

Liturgies This Week

Monday 2.00 pm
St. Vincent de Paul
Wednesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Parish Pastoral Council.

Liturgies this Week
Tuesday 5.00 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am
Thursday 11.00 am
Kelaston
Friday 10.00 am

Collections, Thank you
Presbytery:1st \$ 675
Parish: 2nd Collection
Envelopes: \$1,195
Loose: \$ 88
Project Compassion..... \$ 480
Easter Offering \$ 175

5th Sunday of Easter
Acts 14:21-27
Apocalypse 21:1-5
John 13:31-35

23/24 April 5th Sunday of Easter

Saturday OLHC 6.00pm
Minister of the Word: John Bourke
Communion Ministers: Yvonne Cluff, Elly Green
Frank Hogan, Val & John Bourke
Sacristans: Joyce Jackson
Leader of Song: Corrie Harbour

Sunday OLHC 10.00am
Ministers of the Word: Anne Briody
Communion Ministers: Harry and
Peter Briody, Sue Searls, Joy Lange + 2 volunteers
Sacristans: Helen & Colin Feely
Leader of Song: Vin Dillon, Michael Goss

8.30am Mass at the Rural Communities
This weekend - Waubra
Minister of the Word: Margaret McDonald
Communion Minister: Kerry Gallagher
Next weekend - Learmonth
Minister of the Word: Fon Ryan
Communion Ministers: Clare Mullane
Church Cleaning:
Learmonth:
OLHC: School parents (coordinator C Hayes)
Counters: Des Lloyd, John Holdsworth



Our Lady Help of Christians

**Communities of Learmonth, Lexton,
Miner's Rest, Waubra, Wendouree.**
4820A Gillies Street PO Box 192 Wendouree 3355
Tel: 5339 2302 Fax: 5339 2303
wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

4th Sunday of Easter - 17th April, 2016

Scripture Reflection
This Sunday is traditionally referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. However, the readings for today focus more on the flock than on the shepherd. The overarching theme appears to be unity in diversity. Placing this theme within the context of the Easter season, we might refocus it slightly and suggest that today we celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord in communities of difference.
Unity in diversity is first found in the divine union of the Trinity. All other models of unity flow from it. Both the first and the second readings depict communities made up of people from every nation, race, people and tongue, Jews and Gentile alike. This is precisely the makeup of most communities today. Parishes and religious groups that were born with a particular cultural identity have changed in complexion and composition. Despite the obvious differences, all are children of the one God, all are joined in their common confession of faith.
Not everyone is happy with diversity. Some within the early community resented the success of Paul and Barnabas and they tried to turn the people against them. This sounds strangely familiar to us. Religious groups born out of struggle and hard work, that were lovingly nurtured and that grew strong, often resist what they perceived to be the invasion of foreigners. If these people could only take as their model the company of the blessed revealed in John's vision, they would see that those who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb come from every nation and race and people and tongue.

Dianne Bergant CSS

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Parish Priest:: Fr. Peter Sherman 5339 2302
Exodus Community: 8 Primrose St 5338 2118
Parish School: Co Principal: Paddy Ryan 5339 2010
Leigh Bradshaw 5339 4726
Mercy : Sr. Maureen
Baptism Contact: Parish Office 5339 2302
Parish Centre Bookings: 0439 106 399
Gentle Dove Prayer Line
Funeral Ministry: Margaret White 5339 2003 Val: 53331776 Sue: 5339 4440

Responsorial Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; Alleluia.

Mercy Associates Pilgrimage

The Mercy Associates invite you to join them on a Pilgrimage to the Academy of Mary Immaculate, Nicholson Street, Fitzroy - the first Sisters of Mercy establishment in Victoria - on [Wednesday, April 20, 2016](#). On this Pilgrimage we will travel, reflect, pray and talk together on mercy and compassion in our lives and the world today. .

A **pre-pilgrimage Information Session** will be held on **Monday, April 11 from 2.00pm – 3.00pm** in the Mercy Gathering Room, Gent Street, Ballarat (off Victoria Street). For further information please contact Margaret McDonald, E. nannymacca@gmail.com or ph. 53435315 or Rita Hayes rsm, E. ritahayes@mercy.org.au or ph. 53313026.

Organ and French Horn Recital

Easter Joy at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6.00 pm -7.00 pm. 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne.



Anthony Halliday (organ) gives piano and organ recitals and concerto performances annually in Germany, France, Italy, Spain, England, Ireland and throughout Australasia. He is acclaimed by internationally renowned conductors.



Geoff Lierse (French horn) Geoff is appearing courtesy of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra of which he has been a member since 1997. Geoff holds the position of Associate Principal Horn. Tickets \$20 (no concessions) at the door. Information music@cam.org.au or phone 9926 5753.

We Welcome through baptism

Eleanor Catherine Van Styn
child of Melissa and Christopher.

Welcome to godparents and family who gather and walk with her.



Confirmation Preparation.

We welcome the children and families as they begin their preparation with us for the sacrament of Confirmation. Please pray for the children and their families during this important time.

During Mass the children will be called forward, given a blessing and "dismissed" to gather with our catechists to hear and reflect upon the Gospel. The Gospel is suitably adapted to make it relevant to the lives and experience of the children. It gives them the opportunity to understand the Gospel message and learn about the Spirit of God in their lives as they prepare for Confirmation.



Amoris Laetitia: The joy of love: on love in the family

Pope Francis' latest exhortation affirms key teachings of the Church family, while reminding us of the importance of love and compassion for one another. Amoris Laetitia can be downloaded from <https://www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015/blog> (1.11MB) Alternatively hardcopy can be purchased from a bookshop.

236. *Discernment must help to find possible ways of responding to God and growing in the midst of limits. By thinking that everything is black and white, we sometimes close off the way of grace and of growth, and discourage paths of sanctification which give glory to God.*

"Love coexists with imperfection" (Amoris Laetitia 113)

An initiative relating to Farmers

launched by Francis, in collaboration with the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, is a utube appealing to overcome the injustice that condemns farmers to marginalization and poverty. Pope Francis thanks every man and woman who cultivates the earth for their work, telling small farmers: "What you do is essential for the life of all." He then assures them: "As a person, as a child of God, you deserve a decent life."

<http://aleteia.org/2016/04/05/pope-francis-denounces-unjust-system-that-sacrifices-farmers/>

Recent Deaths: Mary Maher (Albury)

Anniversaries: Mary Payne, Jack Moran, Sr. Anne Gargan,