

## A TERM OF GREAT HONOUR

Some people today may be puzzled by John the Baptist referring to Jesus in today's gospel as the "lamb of God", since for most of us the lambs we see in the paddocks are cute, but weak and vulnerable to predators. You don't hear of nations, or even sporting teams, adopting 'lambs' as their emblem. Why should John identify "the Chosen One of God" as the "lamb of God"?

The people for whom John was writing would have heard the "lamb of God" very differently to us. For those familiar with the Old Testament, the term "lamb of God" had extremely powerful resonances, especially in the suffering servant passages in Isaiah, as well as in the Exodus from Egypt.

Recall how Isaiah gives an astonishing account of the suffering servant who is beaten, arrested and put to death: "Like a lamb about to be slaughtered, like a sheep about to be sheared, he never said a word." Yet by his endurance we are saved and forgiven by God (53:7).

Again at the Exodus from Egypt, we read of God sending a destroying angel to kill all the first born in the land, of people and animals, to force Pharaoh to release the Israelites from their bondage. Moses instructs the Israelites to take the blood of a lamb or kid and put it on the doorpost overnight to protect them from the angel of death (Ex. 12). This Passover became a defining feast for the Jewish people ever after, and it resonates in our Christian Eucharist as well.

So for us the "lamb of God" is indeed a term of great honour, not one of weakness but of incredible endurance and commitment by God in Jesus to our wellbeing and salvation. The symbol of the lamb is not one of threat or violence, but of innocence and solidarity with those in suffering.

Curiously in John's gospel, there is no mention of him baptising Jesus. John even says he did not know Jesus, but recognised him from the sign of the Spirit descending on him. John speaks as a prophet witnessing to the true identity of Jesus as the Chosen One who takes away "the sin of the world", the primordial disorder in all creation and in us.

John witnesses the Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus, but the Spirit is not for Jesus alone. Jesus will baptise with the Holy Spirit, and so the Spirit will be alive in all the followers of Jesus.

John is intent on showing how the same Holy Spirit in Jesus is the very same Spirit animating the small and seemingly insignificant Christian communities of his day. He is urging the followers of Jesus to allow God's Spirit to nudge them to be good news, with the 'lamb of God' as their emblem, capturing God's intense personal commitment to our wellbeing, and calling us to a similar commitment to others.



Bruce Duncan CSsR  
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## Gosnells Catholic Parish

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church  
Archdiocese of Perth  
Western Australia



**Parish Priest: Fr Philip Perreau**  
philip.perreau@perthcatholic.org.au

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Website: [www.gosnellsparish.org.au](http://www.gosnellsparish.org.au)

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 1.30pm**  
Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells

### Parish Secretary:

Naomi Newman: 9398 2331  
Email: [secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au](mailto:secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au)

### Catechist Coordinator

Gen De Souza: 0408 717 809

### Safeguarding Officers

[safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au)  
0432 398 973

### SVDP Local Contact

Loretta Watson: 0451 794 790

**15th January, 2023**

**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Year A**

**Green**

**Today's Readings**

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

John 1:29-34

**22th January, 2023**

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Year A**

**Green**

**Next Sunday's Readings**

Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4:12-23

### St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Principal: Mr Kevin Duffy  
1 Isdell Place, Gosnells  
PO Box 172, Gosnells WA 6990  
9234 7555  
admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au

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# Sunday Bulletin

Parish Liturgies	
<b>Weekend Mass</b>	Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 7.30am, Sunday 9.30am
<b>Weekday Mass</b>	Monday 8.00am Communion Service (Mass on Solemnity only) Tuesday 6.00pm Mass - (1st Tuesday Mass of Anointing ) Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 8.00am Mass Friday 9.00am Mass
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday 5.00pm - 5.45pm or by appointment
<b>Buckley Caring Centre</b>	10.00am Mass - Second Thursday of the Month
<b>Juniper Aged Care</b>	11.00am Mass - Third Friday of the Month
<b>Rosary</b>	After weekday Masses
<b>Exposition</b>	Tuesday 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
<b>Charismatic Prayer</b>	Thursday 7.15pm - 9.15pm.
<b>Baptism</b>	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
<b>Marriage</b>	By appointment - Minimum <b>SIX MONTHS</b> notice for preparation etc

### Errol's Ordination to the Diaconate

Errol's for ordination to the Diaconate together with Jason will be celebrated here at Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church, Gosnells Parish on Friday 17th February 2023 at 7pm.



Feast Days this Week		
Jan 16	Mon	St Fursa, St Joseph Vaz
17	Tue	St Antony, Abbot
18	Wed	St Margaret of Hungary
19	Thu	St Wulstan, St Faolan, St Henry of Uppsala
20	Fri	Pope St Fabian, St Sebastian
21	Sat	St Agnes

### Praying For You



#### Recently Deceased

Doug Barlow, Frances Glossop,  
Cardinal George Pell

#### Deceased

Natalia Torremocha, Olempio Torremocha

#### Our Sick

Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford,  
Patricia Majawat, Letecia Niembra,  
Wendy Kraft, Cecilia Lee, Dolly,  
Barbara Ingram, Elvira Panici-Allen,  
Annabelle McNess, Richard Bisnath,  
Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen, Ding Madrigal,  
Zee Pereira, Metilde Warui, Con Farano,  
Rene Priest, Mary Hazel Calupig,  
Margaret Evans, Erika Magness,  
Ian Ballantyne, Mavis Hall

#### Prayers for Our Sick.

Please advise when names need to be removed from this list.



### OUR SPONSORS

Please support our sponsors who are helping us to cut down the cost of the production of our Weekly Bulletin.

### Rosters for 14/15 January, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Sandra Wren Mercy Burton	Mary Ann Bombita	Carina Limgenco	Colin Loh	Bridget Soh Christy Ravanez	Xyris Madrigal, Abigail Raganas, Seren Adams, Melanie Beacher, Athena Calupig, Matthew Calupig
Sunday 7.30am	Eric Almen Wendie Almen	Jenny Mills	Geoff Mills	Geoff Mills	Pay Tru Diana Chong	Diobett Bangayan, Naomi Kyaw-Tun, Aydriel Ratnasekera, Richardson Saw
Sunday 9.30am	Hanna Allen Jude Ayeni	Paige Jacob	Cecilia Jacob	Nigel Hayward	Francisco Aung Michael Ayeni	Patrina Paesu, Carl Borlongan, Keanu Malagui-Hicks, Able Biju, Nicole & Walter Oo, Yatumika Shelvan
Tellers this week: Sidney & Esmie D'Souza, Faye Rodriguez				Tellers next week: Chole Pereira-Smith, Prisca Pereira, Robert Slezak		

### Rosters for 21/22 January, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Rose Ford Teresa Spicer	Pam Davies	Faye Mitchell	Martin Loh	Mark Van Ingen Miriam Villan	Angel Donina, Jacob Malou, Kyle Marquis, Clinton Matthews, Jacob Raymond, Dashiell Van Ingen
Sunday 7.30am	Jennifer Barnes Jackie Hall	Sean Mullins	Chloe Pereira-Smith	Gerard Peters	Sue Frawley Vincent Frawley	Callie Abogado, Rosemary Saw, Scott Tido, Shania Tido
Sunday 9.30am	Veronica Ayeni Anne Brink	Hedwig Kanari	Jomy Jose	Dan Hewitt	Anne Brink Jim Brink	JC Borlongan, Florian Christstar, Emily Crestani, Leslie Dacruz, Angel Garavillas, Gabino Htoo

**WE CARE**

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Marycare - Maureen 9398 7375 Anne 9490 3377 Maureen 0411 691 959



**Australian Cardinal George Pell has passed away this week Tuesday  
10 January, aged 81.**

Sources close to Cardinal Pell told The Record that he had been talking with the anaesthetist in hospital following the procedure when he suddenly went into cardiac arrest, at Salvator Mundi hospital in Rome and passed away shortly before 9 pm local time.

According to the source, Pell's body will be flown back to Australia following his Vatican funeral, and he will be buried in St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney, where he served as Archbishop for 13 years before moving to the Vatican.

In addition to being one of the Catholic Church's tallest prelates, Cardinal Pell was also one of the most influential.

In a statement released today as President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Perth Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB said it was with great sadness that he learned of the unexpected death of Cardinal George Pell in Rome on Tuesday evening (Rome time).

"Cardinal Pell provided strong and clear leadership within the Catholic Church in Australia, as Archbishop of Melbourne and Archbishop of Sydney and as a member of the Bishops Conference for more than 25 years," Archbishop Costelloe said. "His many strengths were widely recognised, both in Australia and around the world, as his Vatican appointments as Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy and as a member of the Council of Cardinals, an advisory group to Pope Francis," he said.

Archbishop Costelloe continued by emphasising that Cardinal Pell's impact on the life of the Church in Australia and around the world will continue to be felt for many years.

"As we remember him and reflect on his legacy, I invite all Catholics and other people of goodwill to join in praying for Cardinal Pell, a man of deep and abiding faith, and for the repose of his soul," Archbishop Costelloe said.

Born in Ballarat in June 1941, Cardinal Pell entered the seminary in Werribee 1960 and was ordained a priest in 1966 in Rome by Cardinal Gregorio Pietro Agagianian. He quickly became a rising star in the Australian church and went on to have a prominent ecclesial career, being appointed as auxiliary bishop for Melbourne in 1987 and as then as Archbishop in 1996.

In 2001, Cardinal Pell was appointed Archbishop, going on to be made Cardinal in 2003 now St (Pope) John Paul II in 2003, participating in the conclave that elected Pope Benedict XVI, who passed away 31 December at the age of 95.

Cardinal Pell had been seen in public in Rome last week at the funeral of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. (taken from the The Record, Perth's Catholic News)

**33rd Annual Flame Congress—Heart of Worship**

27-29 January 2023; Mater Christi Catholic Church Community Centre, 340 Yangebup Road, Yangebup WA 6164

Guest Speakers: Rev Fr Joseph Laundy, Chaplain CYM and Mr Mario Borg, Director 24/7; Flame speakers: Mrs Kaye Rollings FMI SD. Mr Cyrus D'Souza FMI SD. For more details see poster or visit [www@flameministries.org](http://www@flameministries.org)

Contact: Kaye Rollings email: [kye@flameministries.org](mailto:kye@flameministries.org) Mob: 0421 605 502 See also the Notice Board

**2023 Columban Calendar**

Support your Vinnies by purchasing a 2023 Columban Calendar at only \$8 each. Calendars are available in the Church foyer. Please place your contribution in an envelope before placing in the SVDP poor box in the church next to the sliding doors.



**Parish Safeguarding Officers**

The Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to the safety and security of all children and young people. If you have any safety concerns about a person in the parish or about a child protection or child safety issue, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officers. Phone 0432 398 973 or email [safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au)

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## Golden Age Club

Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and Happy New Year. We will be in recess until club days resume on the 17th January 2023.



### 18 February 2023 – 19 August 2023: Daughters of Mary – Mother & Daughter Group at the Schoenstatt Shrine

We invite you to join us for a monthly formation as we journey together as mothers and daughters in relationship with Mary towards Christ. With Mary as our Mother and Educator we hope to be able to grow in her virtues to be daily followers of Christ.

Daughter's age group: 10-14. Time: Every 3rd Saturday of the Month, 3pm-4.30pm including afternoon tea. From February to August (optional school holiday activity). Address: Schoenstatt Shrine, 9 Talus Drive, Mount Richon. RSVP: Saturday 4 February 2023. To register, contact Marissa Yang (Mob) 0448 966 998 (Email) peacefulspirit180@gmail.com or Sr M Luka Junemann (Mob) 0439 537 843 (Email) srmluka@schoenstatt.org.au.

## MIRACLES

A little girl went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured the change out on the floor and counted it carefully, three times. The total had to be exactly perfect. No chance here for mistakes. Carefully placing the coins back in the jar and twisting on the cap, she slipped out the back door and made her way 6 blocks to Rexall's Drug Store with the big red Indian Chief sign above the door.

She waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention but he was too busy at this moment. Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing. She cleared her throat with the most disgusting sound she could muster. No good. Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

"And what do you want?" the pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice. "I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages," he said without waiting for a reply to his question. "Well, I want to talk to you about my brother," Tess answered back in the same annoyed tone. "He's really, really sick... and I want to buy a miracle."

"I beg your pardon?" said the pharmacist. "His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head and my Daddy says only a miracle can save him now. So how much does a miracle cost?" "We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry but I can't help you," the pharmacist said, softening a little. "Listen, I have the money to pay for it. If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Just tell me how much it costs."

The pharmacist's brother was a well dressed man. He stooped down and asked the little girl, "What kind of a miracle does your brother need?" "I don't know," Tess replied with her eyes welling up. "I just know he's really sick and Mommy says he needs an operation. But my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money." "How much do you have?" asked the man from Chicago. "One dollar and eleven cents," Tess answered barely audibly. "And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to." "Well, what a coincidence," smiled the man. "A dollar and eleven cents---the exact price of a miracle for little brothers."

He took her money in one hand and with the other hand he grasped her mitten and said "Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the kind of miracle you need."

That well dressed man was Dr. Carlton Armstrong, a surgeon, specializing in neuro-surgery. The operation was completed without charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home again and doing well. Mom and Dad were happily talking about the chain of events that had led them to this place. "That surgery," her Mom whispered. "was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?" Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost... one dollar and eleven cents .....plus the faith of a little child.

A miracle is not the suspension of natural law, but the operation of a higher law....  
(A TRUE STORY)



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