

## ***Behold the Lamb 12***

*The multiple Old Testament references to sacrificial lambs behind St. John's reference to Jesus as the Lamb of God say something important about Jesus' death, not as **God's** sacrifice of Jesus, but as Jesus' own use of 'scapegoat mentality' as a way to show that it is not God's mentality, and that God does not require the kind of 'score settling' and 'pay back' mentality of human systems of justice. In all those OT references, the lamb to be sacrificed was to be the very best one of the flock, the best the one offering it had to offer. So, to call Jesus the Lamb of God, the Lamb God offers to us, is to say that God offers us the very best God has to offer, without condition, qualification, or reservation. Knowing full well our human history of scapegoating and violence against those who challenge the powers that be, both civil and religious, in Jesus, God gives us the best he has to offer no matter what. God gives us the best he has to offer even should we put him to death, as indeed we did, and continue to do in countless ways, and never takes it back.*

Please let us know what else about our faith tradition you'd like to find out more about.  
Contact Fr. Dan Krettek at [dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org).