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Child Safe Church

Here at the Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Wau- bra) we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office. Our Safe Guarding Officers are Peter Marquand (SC) and Maree Roache (OLHC) and you can download our Code of Conduct and Child Safety Policy from the Parish website or on the foyer notice board. If you have any concerns whatsoever—please contact the Parish Office, Fr. Marcello or one of the Safe Guarding Officers at ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

2019 Class Reunions: Past students and staff of **Damascus College** and its foundation colleges: **Sacred Heart, St Paul's and St Martin's in the Pines** are invited to celebrate the following reunions:

- Class of 1969 Sunday 24 March 12.30pm
- Class of 1979 Saturday 23 March 2pm
- Class of 1989 Saturday 16 March 2pm
- Class of 1999 Friday 15 March 6.30pm
- Class of 2009 Friday 22 March 6.30pm

Full details and booking information www.damascus.vic.edu.au/past-students-reunions-events



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

Communities of Ballarat North, Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest, Wau- bra, Wendouree



306 Gregory St, Ballarat North Phone: 5331 1012

Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Web: ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)

School Web: www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au

Presbytery: Phone 5332 4324

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

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Web: ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)

School Web: www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au

School Phone: 5339 4726

3rd March 2019 ~ 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Visiting Priests: Fr Gary Jones

Fr Anthony Nagothu

Fr Sajan Mathew

Staff at St Columba's

Pastoral Associate: Judith O'Sullivan

Wed—Friday 9.00am -1.00pm

Staff at Wendouree

Parish Co-ordinator: Maree Roache

Wed- Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

Safeguarding Officers:

St Columba's: Peter Marquand

OLHC: Maree Roache

Mass times: St Columba's

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Wednesday: 12 noon

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Tuesday: 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:15 am

Thursday: 7:30 pm Miners Rest

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Dt 26:4-10

Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R.

v.15

Rom 10:8-13

Lk 4:1-13



Focus on the Scriptures

"Everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher," says the Lukan Jesus. What might it mean to become "fully qualified" for discipleship? For Jesus, being fully qualified in the ways of discipleship is not so much a matter of acquiring book knowledge as it is a question of being like the teacher. This is not to discount the importance of acquiring a deep knowledge of the tradition. Jesus certainly knew his own tradition well. Luke presents him as literate, as capable of reading from the sacred scriptures in the Nazareth synagogue and of interpreting the prophetic texts for the assembled congregation. In today's gospel selection, Luke also presents Jesus as familiar with the secular wisdom of his age. The sayings about the blind leading the blind and the log and speck have clear parallels in ancient literature. Jesus' closest followers were educated business people with an appreciation of and commitment to their traditions. They were fully qualified in the sense that they had the personal resources to make a difference in the lives of those on the edge.

The primary qualification for the disciple is, however, to be "like the teacher". Jesus wants his followers to live out in their lives the pattern of his life of attentiveness to the pain of the world, his life of compassion and justice and mercy. Seeing with clarity (without a log in one's eye) is at the heart of the gospel way of life he proclaims. This theme of seeing permeates Luke's writings. Seeing and understanding one's own self is part of that, as is the capacity to see and to understand the rhythm of the forms of life that constitute one's habitat. The recurrence of agricultural images in Jesus' sayings is quite remarkable. Jesus grew up in Nazareth, a Jewish village in Lower Galilee, home to vines and olive trees, to goats and sheep and some four hundred human inhabitants. From early childhood, Jesus saw the processes involved in ensuring that the vines produced grapes. He knew the importance of the water from the spring for nurturing the grain crops in the valley close to his home. He knew that brambles and thorns did not yield any edible fruit. It would seem that being "like the teacher" includes closeness to and appreciation of the natural world.

Finally, to be a disciple is to be a "good person" and good persons are those who produce "good treasure" out of the abundance of their hearts. In the Jewish tradition, the heart was the seat of wisdom and knowledge as well as the seat of emotions. In 1 Kings 12:3, for instance, God is said to give Solomon a wise and discerning heart/mind. The Hebrew word for heart (lev) is often translated into English as "mind". Heart and mind are as one. So it must be for us as disciples.

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Responsorial Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Kevin Tardrew

Anniversaries: We remember: Carolyn Jordan, Gerard Humeniuk, Rupert McKenna

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes, especially Saskiah Gallagher, Blake Dridan, Pat Hogan and for the success of the Plenary Council and for those on the RCIA & RCIC journey for 2019.

Stewardship Program

This weekend is the scheduled 'Our Future' Weekend of our Stewardship Program. It is the time when we consider our pledge of financial support for the parish – a very important part of the entire Program. Given the events of recent days it would be inappropriate to consider such matters this weekend. This is a time for reflection and coming together as a community. Accordingly, we have decided to defer the Our Future Weekend for two weeks – to the weekend of 16 & 17 March. We thank you in advance for your understanding and support. *Fr Marcello*

Plenary Council 2020 - Have you had your say? last chance to have your say. Please submit your responses by Ash Wednesday, March 6 2019 at www.plenarycouncil.org.au or contact the Pastoral Ministry Office ph 5337 7159



Ash Wednesday Masses (Wednesday 6th March) will be at 9.15am at OLHC and 12 noon at St Columba's (please note change of time for St Columba's).

Palms please return any palms you received last year on Palm Sunday so that they can be prepared for Ash Wednesday. There will be a box in the St Columba's church foyer this weekend for you to place them in. There will be a basket in OLHC foyer to place your palms in ready for the school ceremony on Shrove Tuesday.



Nazareth House Ballarat - Auxiliary Membership Nazareth House Auxiliary would like to welcome new members. If you feel you would like to contribute in some way in supporting Nazareth House, please come and join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 1.30pm. For more info contact Margaret, ph. 0419003415 (Secretary). Everyone most welcome

Refugee Dads and Kids Weekend Registrations are now open for our next Refugee Dads and Kids Weekend which will be held from 22-24 March 2019 at Log Cabin Camp in Creswick. CatholicCare invites refugee dads to bring along one of their children between the ages of 8-16 for a FREE fun weekend experience, which acknowledges and celebrates the importance of a father in a child's life. If you know a family who would benefit from this experience, or if you would like further information, please contact me at Leanne.McKenner@ccam.org.au

Mass of the Oils: Monday, April 15, 2019 The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, April 15, 2019. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2019 – the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed. All members of the diocese are invited to participate in this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church. Ministries required for the Mass of the Oils include ushers, readers, oils bearers, presentation of the gifts, collection of oils, musicians and singers. For further information contact the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5337 7159 or pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Stations of the Cross will be offered on Fridays during Lent starting on Friday 15th March at 6.30pm in St Columba's Church. This will be followed by a time of reflection and sharing on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. All welcome to join in this wonderful preparation for Easter. For further information please contact Judith on 5331 1012

Lenten Booklets will be for sale this weekend in the St Columba's foyer. The cost is \$5. This excellent book 'Trust' is jam packed with reflections and readings to help you on your Lenten journey. They will also be available in the Parish Office.

Exodus Community Donations The leadership team of Exodus are now able to receive donations of food to support their community. Please support this very worthy project.

Visiting Group: Thursday March 14th at 1:30 pm—2:30 pm. at OLHC Parish Centre; Invitation to any parishioners who do any visiting in the parish. A guest speaker will make a presentation. All welcome

Lent 2019 with Bruce Downes—The Catholic Guy Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed! Come on a 40 day journey with me and I know this will be a powerful and prayerful Lenten journey together. Receive a video each Sunday and an inspirational email each day during Lent. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: www.TheCatholicGuy.com/Lent Call 1300 734 880 for more information

Liturg preparation St Columba's Parish is looking for people to assist over Holy week. If you can assist please let Judith know in the Office. Rosters for these ceremonies will be put out during Lent.

Project Compassion Sunday 3rd March 2019 Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Give Lent 100%". You are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament Friday 8th March 7pm to 8pm in St Columba's Church. All most welcome.

RCIA—From St Columba's last weekend three adult and six children made the next step in their journey towards full acceptance into the Church by signing the Book of Enrolment. This Book was then taken to the Rite of Election on Saturday at the Cathedral and presented to the Bishop. At this rite, upon the testimony of sponsors and catechists and the catechumens' affirmed their intention to join the Church, the Church made its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Now the catechumens are called "the elect". They now begin a Period of Purification and Enlightenment — the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. Two children from OLHC parish entered the RCIA program during the week.

Miners Rest Mass will be held on Thursday 7th March at the home of John & Val Bourke, commencing at 7:30 pm.

Catholic Women's League Retreat Father Thomas Casanova (Confraternity of Christ the Priest) will be giving a three day retreat at Nazareth House on Monday 18th March through to Wednesday 20th March (Lent) Daily Mass and Confessions. This retreat will be hosted by the Catholic Women's League, Cathedral Branch but will be open to all. Inquiries 0401175045

Collections at St Columba's

We thank you for your generous support

1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 633.20

2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish) \$ 1298.70 Average for this financial year \$ 1,731.25

Collections at OLHC

We thank you for your generous support

1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 605 Loose money (2nd collection) \$ 153

2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish) \$ 1020 Weekly Average \$ 1497

SC 9th/10th March			Liturgy tips			OLHC 9th/10th March			What's coming up:	
Sat 6pm			Sunday 10am			Sat 6 pm			Sun 10:00 am	
WELCOMER	John Madigan Family	Catherine Fara	<p>LITURGICAL MINISTRIES</p> <p>This week's tip: When you are reading at the microphone you need to speak louder than your normal speaking voice.</p>	LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Laureen Rhodes	Sun 3rd	Cuppa after Mass hosted by the 'Time Out' Family Group		
COMMENTATOR	Kate Lawry	Irene Monigatti		MINISTER of the WORD	Kevin Murphy	Peter Dwyer	Tues 5th	Ashes Ceremony 11:40 am at OLHC School,		
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Kathleen Keogh	Volunteer please		MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Des Lloyd, Trish Pearce, Mavis McNulty + 2 volunteers	Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy, Maxine Rousch + 2 volunteers	Wed 6th	Ash Wednesday Mass at 9:15 am.		
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tom Keogh (Snr)	Terry Grano		SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Peter & Sapphire Osman	Thurs 7th	Miners Rest Mass at 7:30 pm		
GIFTS	Madigan Family	Lorna & Carmel		COUNTERS	Brendan Curran and G & P Doery		Next Week:			
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ruth Marquand, Trish Simmons, Maureen Eddy	Margaret Martino, Kay Merbach, Colleen Wakefield		Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra	Learmonth				
OVERHEADS	Norah & Stephen	Judith		Minister of Word:	William Gallagher	Fon Ryan				
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne		Minister of Eucharist :	Margaret McDonald	Kerryn Gallagher				
				Church Cleaning:	Anne Dalton	Bev Hayward				