

THIS WEEK

Wednesday 7.00 pm
Parish Council Meeting

Mass Times This Week

Tuesday 5.00 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am
Thursday 10.00 am
Friday 10.00 am

**Next Week's Readings
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Proverbs 9:1 - 6
Ephesians 5:15 - 20
John 6:51- 58

Collections

1st - Presbytery \$ 670
2nd - Envelopes..... \$ 580
Loose \$ 126
Thank you for your support.

15/16 August - 20th Sunday in Ordinary

Saturday OLHC 6.00pm

Minister of the Word: Chris Pearce
Communion Ministers: Des Lloyd, Trish Pearce,
Bev Hayward, Kath Leonard, Mavis McNulty
Sacristans:
Leader of Song: Sue Searls

Sunday OLHC 10.00am

Minister of the Word: Anne Briody
Communion Ministers: Roma Hills, Tony Bruty,
+ 2 volunteers
Sacristans: Helen & Colin Feely
Leader of Song: Michael Goss/Veronica Stott

Masses in the Rural Communities

8.30am This Sunday: Learmonth
Minister of the Word: Bev Hayward
Communion Minister: Bev Hayward

8.30am Next weekend: Waubra
Minister of the Word: Bill Keating
Communion Minister: Margaret McDonald

Church Cleaning:

OLHC: Beth Clark, Margaret McLean
Waubra: Sharon & Marty Moran
Counters: Kath Connors, John Calistro



Our Lady Help of Christians

Communities of Learmonth, Lexton, Miners 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

9th August 2015, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Reflection

There are times God seems to ask too much of us. We labour for others, but do not see the fruits of our labour. Our families take us for granted, and we are exploited at work. This is particularly trying when we only wanted to be of service to others, to help them wherever we could. What's the point of giving of oneself when it only seems to be futile? In this we are like Elijah.

There are other times when we are challenged to change our way of thinking and to accept what seems to make extraordinary demands on us. A new way of understanding church may call us to be open to the cultural diversity within the community. Or it might claim that we have a responsibility toward the poor and homeless in our midst. New biblical insights make us question our familiar understanding of God or of Jesus or of ourselves. In this we might be like the Jews who murmured against Jesus.

We want evidence to substantiate these radical new claims. But the evidence that Jesus offered could only be accepted in faith. And so it is with us. When we ask God for some kind of sign that will assure us that this new challenge is really what God wants, the answers received must themselves be accepted and understood in faith. The only assurance we have is rooted in faith, and those who are not open in faith will not understand. God does indeed ask a great deal from us.

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11 Neerim Crescent,
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Ph: 5339 3122.

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Sherman 5339 2302
Assist. Priest: Fr. Peter Danh

Parish School: Principal: Stephen Russell
5339 4726

Parish Centre Bookings: 0439 106 399
Funeral Ministry: Margaret White 5339 2003

Exodus Community: 8 Primrose St
5338 2118

Baptism Contact: Parish Office
5339 2302

Mercy Sisters: Sr. Maureen
5331 5504

Gentle Dove Prayer Line: 5333 1776

Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread lives forever. Alleluia!

The Assumption of the Blessed Mary - Saturday 15

Cathedral Mass Times
Friday Vigil 6.30, Saturday 10.00 am.

Bishop's Secretary

The secretary in the bishop's office, Bernadette O'Loughlin, will soon be retiring from the position. Bishop Paul is seeking expressions of interest in this secretarial role. An application package can be accessed on the website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – Our Diocese – Employment. Inquiries can be directed to Cathy Dunbar, phone (03) 5337 7131 or email cdunbar@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au **Applications will close at 10 am on Monday, August 10th.**



Sleeping homeless on Ballarat streets
photo (Colin Palmer - everystockphoto.com) abc.net.au

Homelessness in Ballarat

The Ballarat Interfaith Network will hold a forum on Friday August 21st, at 6.15 pm to focus on the issue of homelessness in Ballarat. Venue: Eastwood Leisure Complex, 20 Eastwood Street, Ballarat. Enquiries: Constantine 5332 6479 or Mel Peters on 0457 540 011

Parish Council Meeting

will be held in the parish hall meeting room on Wednesday 12th August at 7:00 pm.

Father Robert McCulloch - "Responding to Extremism"

An Australian priest who resided in Pakistan for 30 years and now lives in Rome is visiting Ballarat. Fr. Robert received a prestigious award in Pakistan for his work to enhance interfaith dialogue. Presentation in the Nazareth House Hall, Mill street, 7.30 pm Friday August 21st following 6.00 pm Mass. Please bring a plate of supper to share.



We welcome into our parish community and God's family

Molly Jane Harrison
daughter of Kylie and Ashley
baptized at 10 am Mass Sunday 9th August, 2015.

Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Laudato Si*

Although this Encyclical welcomes dialogue with everyone so that together we can seek paths of liberation, I would like from the outset to show how faith convictions can offer Christians, and some other believers as well, ample motivation to care for nature and for the most vulnerable of their brothers and sisters. If the simple fact of being human moves people to care for the environment of which they are a part, Christians in their turn "realize that their responsibility within creation, and their duty towards nature and the Creator, are an essential part of their faith". It is good for humanity and the world at large when we believers better recognize the ecological commitments which stem from our convictions.



Diocesan Colloquium, *Laudato Si* : *On Care for our Common Home* Tuesday 25th August, 9 am - 4pm. OLHC Mercy Centre

Keynote speaker: Professor Denis Edwards will explore Pope Francis' encyclical on the care of our common home. Accompanying Fr. Denis is Catholic Earthcare Director, Jacqui Remond and Lana Turvey of Catholic Mission. St Francis Xavier Primary School will share their putting the theology of the encyclical into practice through their lived experience along with presentations relating to parish and individuals. Cost \$15 to cover morning tea and lunch. A copy of the recently launched book "The Francis Effect II Praised Be You –On Care for our Common Home" containing responses from 12 Catholic leaders to the encyclical will be given to each attendee. Registration online <http://laudatosi.weebly.com/> or Sue 0409 401 329 m.susan@optusnet.com.au **All Welcome.** Sponsored by Catholic Education Office and Catholic Mission.

Planned Giving

Receipts for 2014-15 financial year are now available.

Pledges. Cards are available in the Church foyer if you wish to complete a pledge card.

Anniversaries:

Sr Denise Allen, Jack Calistro