

## ROSTERS

We thank you for the wonderful works you do!



### LITURGY for 19/20 December

**6pm** **Welcomers:** Beks Family **Gifts:** B&B Gladman **Readers:** E Dicks, B Gladman

**Ministers:** R Coffey, J Conheady, M Crichton, E Dicks, P Flynn, J Fowler

**9am** **Welcomers:** D&C Cooper **Gifts:** D&A Grundy **Readers:** D Farley, J Fish

**Ministers:** R Breunig, A Jubb, F Lamb

### CHURCH CLEANING:

#### Week commencing

13 December Group 6: Sudanese Community

20 December Group 7: Ann-Marie Moloney, Hannah Chisholm

### COUNTING TEAMS:

13 December Team 6: Robert Mills, Robert Lane, Paul Torpy

20 December Team 7: Terry & Laine Kenny, Ann & Gerard Peoples

**LAWN MOWING:** For fortnight 6 December Group 4: John Tankard, Michael Soulsby

**COMMUNION TO LYNDROCH:** 20 December: Robert McLaren, Chris Smith



**Making Connections:** Make a special effort to live ethically this week.

**Marriage Tip:** Generosity is a virtue, but too often couples overspend around the holidays and rack up credit card debt. Simple gifts are great, as is time spent together (always free!).

**Daily Prayer:** O God, the fountain of life and rejoicing, renew us in your love and baptise us with the fire of your Holy Spirit, that we may proclaim to all people the good news of your presence in our midst. May we delight to share with them your peace, which surpasses all understanding.

**A Vocation View:** "What ought we to do?" Let joy and gladness show forth in you. You are called to be the presence of Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18).

*May God fill your life with love, joy and peace this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.* - Fr. Lawrie and the Parish Co-ordinating Team

### Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

**Show us your face** and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, **and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.**

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

**"If you knew the gift of God!"**

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:

let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that **your ministers** would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:

let everyone who approaches them **feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.** Send your Spirit and **consecrate** every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with **renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,** proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

*"Go in peace glorifying the Lord by your life."*



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

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

## PARISH BULLETIN

**3rd Sunday of Advent — 13th December 2015**

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

*olhcwbl@bigpond.net.au www.ballarat.catholic.org.au*

*facebook: www.facebook.com/olhcwbl*

*OLHC Primary School: Eugene Dalton - Phone 5562 5559*

*www3.olhcwarmambool.catholic.edu.au*

*Emmanuel College: Peter Morgan - Phone 5560 0888*

*St. Carthage's Church—Grauers Rd, Allansford*

**"PEACE TO ALL WHO ENTER HERE"**

**Recent Deaths:** Sister Maria Goretti RSM, Marie Trask, Shirley Donehue

**Anniversaries:** Bep Hartog, Jessie Ward, Tim Glynn, Mary McKinnon, Clem Lourey, Harm Bakker, Brian Parsons, Jan Alexander, Maurice Nash, Roger Walsh, Bill Brittain, John Mahony, Frs. O'Dowd, & Connellan, Jim & Ray McNiece, Eileen Holsher, Fr. Payne, Mary Crowe

**Mass Times:** Monday 7.30 at St. Pius  
Tuesday 10.00am  
Wednesday 9.30pm  
Thursday 7.30pm **(For the Forgiveness of Our Sins)**  
(Mary Crowe & Annie Collins RIP)

Friday 9.30am  
Saturday 10.00am at St Pius

**THE LORD'S DAY** **Saturday 6.00pm**  
**Sunday 9.00am** **ADVENT 4**  
**Allansford 10.30am**

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

**The Word of God:** This Week: Zep 3: 14-18a, Phil 4: 4-7, Lk 3: 10-18

Next Week: Mi 5: 1-4a, Heb 10: 5-10, Lk 1: 39-45

**Reconciliation - Friday 10.00am; Saturday 10.30am at St. Pius**

### Third Sunday of Advent

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

'**Community** is a place of belonging where each person can grow to become fully him or herself. It is **belonging for becoming.** We belong to each other so that each member can become more human, more loving, more free, more open to others, particularly to those who are different. When each member can develop their unique gifts and help others to develop theirs, members are no longer in competition but in collaboration, in **cooperation** and in mutual support. To become is not to prove I am better than you, but rather supporting together each other in opening up our hearts. Thus **community** is a place of transformation...'

- Jean Vanier, Canadian Catholic philosopher, theologian and humanitarian

We welcome with great joy **Audrey, Mabel & Hazel Clements** who are being baptised into the family of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **"Life in a Whole new Light"**



*Carols today  
7pm in the  
Allansford  
Hall.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Keep for Daily Prayer)



### CRY OUT WITH JOY AND GLADNESS: FOR AMONG YOU IS THE GREAT AND HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **R.**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his might deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Praise the Word of truth and life.*

We shall watch, Lord, we shall pray, Lord, for we know not when you cometh.

### HYMNS:

Entrance	174	O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Res Ps	CWB 180	
Gifts	50	Prepare the Way
Communion	185	Our Supper Invitation
	27	Song of the Body of Christ
Recessional	57	City of God

### WREATH:

*Be on your guard and stay awake, I will return so stay awake. You know not when so stay awake, until I come again. Jesus, we stand awaiting you. Watching in prayer, proclaiming you. You are the light of all the world. We prayer your Kingdom Come*

### Mystery Of Faith

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

## Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy

December 2015-November 2016

## The Holy Doors

Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Mercy: twelve months for us to focus on and deepen our gratitude for the loving mercy of God. As with all jubilee years, the Year of Mercy will include the use of a Holy Door, a specially designated entrance that has spiritual and symbolic meaning for Catholics.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, passing through a Holy Door is part of the pilgrimage that all Catholics are encouraged to make, whether during a trip to Rome or a trip to the **cathedrals**.

**“By crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God’s mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us” -Pope Francis**

Pope St. John Paul II said, the Holy Door “evokes the passage from sin to grace which every Christian is called to accomplish”

Today pilgrims still enter through the Holy Door as a sign of repentance and the desire to renew and recommit to their faith.

On December 8, 2015, the Holy Door at St. Peter’s will be opened to begin the Year of Mercy. “On that day, the Holy Door will become a **Door of Mercy** through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope.”

The door, which is bricked shut at the end of a Holy Year, is ceremonially opened by the pope. Traditionally, the pope strikes it three times with a silver hammer, while singing, **“Open unto me the gates of justice.”**

The threefold strike to open the door is symbolic. It recalls **Moses’s** striking the rock to bring forth water (Nm 20:6-11), as well as **God** striking the earth to free Paul and Syllis from prison (Acts 16:25-40) and the strike **the soldier** gave Jesus on the cross.

### Advent at OLHC

Mass for “The Forgiveness of Our Sins” **THURSDAY** 17th December 7.30pm “The Year of Mercy”

### Christmas Masses

<b>Christmas Eve</b>	6.00pm	<b>Christmas Day</b>	8.30am
	8.00pm (Carols from 7.30pm)		10.00am at Allansford

### PARISH LIFE

**OLHC Community acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians of this land—the Gunditjmara People and other tribes.**

**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 December with the Saints** “Throw wide the gate of your heart, and stand before the Son of everlasting light.” (St. Ambrose—Dec 7th)

**Holy Hour** Monday 10.00am. (Prepare for Christmas)

**A free** online daily Advent Resource program **“The Face of Mercy”**. Subscribe: [www.thefaceofmercy.org.au](http://www.thefaceofmercy.org.au)

The latest edition of **“Our Diocesan Community”** is available—compliments of the Parish. Also **“Australian Catholics”** is now available.

**Bishop Paul** has written a letter regarding **the Royal Commission**, copies are available in Church porch.

**Children’s Liturgy** will be held over the next 3 weeks for Advent. We will be making symbols to hang on a **Jesse Tree** which will be displayed in the foyer. All children welcome to attend.

**Envelopes** are available on the Church pews for a Christmas gift/help from the St. Vincent De Paul Society.

**Christmas Day Lunch** at Uniting Church. Bookings 0409 158 177.

**New app** assists daily reflection during the Year of Mercy, get it on Google Play <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=fraynetwork.mercyng>

**Working Bee** at the **Allansford Church** on Monday 1pm.

**Wanted** a cleaner for OLHC Church to join a group and replace a retiree. See Fr. Lawrie.

**Ministry** for our **Christmas Masses** is welcome. Please fill in the list in the Church foyer, eg. Readers etc.

**Carols** on the Civic Green on Friday 6.30pm for 7.30pm.

### Pope’s Prayer Intentions for December

**Universal:** Experiencing God’s mercy  
That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

**Evangelization:** Families  
That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

**For Sale** Christmas Cards 8 for \$3  
Columban Calenders \$8 (with monthly prints of the Masters; ideal gift)

Singing practice at 4.30pm on Sunday 13th December for Christmas Masses

**PARISH PRAYER:** Loving God, **Good Shepherd** to us all, Gather us and form us into a welcoming parish **family**. Touch our hearts with your love so that we, in turn, may reach out to love one another, in a **neighborly** community. **Our Lady Help of Christians**, guide us as we seek to do Christ’s will. Bless us in service, strengthen us in support of each other, and unite us as we grow in faith & love, to be a **welcoming**, caring Parish **community**. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saints Carthage and Mary MacKillop, pray for our Parish family.