

What's On this week

Wed: Lunch at Park Bistro
Thurs: School prayers at 8:50 am.

Liturgies this Week

Tuesday 5:00 pm
Wednesday No Mass
Thursday 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am

Collections, Thank you

Presbytery:1st \$ 683
Parish: 2nd Collection
Envelopes: \$ 949
Loose: \$ 122
Direct Debit:..... \$ 370

Next Week's Readings

3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11 2-11



Prepaid funerals
Eliminate family stress
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Financial Planning
Contact: TONY WHITE
Phone: 53 335519

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10th/11th Dec- 3rd Sunday of Advent

Saturday OLHC 6.00pm

Minister of the Word: John Schonfelder
Sacristans: Pauline Howard
Communion Ministers: Trish Pearce, Lia Yu, Mavis McNulty, Val a& John Bourke
Leader of Song: Sue Searls

Sunday OLHC 10.00am

Ministers of the Word: Anne Briody
Sacristans: Helen & Mick Rieniets
Communion Ministers: Peter Briody, Elly Green, Christine Richardson, + 2 Vol Margaret White
Leader of Song: Margaret White
Counters: Des Lloyd, J. Holdsworth

8.30am Mass at the Rural Communities

This weekend - Waubra
Minister of the Word: Margaret McDonald
Communion Minister: Kerry Mullane
Next weekend - Learmonth
Minister of the Word: Fon Ryan
Communion Minister: Kerry Gallaghter

Church Cleaning:

Learmonth: Bev Hayward
Waubra: Phyllis & Pat Bourke
OLHC: Beth Clark, Margaret McLean



Our Lady Help of Christians

**Communities of Learmonth, Lexton,
Miner's Rest, Waubra, Wendouree.**

480A Gillies Street, PO Box 192 Wendouree 3355
Tel: 5339 2302 Fax: 5339 2303

wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

2nd Sunday of Advent (A) 4th December 2016

Focus on the Scripture

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.

John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others.

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Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Sherman 5339 2302
Parish Office: Maree Roache 5339 2302
Wednesday- Friday 9-1pm
Parish School: Co-Principal: Paddy Ryan
Leigh Bradshaw 5339 4726
Parish Centre: Bookings: 0439 106 399
Exodus Community: 8 Primrose St
5338 2118
Gentle Dove Prayer Line:
Val 0412 840 296
Baptism: Parish Office
Funeral Ministry: Margaret White
5339 2003

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Christmas Lunch: OLHC Christmas Lunch is an annual event hosted by this parish. This year an experienced catering co-ordinator has been appointed. Thanks to Federation University Catering Department. Parishioners will be invited to assist with the various tasks associated with Christmas Lunch. Volunteers are required to co-ordinate the various preparation tasks. Sign-up sheets will be available next week. Bookings for Lunch will open as from December 1st. Ph 0419 975 914.

School News: Parishioners are invited to School Prayer at 8:50—9:00 am on Thursday December 1st and 8th . All Welcome to join with the school in prayer.

Carols in the Cathedral: A festival of Readings and Carols on Friday 23rd December at 7:30 pm. Local choirs, bands and guest artists.

Exodus Community:

- * The Exodus Community is looking for a volunteer to keep its books for 12 months in 2017. If you are interested please contact Fr Frank on 5338 2118
- * On Christmas Eve the Exodus Players will be doing a dramatic presentation during Mass. If you wish to be part of this, please contact Fr Frank on 5338 2118. Open to children (Grades 5 and over), teenagers and adults. Three rehearsals in December
- * **Exodus Backyard Advent Mass** at Exodus . 6m on Wednesday December 7th/ Celebrant Bishop Paul Bird. Followed by a Barbecue. All Welcome. .

Christmas Mass Times for OLHC Parish

24th Christmas Eve:

6 pm at OLHC

8 pm at Learmonth

9 pm at OLHC

25th Christmas Morning:

9 am at OLHC

9 am Waubra

Apologies—we unable to have a Christmas Mass at Lexton.

Singing Practice for Advent and Christmas Celebrations:

Thursdays 7:30—8:30 pm on November 17th, 24th, December 1st, 8th, & 15th.

Rotary Raffle Tickets: Please return to ticket butts and money asap. Proceeds from the parish ticket sales supports Parish projects.

Rural Communities Christmas Break-Up Luncheon. At Quoin Hill Winery, Waubra on Sunday 11th December. To book please phone Anne (5343 6236). All Welcome.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards and Calendars: Now on sale. Packets of 5 cards = \$4. Packets of 8 cards = \$6. Columban calendars = \$9.

OLHC Parish Luncheon—Get-together. Parishioners are invited to our last get-together luncheon for this year at the Park Bistro, 12 noon on Wednesday, December 7th. All Welcome Please add your name to the list in the church foyer for bookings.

Assistance required: Volunteers to assist with the cleaning of the church are required. All equipment supplied. The roster is for two weeks at a time. If you are available to assist please contact Helen Rieniets (5339 2820) or the Parish Office. (5339 2302)

Making a Scene at Christmas: St Patrick's Hall, December 15-18th See poster in the Church foyer.

Baptism: This weekend we welcome into our parish community Evie Dalton daughter of Luke and Angela. May she grow in God's loving embrace.



Advent : Mass of Anointing:

Parishioners wishing to prepare for Christmas through the celebration of Anointing are invited to gather on Friday 16th December at 10:00 am for Eucharist, Anointing and Morning Tea. All Welcome. Can you assist with bringing someone? Please contact the parish office.

Recent Deaths: Harry McGannon

Anniversaries: Fr John Martin, Margaret Secker, Bryan Fitzpatrick