

18th January, 2026, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time /A

TEMORA MISSION AREA

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Ariah Park

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Parish Priest Fr Alex Osborne

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St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Lee Jackson, Robyn Richards, Neville Caldwell.

For our Deceased: Tony (Chubb) Cattle, Colleen Stout, Morgan Cumming,
Deceased Family, Friends, Victims of war, violence, accidents &
natural disasters.

Jan 24-25

Ariah Park 6 .00 p.m. Sat Mass

Mass

Barmedman 8am. Temora 10am & 5pm Sunday

Liturgy

Ardlethan **9am** Barellan 10am Sunday

REFLECTION — ‘The Lamb of God.’

Jesus is the Servant of God who brings salvation to the ends of the earth. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He reveals the compassion of God who stoops down to hear the cries of those in distress.

Once every three years – in Year A – the story of Jesus’ baptism is told twice.

Matthew’s version used on the feast itself (*last Sunday*) is followed today by John’s. He describes the episode indirectly via the testimony of John the Baptist.

While not stating explicitly that Jesus was baptised, the context and the reference to heavenly affirmation make it unmistakable. Remembering Jesus’ baptism thus serves a triple purpose. It rounds out the Christmas season, introduces Ordinary Time’s account of Jesus’ public ministry, and gives us an early hint of its culmination in his suffering and death as God’s servant and Chosen One. It’s an event that warrants and rewards timely reflection.

Thank you

The crib has been put away as well as the drapes changed—thank you ever so much to those who were responsible. May God bless you.

St Matthew's Gospel

We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel like the others has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment.

Prayer for Rain

Almighty and Eternal Father, we give thanks for the rain that has fallen in recent days. We continue to ask you to bestow the blessing of rain upon our parched land. Let your heavenly dew come down upon our farms, our stock and our native life. Give courage and strength to our farmers, their families and all our people. We ask this through Jesus, our Lord. Amen

Reflection

As we begin the New Year,
whatever our mood or life-situation,
our readings give us hope and comfort
as we celebrate

Jesus Christ's life of service and ministry.

In the so-called 'Servant Song', Isaiah writes of the mysterious servant of the Lord God.

Christians have long identified him with Jesus,
who was formed by God in the womb
and sent into the world as 'the light of the nations'.

(First Reading)



Roster 25th Jan

Leader: Suzanne

Reader: Ian

Ex. Minister : Volunteer

Acknowledgement of Country - With respect, we acknowledge the country, the skies, the waterways and spiritual systems of the Wiradjuri people on whose land we gather. We acknowledge the elders for the passing on of knowledge, language and spiritual connections to country.

Parish Safeguarding Commitment — Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Arian Park is committed to safeguarding and upholding the rights of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to and to be protected. Parishioners are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have by emailing Fr Alex Osborne at alex.osborne@cg.org.au. Parishioners are also welcome to contact Maria Hicks, manager for the Archdiocesan Institute for Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) at ipss@cg.org.au or phone 02-62399806.