



Parishes of St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians

Communities of Ballarat North, Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest, Waubra, Wendouree



306 Gregory St, Ballarat North **Phone:** 5331 7131

Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

School Web: scballarat.catholic.edu.au

480a Gillies Street, P O Box 192 Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Web: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

School Web: olchwendouree@ballarat.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Visiting Priest: Fr Barry Ryan

Staff at St Columba's

Pastoral Associate: Judith O'Sullivan

Parish Secretary: Ruth Marquand

Wed 8.30– 12.30, Thurs & Fri 9–2.30pm

Staff at Wendouree

Parish Co-ordinator: Maree Roche

Wed-Friday 9am–1pm

Mass times: St Columba's

Saturday vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9.30am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Tuesday: 5pm

Wednesday: 10am

Thursday: 10am

Friday: 10am

Readings for Next weekend:

1 Sam 16: 1, 6 - 7 10 - 13 Psalm 22

Eph 5: 8–14

Jn 9: 1–41



19th March 2017, 3rd Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Focus on the Scripture



All people thirst for meaning, but of what does that meaning consist? The people in the desert thirsted for water, but they misunderstood their thirst. The woman of Samaria thirsted. Her conversation with Jesus showed that she thirsted for understanding and insight as well as water. For what do we thirst in this world of such great excess and unmeasured need? Life has not become simpler with all of our advances. We still thirst for more – for the newest, the fastest and the best. How much is enough, and when do we cross the line into 'too much'?

The gospel readings for the scrutiny Sundays very clearly lay out the choices that are placed before the catechumens and the rest of the believing community as well. This Sunday it is between water that quenches thirst and water that does not.

Jesus identifies himself as the source of water that guarantees eternal life. He places before the Samaritan woman a choice that requires a step of profound faith. She knows the thirst-quenching quality of the water from Jacob's well, but she is not acquainted with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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Deaths: Rupert McKenna

Anniversaries: Audrey Lorkin

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Brenden Love relative of Eddy and Glenane families and John Macmillan father of Ruth Marquand. We pray for all those preparing to receive Sacraments of Initiation.

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Easter Liturgies-Clipboards are available in the foyer for you to complete if you would like to contribute as a Special Minister, Reader, Commentator, Offertory Gifts, Narrators, etc. for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday celebrations. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.



Lenten Stations of the Cross-will be held in the Church on Friday evenings from 6.30pm. Contact Judith 5331 7131 if you would like further information.

Praying for our Sick-If you or someone you know needs our prayers and are happy to have their name published on the notice sheet please let Ruth know in the office. Names will remain on the sheet for 3 weeks, if you require the name on for longer please let us know.

Rosters -We will be preparing the next roster in the next few weeks. Apologies to anyone who was left off the last one. If there are any changes to be made or you would like to join another ministry please contact Ruth in the office. There will be a roster for Easter in the foyer from next weekend to be completed. If you be will around for Easter please fill in the sheet where you are able to assist.

Can you help?-Each ministry is always looking out for new people to join their team. At the moment we desperately need flower arrangers and brass cleaners. These are rostered so the time investment need not be too taxing. Maybe this could be your Lenten sacrifice. Contact the Parish office to sign up.



Road Works We have been advised from Butler Excavations that Gregory Street between Armstrong and Lydiard Street will be closed to allow for Road Improvements. Please be aware of this when coming to the church over the upcoming weeks.

State of the Nation:		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 779.70		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1798.00	Average	for this financial year \$ 2014.34
Week 37			

NEXT WEEKEND	25th March	26th March	What's on this week
WELCOMER	Madigan Family	Catherine Fara	Tuesday 21st March @ 6pm in the Church Snr Reconciliation @6pm School Board room Finance @7.30pm Liturgy in School Board room Wednesday 22nd March @ 9:30am Weekday Mass Church foyer @ 6pm in Church Snr Reconciliation Friday 24th March @ 6.30pm Stations of the Cross Sunday during 10am Mass—Godly Play
COMMENTATOR	John van de Laar	Pat Kenna	
PROCLAIMER 1	Ruth Marquand	Sr Geraldine Mugavin	
PROCLAIMER 2	Leo Schreenan	Clare Fuller	
GIFTS	Lewis/Maloney Family	Sharon de Beer	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	P & R Marquand, T Keogh	B Chapman, A Thorpe, K Taylor	
LITURGY PREPARATION		K & T Keogh	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer	Sharon de Beer	
SACRISTAN	Norah Maloney	Megan Bourke	
ALTAR & FLOWERS	As arranged	As arranged	

WENDOUREE PARISH NEWS

OLHC Parish Pastoral Council Change-over:

Your Parish Pastoral Council is seeking new members as it goes through its annual changeover. Several members are due to retire and must be replaced. Could those interested, or anyone who thinks they know anyone who might be, please advise a member of the PPC. The term is for two years from June this year, with the option of a further two. Thanks for your consideration of this.

Mini Market Night – Friday April 28th

The Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School Community Team is holding a Mini Market Night on April 28th from 6pm-9pm. Stalls will be \$30 each and approximately 3 metres wide. We invite school and parish families who would like to have a stall to get in contact with Tanya Kinnane on 0438 362 553 or purple-foxdesigns@outlook.com before we open up opportunities further.

First OLHC **Parish Get-together Luncheon** for 2017. All Welcome. Wednesday, March 29th at 12 (noon) at the Park Bistro. For bookings please add your name to the list in the church foyer.

Car Park: There has been a new speed-hump installed at the Exit Gate. Please be aware of this, and approach very slowly. It has been installed for the safety of the children.



Family area: in the Foyer of the church is available for use during parish masses, as required. Families are very welcome to make use of this facility, with toys and books to amuse youngsters during the Liturgy.

State of the Nation:		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)		\$	616
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)		\$	837
	Loose	\$	131
NEXT WEEKEND		6pm	10:00 am
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon		Corrie Harbour
MINISTER of the WORD	Sue Calisto		Helen & Colin Feely
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Pearce, Mavis McNulty, Joyce Jackson, Val & John Bourke		Helen Rieniets, Judith Potter, Margaret White, + 2 volunteers
SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman		Robyn Clark
COUNTERS			Des Lloyd & J Holdsworth
CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir & Melva Muir		
Rural Communities		This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend - Learmonth
Minister of Word:		Tony McDonald	Bill Keating
Minister of Eucharist :		Sharon Moran	Kerryn Gallagher
Church Cleaning:		Marg & Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward
What's on this week Sun 19 th . Combined Family Groups Wed 22 nd St V d P meeting at 11:30 am at Violet grove. Next Week: Wed 29 th Parish Luncheon at 12 noon Park Bistro. Contact Sheila Butler Ph. 5339 4255			

BALLARAT NEWS

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2016 Singers and musicians are invited to join the music group which is being formed for this Mass on Monday, April 10, 2017. Practice times will be advised. Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Caritas Australia theme this Lenten season is "Love your neighbour"

Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation offers Uncle Richard and other former Stolen Generations survivors the chance to heal after a childhood of suffering, and manage the intergenerational effects of their pain. Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help members of the Stolen Generations support each other on the journey to wellbeing. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**



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211 Gillies Street, Ballarat, VIC, 3350
Phone: (03) 5339 9333
Email: info@ballaratholden.com.au
www.ballaratholden.com.au



Phone: (03) 5332 3069
Mobile: 0418 504 254



139 Bogong Ave
Phone: 5331 4510
Mobile: 0418 501 606



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Phone: (03) 5332 3547
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Email: rjmayne@ncable.net.au

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