

What's On this week

Sunday January 1st

Invitation to the Exodus Annual
New Year's Day BBQ
12 noon, 8 Primrose St.
No alcohol allowed.

Liturgies this Week

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

Collections, Thank you

Presbytery:1st \$1,598
Parish: 2nd Collection
Envelopes: \$1,118
Loose: \$ 794
Direct Debit \$ 565
Bishop's Appeal \$1,088

Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:203, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

7/8 January 2017, EPIPHANY

Saturday OLHC 6.00pm

Minister of the Word: Darryl Clark
Sacristans: Kaye Stringer
Communion Ministers: Val & John Bourke, Lia Yu,
Pauline Newman, Des Lloyd
Leader of Song: Corrie Harbour, Michael Goss

Sunday OLHC 10.00am

Ministers of the Word: Eileen Franklin
Sacristans: Geoff & Marg McLean
Communion Ministers: Margaret White, Frank Hogan,
Pauline Howard, + 2 volunteers
Leader of Song: Veronica Stott
Counters: Kaye Stringer, Kath Leonard

8.30am Mass at the Rural Communities

This weekend - Waubra
Minister of the Word: volunteer
Communion Minister: volunteer
Next weekend - Learmonth
Minister of the Word: volunteer
Communion Minister: volunteer

Church Cleaning:

Learmonth: Bev Hayward
Waubra: Ann and Damien Ferguson
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

1 Jan 2017: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord

Focus on the Scripture

Liturgically, the Octave of Christmas commemorates: the Solemnity of the Mother of God; the day designated for prayers for global peace; and the beginning of the New Year. Though the shepherds gain insight into the presence of God by seeing this holy family, it is Mary who holds all these things in her heart. She is the one who ponders the significance of these mysterious events. Mary becomes for Christians an inspiration of contemplation and reflection. She inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events, lest we go blandly through life without meaning or direction. She inspires us to fidelity to the practices of our faith, practices which are the disciplines of soul that lead the community to a clearer focus on God's presence in human affairs.

The theme of peace appears today on many levels. Its meaning, 'fullness of life', bursts forth in every one of the readings. The ancient prayer or blessing of peace is an appropriate start for the New Year. It resonates well with the angels' wish for people of good will. Peace is also our inheritance in Christ. As adopted children of God, we have been given the freedom to live in a godly manner, calling God our Abba. Right relationships in the covenant activity of God are the pathways of peace. The beginning of a New Year is a good time to reach out to others and to pray for God's blessing of peace for each dimension of human encounter.

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Financial Planning
Contact: TONY WHITE
Phone: 53 335519

Ballarat Meat Co.
Open Direct to the Public
Thursday & Friday
11 Neerim Crescent,
Wendouree
Industrial Park
Ph: 5339 3122.

Pat Cashin Funerals
Ballarat
Phone 5333 3911
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moderate costs

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: May God bless us in his mercy.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year
a happy one!

Not by shielding you
from all sorrows and pain,
but by strengthening you
to bear it, as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,
but by making you sturdy
to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,
but by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken
sunshine, but by keeping your face
bright, even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always
pleasant, but by showing you when
people and their causes
need you most,

and by making you anxious
to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy
to you for the year ahead.

Anonymous.

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.

Extract from Pope Francis message of peace for World Peace Day 2017

"All of us want peace.

Many people build it day by day
through small gestures and acts;
many of them are suffering, yet
patiently persevere in their efforts to
be peacemakers".[24]

In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves
prayerfully and actively to banishing
violence from our hearts, words and
deeds, and to becoming nonviolent
people and to building nonviolent
communities that care for our
common home. "Nothing is
impossible if we turn to God in pray-
er. Everyone can be an artisan of
peace".[25]

Franciscus

From the Vatican, 8 December 2016

Congratulations Judith!



Congratulations to
Judith Potter,
Principal Loreto
College, Ballarat
upon receipt of the
a State Fellowship

Award from the Australian Council
of Education Leaders for your
outstanding contribution over a
period of time to the improvement
of student and organisational
outcome.



Community Farewell to Fr Peter

January 8th - Rural Communities

January 14/15 - Wendouree communities

Please take these opportunities to thank Fr. Peter
for his service is our community.

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program - start in 2017!

The Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost
opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers, both employees
and volunteers. Details on the diocesan website (*link to Program on lower
front page*) email: amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone
5337 7125. Please note: the Pastoral Ministry Office reopens on 10th January.



Very Special Kids

are currently seeking volunteers to support families in the Ballarat
area. If you wish to know more about this support service more
information can be accessed from <http://www.vsk.org.au/> or
refer to the Wendouree parish notice board.

Christmas Lunch

I was lucky enough to be one of the people at your Christmas meal today.
May I take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for serving up a wonderful
meal. Your helpers couldn't do enough for everyone. They were marvellous.
The main course was absolutely perfect. Five vegetables, two different
meats, gravy and apple sauce. Superb. And the plum pudding was one of
the best I have ever eaten. It was fantastic. I savoured it as I ate it. And
such a generous serve. Once again.....thank you so much.....you made my
Christmas very special. A guest.

Thank you to the volunteers and all who made donations for this annual
event.

Newsletter sent by Email

If you wish to receive your newsletter by email please advise the parish office
on wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au If for some reason during a recent
upgrade, you email address has dropped off and you wish to continue to
receive by email please contact the office so that we can correct this
omission.