

## BALLARAT NEWS



**Damascus College Enrolment Information Evening & Open Mornings.** Damascus College warmly invites all families to attend our upcoming Information Evening and Open Mornings. The Information Evening will include a tour of the College, activities for students and an information session for parents. Open Mornings are guided tours by Damascus students during school hours. Please see flyer for details.

**INFORMATION EVENING:** Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm Please arrive at 6.15pm for registration  
**OPEN MORNINGS:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> November, 9am – 10.30am

**STUDENTS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**  
**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE THROUGH THE DAMASCUS WEBSITE**  
[www.damascus.vic.edu.au](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au)

**Peter Tobin FUNERALS**  
 Address: 1251 Doveton Street North, Ballarat, 3350  
 Phone: (03) 5333 3101  
[www.petertobinfunerals.com.au](http://www.petertobinfunerals.com.au)

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**Ed Browne Busy Bookkeeping**  
 Phone 5364 2922  
[ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au](mailto:ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au)

**Open Direct to the Public**  
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 11 Neerim Crescent, Wendouree,  
**Industrial Park Ph: 5339 3122.**

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**Ballarat HOLDEN**  
 Proudly supporting St Columba's Parish  
 211 Gillies Street, Ballarat, VIC, 3350  
 Phone: (03) 5339 9333  
 Email: [info@ballaratholden.com.au](mailto:info@ballaratholden.com.au)  
[www.ballaratholden.com.au](http://www.ballaratholden.com.au)

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 Mobile: 0418 504 254

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 Phone: 5331 4510  
 Mobile: 0418 501 606

**BALLARAT TROPHIES & GIFTS**  
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 Phone: (03) 5339 1166

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 127 GILLIES ST STH BALLARAT PH: 5334 270  
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 BALLARAT 3350  
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 Phone: (03) 5333 2040  
[www.professionalsballarat.com.au](http://www.professionalsballarat.com.au)  
 Email: [michael@professionalsballarat.com.au](mailto:michael@professionalsballarat.com.au)

**HORTICAREBALLARAT**  
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 Phone: (03) 5331 3711  
[www.ppt.com.au](http://www.ppt.com.au)

**Pat Cashin Funerals**  
 Ballarat  
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 Address: 1114 Doveton Street North, Ballarat, 3350  
 Phone: (03) 5333 3911  
**All hours. Moderate cost.**

**ACDF FUNERAL FUND**  
**Prepaid funerals**  
**Eliminate family stress**  
**Details: Ph. 5337 7111**



## 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](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Parish Web:** [ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://ballarat.catholic.org.au) (Select parish)

**School Web:** [www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Parish Web:** [ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://ballarat.catholic.org.au) (Select parish)

**School Web:** [www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au)

**School Phone:** 5339 4726

**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 9- 1.30pm, Thurs & Fri 9-2.30pm

**Staff at Wendouree**

Parish Co-ordinator: Maree Roache

Wed-Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

**Exodus Community:** 5338 2118

**Safeguarding Officers:**

St Columba's: Peter Marquand  
 OLHC: Maree Roache

**Mass times: St Columba's**

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Tuesday: 11.00 am (Hailey House)

Wednesday: 9:30 am

**Mass times: Wendouree**

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Wednesday: 10:00 am

Thursday: 11:00am Kelaston

Friday: 10:00am

**Readings for next weekend:**

Is 55: 6 -9

Phil 1: 20 - 24, 27

Matthew 20: 1 - 6



**17th September 2017. 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**

### Focus on the Scriptures



A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentfulness, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you, Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Noleen Low (sister of Don), Ryan Myers, Paul Smith,

**Anniversaries:** We remember: Keith Seery, Bill Armstrong, Jack & Muriel Mugavin,

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School), Steve Molloy, & Andrea Oliver (Schreenan)

## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

**First Eucharist** We thank all those involved in the preparation of first Eucharist for our children which was celebrated over the last two weekends.

**Pastoral Letter: Marriage according to Pope Francis** Please find on the table at the back of the church a pastoral letter from Bishop Paul Bird which offers some reflections about marriage, drawing on the writings of Pope Francis.

**30th Anniversary of Ordination of Fr Gary Jones** The Parish of St Peter's Daylesford will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Fr Gary's Ordination at 10.30am Mass on Sunday, October 15, 2017 followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre. RSVP to [daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au) to assist with catering. All welcome.

**Lawn Mowing at Church** Thank you to the volunteers who have been helping to look after the church grounds over the past 12 months. A new roster is being prepared in the coming week so if there is anyone else who would like to volunteer on this roster please contact Helen McBrearty on 0409501926. Likewise if it has become difficult for you to continue on this roster please let Helen know.



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Students of all ages are welcome to attend. Please register your attendance through the Damascus web-site. [www.damascus.vic.edu.au](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au)

**Season of Creation Ecumenical Service** On 1st September Christian Church (Major Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, Uniting & Protestant) around the world came together to celebrate **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** and the start of the **Season of Creation** between 1st Sept—4th Oct the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. An Ecumenical service to complete the **Season of Creation 2017** will be held at OLHC Church on Sunday 1st October at 2:30pm. Afternoon tea to follow. All welcome.

| Thanksgiving  | <i>We thank you for your generous support</i> |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) | \$ 863.10                                     | Ballarat Clergy Support Fund \$984 to date |
| 2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)  | \$ 2012.00                                    | Average for this financial year \$2173.63  |

| NEXT WEEKEND                | SATURDAY 23rd Sept                         | SUNDAY 24th Sept                              | <b>What's on this week and next:-</b><br><b>Finance Committee</b> —Tues 19th Sept at 6:00pm in Parish Office Meeting Room.<br><b>Parish Pastoral Committee</b> —Thurs 21st Sept in Parish Office Meeting Room.<br><b>Caring Committee</b> —Tues 26th Sept at 2:00pm in the Parish Office—All welcome.<br><b>Men's Group</b> —next gathering will be at Bodega Café—around the corner from the Church in Howitt Street on Thurs 28th Sept at 2pm. All men most welcome. |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| WELCOMER                    | Kate Lawry                                 | Geraldine Mugavin                             |  |
| COMMENTATOR                 | Kathleen Keogh                             | Clare Fuller                                  |  |
| FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD  | Rosemary Fithall                           | Terry Ranger                                  |  |
| SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD | Jim Waight                                 | Kierce O'Loughlin                             |  |
| GIFTS                       | David & Catherine Fara                     | Sharon DeBeer                                 |  |
| MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST      | John van de Laar, Shirley Edgar, Ann Lacey | Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens |  |
| OVERHEADS                   | Emma & Kathleen                            | Sharon DeBeer                                 |  |
| SACRISTAN                   | Maree Phelan                               | Maureen van der Ploeg                         |  |

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

**OLHC Parish Luncheon Get-together** on Wednesday 20th September at the Park Hotel Bistro at 12 noon. "All Welcome". For booking purposes please add your name to the list in the church foyer.



**ROSTERS:** Please indicate any alterations to the current Ministry Roster timetable for the coming three months. Please notify the co-ordinator, or email or phone the parish office with inclusions or deletions.

**Pastoral Letter from Bishop Paul Bird**— "Marriage according to Pope Francis". In this letter Bishop Paul offers some reflections on marriage, drawing on the writings of Pope Francis. Copies of this letter are available in the church foyer.

**Fr Gary Jones** — 30th anniversary of his ordination at St Peter's Daylesford on October 15th at the 10:30 am Mass., followed by morning tea. All welcome. Please RSVP to [daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au) to assist with catering.

**Baptism:** we welcome Indi Belle Nestor, daughter of Jessica and Daniel. May Indi grow in the love of God, her family and our parish community.



**Catholic Mission**—"Include a Charity a Week" campaign. For more information on how to include a gift to Catholic Mission in your will, you can visit [www.catholicmission.org.au/bequests](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/bequests) or phone 1800 257 296

**Season of Creation:** On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Christian Churches (Major Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, Uniting and Protestant) around the world came together to celebrate **World day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** and the start of the **Season of Creation** between Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> to Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> the feast of St Francis of Assisi. An ecumenical service to complete the **Season of Creation 2017** will be held at OLHC Church on Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> at 2.30pm. Afternoon tea to follow. All welcome

**Parish Pastoral Council:** meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00 pm. Change of date! .



**FIRST COMMUNION:** OLHC First Communion will be held this Sunday, and next Saturday night. 26 children from OLHC parish have completed their preparation and are now able to fully participate in the life of the church through the sacrament of First Eucharist. Blessings to the candidates and their families.

| Collections:  | <i>We thank you for your generous support</i> |              |           |
|---|---|--------------|-----------|
| 1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) | \$ 520  | Loose Money  | \$ 127    |
| 2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)  | \$ 581  | Direct Debit | \$ 55     |
|   |   | Year to date | \$ 15,449 |

| NEXT WEEKEND   | 6 pm   | 10:00 am   | What's on this week |  |
|--|--|--|---------------------|--|
| LEADER of SONG   | Vin Dillon   | Corrie Harbour   | Sun 17th            | First Communion<br>10 am                                     |
| MINISTER of the WORD   | John Bourke  | Mario Cordioli   | Tues 19th           | Parish Council M'tg<br><b>note: change of day/date</b>       |
| MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST   | Joyce Jackson, Mavis McNulty, John Bourke, Maxine Rousch + 1 volunteer | Sue Searls, Peter Briody, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers | Wed 20th            | Liturgy Meeting 10:30 am<br><br>Parish Get-together Luncheon |
| SACRISTAN  | Pauline Howard   | Joyce Jackson  | Thurs 21st          | Mass at Kelston at 11am                                      |
| COUNTERS   |  | Bill Loader & Kevin Murphy                             |                     |  |
| CHURCH CLEANING  | Tony & Ena Bruty   |  |                     |  |
| <b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b> This Weekend - <b>Waubra</b> Next Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b> |  |  | <b>Next Week:</b>   |  |
| Minister of Word:  | Phyllis Bourke   | Fon Ryan   | Wed 27th            | St VdP meeting at 11:30 am - Violet Grove                    |
| Minister of Eucharist :  | Sharon Moran   | Tony McDonald  |                     |  |
| Church Cleaning:   | Trish & Steve Coleman  | Bev Hayward  |                     |  |