#### **Parish Priest**

Fr Neil Fernando Mobile: 0478 085 894

E-mail: frneilfdo@gmail.com

Parish Hall Bookings Pew Sheet

Lynn Fisher: Mobile: 0407 186 174 All notices/information for pew

sheet to Parish Office by 9.00am

Thursday mornings please

#### **Parish Office**

Telephone/Fax: (08) 8723 1353 Email: churchan@bigpond.net.au

Postal Address: PO Box 1357, Mt Gambier, SA, 5290

Church Addresses:

Christ Church, 26 Bay Road, Mount Gambier St Thomas, Church Street, Port MacDonnell St Luke's, Post Office Road, Mount Schank

Web site: www.anglicanmountgambier.org.au

**Details for giving by Direct Debit**: BSB: 105-002

A/c number: 041 398 740



## We pray for the Diocese of The Murray and Parish Council Members

Bishop Keith Dalby (Alice); Very Rev. David Price (Dean) (Lesley);

Fr Des Ackland (Raelene) and Fr Peter Carlsson

and In the Limestone Coast

Fr David Patterson; Fr Wayne; Fr David Withers (Ann); Fr Neil (Nalini)

#### **Parish Counsellors Christ Church**

Richard Strickland, Helen Douglass, Rick Fisher, Brian Smith, Jeff Bowman, Sandy Coulson, Maree Lynch, Lynn Fisher

## Diocesan Prayer

Lord Jesus, you call us to be your disciples and friend; help us to journey with you on the way of life toward the Father. Enable us by the Spirit to discover not only the fullness of who you are, but also the fullness of life you offer to each one of us.

Amen

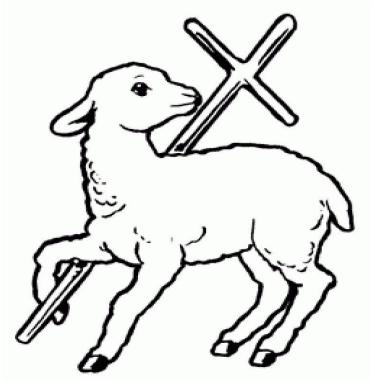
# The Anglican Pastoral District of Mount Gambier

Christ Church
Mount Gambier

St Luke's Mount Schank

St Thomas
Port MacDonnell

Epiphany 2: 19th January 2020



## Behold the Lamb of God



## We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our services today

Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest or Wardens — and please join us for a cuppa and chat in the Ashworth Room after the service

## From Fr Neil

#### Behold the lamb of God

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 and is the second of the "suffering servant" prophecies, found in Isaiah. These were prophecies uttered during the Babylonian exile to encourage the Jewish exiles to persevere in their trust in Yahweh, who would soon liberate them from Babylon, and eventually send them the long-expected Messiah, promised to Abraham.

The Gospel presents to us the scene of the meeting between Jesus and John the Baptist at the Jordan River. John the Baptist sees Jesus, who steps forward from the crowd and, inspired from above, sees in Jesus the one sent by God. For this reason he points him out with theses words: "Behold the lamb of God, he who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29).

The word that is translated with "take away" literally means "to relieve," "to take upon oneself." Jesus has come into the world with a precise mission: to free it from the slavery of sin, taking humanity's faults upon himself. In what way? By loving. There is no other way to defeat evil and sin than with the love that moves one to give the gift of his life for others. In the testimony of John the Baptist, Jesus is given the traits of the Servant of the Lord, who "has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows" (Isaiah 53:4), to the point of dying on the cross. He is the true Passover lamb, who immerses himself in the river of our sin, to purify us.

The Baptist sees before him a man who gets in line with sinners to be baptized even though he does not need to. He is the man who God sent into the world as the sacrificial lamb. The word "lamb" appears several times in the New Testament and always in reference to Jesus. This image of the lamb might surprise us: an animal that is certainly not characterized by its strength and hardiness takes upon himself such an oppressive weight. The enormous mass of evil is removed and taken away by a weak and fragile creature, who is a symbol of obedience, docility and defenceless love, who goes to the point of sacrificing himself. The lamb is not an oppressor but is docile; he is not aggressive but peaceful; he does not show his claws or teeth in the face of an attack, but endures it and is submissive. And this is how Jesus is! This is how Jesus is! He is like a lamb.

What does it mean for the Church, for us, today to be disciples of Jesus the Lamb of God? It means putting innocence in the place of malice, love in the place of force, humility in the place of pride, service in the place of prestige. It is good work! We Christians must do this. Being disciples of the Lamb means that we must not live like a "city under siege," but like a city on a hill, open, welcoming, solidary. It means not having an attitude of closedness, but proposing the Gospel to everyone, testifying with our life that following Jesus makes us more free and more joyful.

cf.internet

READINGS and ROSTER — Sunday, 19th January 2020 Epiphany 2		
Isa 49: 1-6 Ps 40: 8-13	1 Cor 1: 1-9	John 1: 29-34
EUCHARIST ASSISTANT	Kathy MacIntosh	
SERVER	Julienne Feast	
INTERCESSIONS	Sue Christopher	
WELCOMER	Anne Ashworth	
ELEMENTS	Denise McDonald	
SIDESPERSONS	Raylene Milligan & Faye Hill	
FOOD BASKET	Judy Geddes	
READERS	David Glover and Anne Ashworth	
MORNING TEA	Denise McDonald and Judy Geddes	
FLOWERS	Margaret Boardman	
8.00am SERVER	Julienne Feast	
SOUND DESK	Robyn Ashby	
PEWSHEET ASSEMBLING	Alice Gladigau	
GARDENING	<del></del>	
GARDENING MOWING ROSTER	Rick Fisher	
MOWING ROSTER  READINGS and ROSTE	R — Sunday, 26th Ja	nuary 2020
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MOWING ROSTER  READINGS and ROSTE	R — Sunday, 26th Ja Epiphany 3 1 Cor 1: 10-17	-
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## There is a vacancy in the gardening roster at present.

If you think you could take on these duties—approx. 3 times a year for a month each time—please either speak to the office staff or Robyn Sweetnam for further info. Thank you.

#### Catherine Hamlin Fistula Foundation

Please see Vestry noticeboard for 2019 review.

## **Diocesan Prayer Diary**

Copies available at the back of the Church.

#### Thank You to Alan Richardson

Thanks to Alan Richardson for hand crafting and installing a bracket to hold the Processional Cross when it is stored in the Sanctuary during services.

Seemingly, no such bracket has existed since the cross was first given, and its use commenced in 1915 to this current time.

Bill Hudd



## Thought for the Week from Mothers union Australia **Sunday 19 January 2020**

## **Christian unity** We are the body of Christ

'We are the Body of Christ', says the president of the eucharist. 'His Spirit is with us.' The congregation replies. What wonderfully sensible, biblical words these are. Hearing them on Sunday mornings read from the prayer book reminds us of the unity of Christians. St Paul chose the image of a body to describe the church and when we pray for Christian Unity we need to keep this image in our minds. The brain has very little in common with the skeletal frame in texture, substance, appearance and function. Looked at in that way we who are many are ONE for we all belong to the one BODY which is Christ our Livina Lord.

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11

A common enemy can draw people together: in Northern Argentina Mothers' Union members joined the Roman Catholic Church on a march in Juraez against their enemy, drugs. Their common cause being to bring Christ's love to all.



## Family BBQ and Fun Day Sunday, 26th January 2020 @ the church following the 9.30am Children's service

#### \$5.00/head

Wading/swimming pools will be available for the children to use/play in. BYO meat and drinks — and a salad to share. Come along and join in the fun!

#### Lifeline SE

Lifeline SE are taking enrolments for their Volunteer Crisis Supporter training in Mt Gambier. If you are interested in undertaking this training please contact Lifeline on 8723 2299.



"If you can listen, you can save lives"

## **2020 Diocese of The Murray calendars**

These calendars are now available for collection from the Parish Office. If you ordered one, could you please ensure that you pay for it on collection. Thank you.

## Coming events in the Parish / Diocese

Wednesday, 22 January Parish Council Meeting in vestry 5.00pm

Sunday, 26 January Family BBQ @ church following

9.30am Children's service

Tu3esday, 4 February 3.15pm Fundraising Team meeting

#### FREEZER MINISTRY FOR JANUARY

Anne Ashworth

Larnka Foran

Please remember when preparing food for the freezer ministry, to label, date and list all the ingredients in each container.



## Pray for those who are unwell and for each other

Bishop David McCall; Pam Judge; Val Linder; Fr Peter Carlsson; Sue Ongley; Maree & Bob Lynch; Sallyann Geddes (daughter of Neil & Judy); June Willcourt; Wendy Monger & Don Currie; Shirley Stacpoole

**Pray for the repose of the souls of** those near and dear to each one of us and for those whose yearly remembrance is this week.

If you wish for your name (or the name of someone you know) to be placed on the prayer list, please submit the request in writing (including your Name and the name of the person for whom prayers are required).

Forms for this purpose can be found at the back of the church.

At this time, please pray especially for all the victims of the bushfires burning in South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia — these people have lost loved ones, possessions and livelihood amidst the devastation—and now face the mammoth task of rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.

Please also remember in your prayers all the personnel who are continuing to desperately fight these fires to bring them under control.

We give thanks for the much needed rain falling in the fire zones of the eastern states, and pray that Kangaroo Island will soon receive lifegiving rain to help with their recovery.



## A Prayer from Bishop Keith

Dear Lord, and Heavenly Father. You created the heavens and earth and all that therein is. Your Son, our Saviour stilled the wind and the waves, and demonstrated mastery over creation.

We pray this day Lord, turn these fires burning throughout our Land back on themselves through a change of wind according to each situation. We also pray as your humble servants to send gentle and soaking rains on these fire grounds to extinguish these fires completely.

Finally we sorrow for those whose lives have been lost, receive them into your tender care, and we give thanks for the service of volunteer fire fighters in our nation, we pray your protection over them and their families that they might be reunited. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Services this coming week in the Parish

Monday, 20th January

10.00am—3.00pm Bell Tower Op Shop and Lounge

5.15pm Christian Meditation

Tuesday, 21st January

10.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am—3.00pm Bell Tower Op Shop and Lounge

Wednesday, 22nd January

10.00am—3.00pm Bell Tower Op Shop and Lounge 1.00pm Craft Group commences February

Thursday, 23rd January

10.00am Morning Prayer

10.00am—3.00pm Bell Tower Op Shop and Lounge

5.15pm Christian Meditation

6.00pm CMG practice

Friday, 24th January

11.00am Holy Eucharist

10.00am—3.00pm Bell Tower Op Shop

Saturday, 25th January

9.30am—12.30pm Bell Tower Op Shop

Sunday, 26th January

8.00am Holy Eucharist 9.30am Children's Service

On the 1st Tuesday of each month, there will be a service at St Mary's Boandik at 10.00am and 1st and 3rd Fridays at Boandik Lodge Lake Tce. at 1.30pm and on the 1st Friday of each month, a healing service will be held at 10.30am prior to the 11.00am Holy Eucharist.

NB: Our church has an audio loop to assist those with hearing aids