

What's On this week

Wed, Thurs Fri:

**Reconciliation—following
Mass (10:30—11:00 am)**

Liturgies this Week

Monday...Funeral..10:00 am

Tuesday 5:00 pm

Wednesday 10:00 am

Thursday 10:00 am

Friday 10:00 am

Collections, Thank you

Presbytery:1st \$ 683

Parish: 2nd Collection

Envelopes: \$ 918

Loose: \$ 140

Direct Debit..... \$ 85

Next Week's Readings

The Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Hebrews 1: 1-6

John 1: 1-18

24th/25th Dec- The Nativity of the Lord

Saturday OLHC 6.00pm

Minister of the Word: Volunteer

Sacristans: Volunteer

Communion Ministers: Volunteers

Leader of Song:

Sunday OLHC 10.00am

Ministers of the Word: Volunteer

Sacristans: Volunteer

Communion Ministers: Volunteers

Leader of Song: Volunteer

Counters: Brendan Curran, Geoff & Trish Doery

8.30am Mass at the Rural Communities

This weekend - Waubra

Minister of the Word: Margaret McDonald

Communion Minister: Clare Mullane

Next weekend - Learmonth

Minister of the Word: Volunteer

Communion Minister: Volunteer

Church Cleaning:

Learmonth: Bev Hayward

Waubra: Phyllis and Pat Bourke

OLHC: Helen Rieniets, Maria Nicania Esperas



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

4th Sunday of Advent (A) 18th December 2016

Focus on the Scripture

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night! © Fr Michael Tate



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

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

Parish Council Update: Following last week's announcement of Fr Peter's appointment to St Alipius Parish commencing on late January 2017, the Parish Pastoral Council will hold an extraordinary meeting this Tuesday regarding the appointment of a replacement Parish Priest for OLHC, to ensure that the needs of our parish are met in a timely manner.

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

Farewell to Fr Peter:

Rural Communities cuppa after Mass on January 8th, and OLHC on January 14th and 15th. Please take the opportunity to thank Fr Peter for his service in our community.

Prayer for our Parish:

Gracious and loving god. We pray that you will gift us with a priest who will live amongst us to pray, to preach, to minister, to console, to forgive and to share with us the Body and Blood of Christ.

May we celebrate with him the love and care of Jesus and grow in our faith. With our love and prayers. Amen.

Living the Gospel

Advent

Emmanuel; God-is-with-us – that's what we celebrate through Christmas and that's what we've been preparing for during Advent. We celebrate God-with-us in a particular time and place through our celebration of the birth of Jesus. But we remember it every year because we also use the Christmas celebration to remind ourselves that God continues to be with us. That is what is so remarkable about the Christmas season: that God-is-with-us now, not just in a stable in Palestine so many years ago, but now! Advent is the time to remind ourselves of this incredible truth and prepare ourselves to acknowledge it once again.

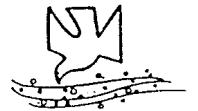
Rotary Raffle Tickets: Please return to ticket butts and money asap. Proceeds from the parish ticket sales supports Parish projects.

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

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 Rienets (5339 2820) or the Parish Office. (5339 2302)

Baptism: Quinn Bianca Westman, daughter of Chloe is welcomed into the Church through the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

BAPTISMS



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

Christmas Lunch: OLHC Christmas Lunch is an annual event hosted by this parish. 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.



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 are unable to have a Christmas Mass at Lexton.



Recent Deaths: Val Roberts

Anniversaries: