



St Columba's Parish, Ballarat North

Parish Centre: 306 Gregory St, Nth. Ballarat

Ph: 5331 7131

Email: office@stcolumbasparish.org or pastoral@stcolumbasparish.org

Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am - 4.00pm

*We are Eucharistic People, who Love, Pray, Serve,
Hope and follow Jesus*



Supervising Priest: Fr Peter Sherman

Pastoral Leader: Judith O'Sullivan

Senior Priest: Fr. Barry Ryan

Parish Secretary: Genevieve Willmott

School Principal: Kim Butler

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9.30am

6th March, 2016



DEATHS: Mary Jane Calvert, Alby White, John Mahoney (Edenhope), Anne Burke

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

- New sets of envelopes are available for collection from the foyer;
- If there is anyone who can help with the distribution of uncollected envelopes meet in the foyer after the 10am mass please;
- If there are any new parishioners who would like a set of envelopes please contact the parish office or write your name on the clipboard available in the church foyer.
- If you are a new parishioner who would like to join the parish Thanksgiving Program, please contact Genevieve in the office.



Baptisms

Congratulations **Paige Fuhrmeister** daughter of Mary and Mark and **Edith Quai-Hoi**,

daughter of Marlene and Mervin . Our newest members to join St. Columba's Parish Community will be baptised this weekend. We also congratulate **Phoebe and Max Godbold** who are being welcomed into the church.

We congratulate Paige and Edith on becoming members of God's family and Phoebe and Max on their entry into the church.

SUNDAY SACRISTAN

We are looking for someone to join the Sacristan Team on a monthly basis for Sunday morning mass. Please call Trish on 0418 593939 or Josie on 0439 481493 for more information. You would be responsible for setting the altar and cleaning up after mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Judith will be leading the "Stations of the Cross" during Lent is a great exercise



to align our hearts of the Passion of Christ. Join us in the church on Friday, 18th March at 7pm.

EASTER ROSTERS

If you are rostered on any ministry for Palm Sunday or over the Easter weekend and you will be away, please either let the office know ASAP or cross your name off the roster in the foyer.

CUPPA AFTER MASS

The next morning tea will be after the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. We invite parishioners to bring a plate along.

PARISH RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, 16th March at 7pm – in preparation for Easter.

SEW & SO.....

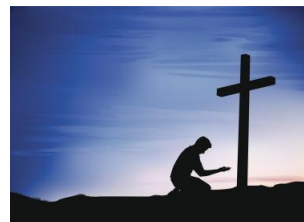
Thursday, 10th March 2016 at 1.30pm in the Church Foyer. Our guest will be Judith O'Sullivan, our new Pastoral Leader. We wish to make her welcome so please come to support her. Enquiries Margaret 53314032.

HOLY HOUR & ADORATION

Holy Hour and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be on Friday, 11th March between 7-8pm in the church. All most welcome.

WEARING OF NAME TAGS – Mass Times

As means of enhancing community spirit in St Columba's Parish **Name Tag Holders** are now available in the Church Foyer for parishioners to wear when attending Mass. Parishioners are encouraged to collect a holder and insert your name in it. Marker pens and paper are also provided to print your name. You may retain your tag for ongoing use.



SCHOOL NEWS

The children and teachers from the Grades Five /Six Learning Community are leading the Saturday night mass this weekend. Many of the children are involved in the preparation for the sacrament of Senior Reconciliation. We recognise their commitment to the deepening of their faith. All are welcome to enjoy a cuppa following Saturday night mass (tonight).

Mini Vinnie's 2016: We are very excited to have thirty members of Mini Vinnie's this year from Grades Three to Six. The children have been meeting regularly and are promoting the raising of much needed funds for Caritas Australia through Project Compassion. We will be having our commissioning ceremony for the members at a parish mass in the weeks to come.....Alison Thorpe, REC

MASS OF THE OILS: MONDAY 21 March 2016

The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at **6.30 p.m.** on Monday, March 21. 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 2016, the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All members of the Diocese are invited to this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church.

THE SAVING WORD

The question has been asked if "The Saving Word" sheets/handouts, made available weekly in the church foyer can match the weekly readings etc.. I have looked in to this and they are not available with the NRSV version as yet. If they become available at a later date, I will make them available. Thank you, Genevieve (Office Administration).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Morning Prayer of the Church (Liturgy of the Hours) will continue each Monday and Friday at 9.30am until further notice. For more information contact Judith ph: 53317131.

PROJECT COMPASSION

There are envelopes and money boxes available in the church foyer if you are able to support this worthy cause.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sew & So	Thursday 10 th March 1pm
Family Group Leaders Meeting	Thursday 10 th March 7.30pm
Holy Hour & Adoration	Friday 11 th March 7-8pm
Reconciliation Preparation	Saturday 12 th March 6pm
School celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation	Tuesday 15 th March 6pm
Liturgy Team Meeting	Tuesday 15 th March 7.30pm
Parish Reconciliation	Wednesday 16 th March 7pm
Stations of the Cross	Friday 18 th March 7pm
Leadership Team Meeting	Wednesday 23 rd March 7.30pm
Holy Thursday Mass	Thursday 24 th March 7pm
Good Friday – Way of the Cross	Friday 25 th March 10am
Good Friday – The Passion of Jesus Christ	Friday 25 th March 3pm
Easter Vigil Mass	Saturday 26 th March 6pm
Easter Mass	Sunday 27 th March 10am

CHURCH BOOKINGS

Week of: 7th - 13th March

MONDAY	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am
TUESDAY	---
WEDNESDAY	Mass 9.30am
THURSDAY	Sew & So 1pm
FRIDAY	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am Holy Hour & Adoration 7-8pm
SATURDAY	Mass 6pm
SUNDAY	Mass 10am

Thank you for your generous support

1 st Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$840.60
2 nd Collection (Envelopes)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish	\$1308.50
	-Average given weekly for this financial year (week 34)	\$2336.93
Sundry Change		\$115.25
Special Collection	Project Compassion	\$615.00

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Colleen Wakefield, Alison Thorpe, Trish Simmons, Maureen Eddy, Kim Butler, Troy Severino, Jennifer Adams, Bruce Chapman, Judith O'Sullivan

**Reflection on the Gospel-4th Sunday of Lent Year C
(Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Parent-child conflict is part of life and every parent's dream is to be able to deal effectively and lovingly with children behaving badly, including adult or adolescent children. Unfailing forgiveness and arms open to welcome back wayward sons and daughters: that is the way proposed in today's gospel story.

There is no room in the hearts of Jesus' critics for such forgiveness: upright law-abiding people should exclude "sinners" from their company. In a first-century Jewish context, it was easy enough to be a sinner. Whole groups of people, depending on their occupation, fell into that category simply because they failed to observe one or more of the 618 prescriptions of the law. Jesus' response to critics is the story of a parent both of whose sons lose their way for a time. One son finds his way back to the centre of family life and the support of the wider community while the other more law-abiding son seems to place himself outside the family circle, holding on to the resentment he feels at his brother's return.

We need to fill in the gaps in the story: there may be daughters as well as sons; there is surely another parent, a mother who shares the heartache of her husband when their younger son requests his one-third share of the estate. To make such a request in this context is unthinkable: it is tantamount to wishing his parents were dead. To accede to such a request is likewise unthinkable, even shameful in that society. The head of a patriarchal household who acts thus stands to lose honour, status, and authority. [It is important to note that the older brother is not disadvantaged: he is assured of a two-thirds share according to the law as well as the ongoing love and support of his family, as his father makes clear].

When things turn out disastrously in the distant country, the younger man shows no real interest in a restored relationship with his family. Rather, he devises a plan that will put food in his empty belly-not a particularly lofty motive for returning home. He thinks up a speech about sharing the status of the family employees. Thanks to the expansive heart of an amazingly compassionate parent, he does not have to deliver the speech he has prepared, but is gathered into the heart of family and local community. That's how it needs to be with us. It is certainly how it is with our merciful God. We can abandon, even betray; our motives for returning home can be very mixed; we may even be like the unwelcoming older brother; but the God of mercy and compassion is always there for us.

DATE: MARCH 5 & 6

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	School	Rebecca Eales
COMMENTATOR	School	Irene Monigatti
PROCLAIMER 1	John McGlashan	Carmel King
PROCLAIMER 2	Tony Beggs	Mandy Carroll
GIFTS	School	Maureen & Hans van de Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	T Keogh Jnr, T Waight, M Eddy	C Wakefield, B Ryan, K Merbach
LITURGY PREPARATION		School
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN'S LITURGY		Rebecca Earles
SACRISTAN	Trish Simmons	Josie Crowe
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger

DATE: MARCH 12 & 13

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Helen O'Loughlin	Catherine Fara
COMMENTATOR	Tom Keogh (Snr)	Clare Fuller
PROCLAIMER 1	John van de Laar	Gerard Macklin
PROCLAIMER 2	Eileen van de Laar	Terry Grano
GIFTS	Pat & Bernie Kenna	Mandy Carroll
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	K Keogh, J Adams, K Lawry	K Butler, G Hinchey, D Streulens
LITURGY PREPARATION		Kathleen & Tom Keogh
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN'S LITURGY		Ruth Hackwill
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger

Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to fulfil your role

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THE BARBERS **EDGE**

Natasha McLachlan
603a Landsborough St, Ballarat Nth
No appointments required



Address: 139 Bogong Ave,
Invermay Park, 3350
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Mobile: 0418 501 606



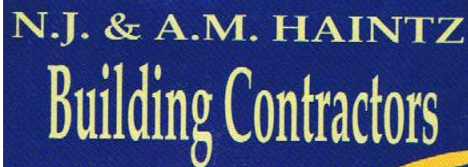
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Ph: (03) 5331 2200



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