original Greek, the emphasis is on the first word in the sentence. Jesus is telling his hearers, disciples and crowds, that they are the salt of the earth. They do not have to become the salt of the earth; they are the salt of the earth. In short, he is affirming their worth. In its literary context, that assertion contrasts Jesus' followers with those who might persecute them. It affirms their capacity to stand strong in the face of opposition, "for the sake of justice". If they allow themselves to be overwhelmed or allow their commitment to be shaken, then the "salt" will be contaminated and the "earth" cannot be seasoned. As we reflect on the diverse metaphorical applications of salt and earth, we might take a moment to give thanks to God for the gift of the material realities that underlie these powerful metaphors.

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



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



## PARISH BULLETIN

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 9th February 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:** Kevin Hyland, Les Gardiner, Allan Noone, Maureen Caruso, April Farfan, Fay Uren, Augustine Mathew

**Anniversaries:** Ruth McKee, John Fowler, Ellen Greene, Veronica O'Keeffe, Eugene Greene, Kevin Fogarty, Father O'Farrell, Sister Josephine O'Bree, Adele Henderson, Greg McKew, Mary Goggin, Bridget Lane

**Mass Times** Monday 7.30am at St Pius  
Tuesday 10.00am (Sacrament of the Sick) (Our Lady of Lourdes)  
Wednesday 9.30am (Jack Douglas, John & Ginge Moore RIP)  
Thursday 9.30am (Maureen Schramm RIP)  
Friday 9.30am (Blessing for the New School Year & for new shaded courtyard)  
Saturday 10.00am at St Pius

**THE LORD'S DAY** Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 9.00am  
Allansford 10.30am

*Green is the colour of  
hope and growth*



### The Word of God:

This Week: Is 58: 7-10/ 1 Cor 2: 1-5/ Mt 5: 13-16

Next Week: Sir 15: 15-20/ 1 Cor 2: 6-10/ Mt 5: 17-37

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

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

THE FEAST DAY OF ST BAKHITA



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**8 February—World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking**

Pope Francis designated 8 February, the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking.

Josephine Bakhita was born in Southern Sudan in 1869, and during her life experienced kidnapping and slavery in both Sudan and Italy. After gaining her freedom Josephine Bakhita dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. She eventually became a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000.

*"Life in a Whole Light and  
Clothed with Power from on High"  
Today we welcome with great joy*

*Lennie Ruff*

*who is being baptised into the  
family of God, who is Father, Son  
and Holy Spirit.*



*May God guide your  
footsteps, may He light  
your way.  
May you clearly see His  
leading every day.*

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



**A LIGHT RISES IN THE DARKNESS FOR THE UPRIGHT.**

He is a light in the darkness for the upright: he is generous, merciful and just. The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour. **R.**

The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **R.**

With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

To the humble and the lowly you reveal the kingdoms mystery.

**HYMNS:**

Entrance	71	Gather Your People
Gifts	28	Praise to You
Communion	125	Eat This Bread
	40	Will You Love Me?
Recessional	57	City of God

**Mystery Of Faith**

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



As we move into the second stage of the Plenary Council Journey, we continue to seek the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We are invited to

reflect on Scripture, Church teaching and our contemporary situation in order to discern the answer to this question: How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is a joyful, hope-filled and servant community? The fruits of what is discerned during this time will help shape the agenda of the first session of Plenary Council in October 2020.

This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a yearning for the Church to be a sign of God's kingdom for all people in Australia—to be able to see the Catholic Church in action, and to recognise Jesus. There was an expression of faith-filled hope in the capacity of the Catholic community to celebrate together, to show what it is to be a follower of Christ and to be loved unconditionally by God. There was a call to contemplate the Gospel call to be a servant Church for the good of all people in Australia—particularly for refugees and asylum-seekers and other people who are vulnerable or at risk. Many responses expressed a hunger for strong witness of faith, especially by priests, young people and female leaders in parish and school ministries.

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

**11 February—World Day of the Sick**

World Day of the Sick is an observation that was started by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes. People around the world take the time to pray for the sick and for those who work very hard to alleviate the suffering of the sick on this day. Faith organisations mark this day especially to provide the sick with medicines, food, and spiritual guidance. Pope John Paul II initiated the day in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers.

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

**PARISH LIFE—LIFE TO THE FULL**

**OLHC Community acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians of this land—the Gunditjmarra 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.** *“Our perfection does not consist of doing extraordinary things but to do the ordinary well.”* (St Gabriel Possenti—27 Feb)

**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”**

New Rosters are available.

**Plenary Council Preparation** OLHC will host a discernment 7pm Thursday 27th February on the Church being a joyful, hope-filled and servant community.

*“Without Christ life is as the twilight with dark night ahead; With Christ life is the dawn of morning with the light and warmth of full day ahead.”* (Philip Schaff)

**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”.

**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.

**A Cloud of Witness** The Story of Christianity. The first 1000 years of the Christian Faith. Thursdays for 8 weeks commencing Feb 6th, 7.30-9pm at the Presbyterian Church, Spence St.

**“A Candle loses nothing of it's light by lighting another candle.”** -(Fr James Keller)

**Morning Tea** after 9am Mass. All welcome. Hosts are the Glynn and Hanlon Family Groups.

**Our Parish Donation** for the suffering from the Fires to date is \$2014.20. Further contributions are welcome in an envelopes marked **Fire Appeal**. Thank you.

**Ash Wednesday** is 26th February. Masses 10am & 7pm.

**Visit the Mary MacKillop Museum** Chapel and Gift Shop, 362 Albert St, East Melbourne. Monday—Friday 10am-4pm.

**Cards** Tuesday 1pm in Church foyer. All welcome.

**Envelopes and Receipts** for Financial Giving to our Parish are available. (If you can now help please collect an invitation)

“Often you can see **power lines** running alongside the street. Unless current is flowing through them, there is no **light**. The **power line** is you and !! The current is God! We have the power to allow the current to **flow through** us and thus to **generate the light** of the world: **JESUS**—or to refuse to be used and, thus, allow the darkness to spread.” (Saint Mother Teresa)



*“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?”* (Corrie Ten Boom)

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**.

Christianity is not ‘an idea in the air’. It is the feet on the ground going God's way: being God's servant.

**Pope's Prayer Intentions for February**

**Listen to the Migrants' Cries**

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

**Marriage Tip:** Any two people who live as closely as husband and wife are bound to emotionally hurt each other at times. It may be a careless word or wanting your way. Don't be too proud to repent. “I'm sorry” is the first step; making amends is the next.