

EXODUS COMMUNITY CELEBRATES ITS 12TH BIRTHDAY



"Our feeling today is one of thanks" said Fr Frank Smith CSsR. Fr Frank is a Redemptorist and part of the Wendouree West Exodus Community in Ballarat. Fr Frank was speaking to a group of seventy people who were at a barbecue to celebrate the twelfth birthday of the Exodus Community.

It was a beautiful, sunny day (March 12) and a gentle breeze was blowing through the trees on the front lawn of Exodus House. Fr Frank thanked God and the many people who had been part of the Exodus journey over twelve years.

Exodus ministers in one of Victoria's most disadvantaged areas. It has thirty volunteers who reach out to the neighbourhood and welcome people to Exodus House for friendship and material, emotional and spiritual support.

Fr Frank's thanks were given to all, but particularly to Bishop Paul Bird CSsR for the support of the Ballarat Catholic Community. Exodus is also an outreach of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, Wendouree. Parish priest, Fr Peter Sherman, accepted the thanks of Exodus. Fr Frank also thanked Fr Glenn De Cruz CSsR for the Redemptorist support of Exodus.

The barbecue was tastefully prepared by the Exodus House Team. Many also brought salads. It was a day of sharing; food, fun, conversation and community.

"We started off with nothing" said Fr Frank, "No house, no people, nothing. With the help of God and many generous people, we are here to celebrate our twelfth birthday. Next year we will be a teenager!"

