

## BALLARAT NEWS

**Mass of the Oils** Monday, March 26, 2018: The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm. 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 in Diocese. This Mass also has a special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2018—the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All members of the Diocese are invited to participate in this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church.

**Mercy Connect Ballarat** – Supporting refugee and asylum seeker students in local schools. Volunteer mentors needed. Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support refugee and asylum seeker students, in Ballarat Schools, through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately 3 hours per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, - ongoing training and support provided. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in Feb. 2018. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com)

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## 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: 0417 168 716

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

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

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)

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)

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

Presbytery: Phone 5332 4324

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, Thurs, Friday 9.00am -1.00pm

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  
Wednesday: 9.30am  
Friday: 12 noon - School

### Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural  
10:00 am OLHC  
Tuesday: 5:00 pm  
Wednesday: 10:00 am  
Thursday: 10:00 am

### Readings for next weekend:

Lev 13:102, 44-46  
Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11  
1 Cor 10:31-11:1  
Mk 1:40-45



## 4th February 2018. 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Focus on the Scriptures

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.



Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the broken-hearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.  
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**Responsorial Psalm:** Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Carmen Avancena (Philippines—sister of Rosario Martin)

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Margaret Deady, Henry Francis Deady, Annie Morgan, Bill & Maie Martin, Patrick Sullivan and Maureen Armstrong

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School), and Barbara Melican. For our RCIA and RCIC candidates who are preparing for reception of the Sacraments .

## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

**Ash Wednesday Mass** will be celebrated in the Church at 9.30am with distribution of Ashes. The school will be joining us for Mass. If you are available to help with set up or other ministries please contact Judith on 0417 168 716.

**Station of the Cross** will be offered on Fridays during Lent starting on Friday 23rd February at 6.30pm. 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 0417 168 716



**Office Hours** Please note the change of office hours which will now be Wed - Friday 9am—1pm. Due to the shorter hours please ensure all anniversary and other bulletin notices are in before 11am on Thursdays. Messages can be emailed or left on the answer phone.

**RCIA—The Rite of Naming** will be held on Sunday 11th February during the 10am Mass. This is for our RCIA and RCIC candidates in preparation for the **Rite of Enrolment** which will be held on Saturday 17th February 2018 at 12.30pm in the Cathedral. All welcome to attend. Please keep our candidates in your prayers.



**Can you help?-** We are looking for more volunteers to take Holy Communion to those who are unable to attend regular weekend Masses. If you would be available regularly or on a casual basis or would like to know more, please contact Judith in the Office Mon-Wed on 0417168 716. Training will be given.

**Senior Reconciliation** Preparation for this Sacrament begins on Wednesday 7th February at 7pm in the school hall with a Parent Information Session. If your child is in Grade 5 or over and wishes to receive this Sacrament please contact the Parish Office for an information sheet.

**Sew'n'So**—First gathering for the year. Meet and share our Christmas stories in the Church foyer on Thursday 8th February at 1:30pm. Enquiries Margaret Ranger tel: 5331 4032

**Holy Hour** - Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday 9th February from 7-8pm in the Church. All most welcome.

Thanksgiving	<i><b>We thank you for your generous support</b></i>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 741.65	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1491.95	Average for this financial year \$1958.21

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY 10th February	SUNDAY 11th February	What's on:
WELCOMER	Catherine Fara	Helen Linane	Thursday 22nd February PPC meeting 7pm in the Parish Office.  Friday 9th February School Mass 12noon for the Opening of the new school year.
COMMENTATOR	Rosemary Fithall	Terry Grano	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Trish Simmons	Irene Monigatti	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Eileen van de Laar	Brian Kennedy	
GIFTS	Simmons Family	Lorna Batty & Carmel King	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Troy Severino, Annette Madigan, Peter Marquand	Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens, Shane Bruty	
OVERHEADS	Lewis/Moloney	Pat Kenna	
SACRISTAN	Lewis/Moloney	Judith O'Sullivan	

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

**Parish Rosters** for the next 4 months will be finalised shortly. If you would like to volunteer for any ministry (Reading, Communion, Music, Counting, Sacristan, church cleaning etc) please contact the Parish Office 5339 2302 or wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or the leaders of each ministry group. If there are any changes to availability to assist please also contact the office.

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:** The first PPC meeting for this year was held on Wednesday. Planning is underway for various events to support the development of the parish over the coming year.

**Parking Safety:** a reminder to parishioners that school is now operating for the 2018 year. Please take care in when entering or leaving the parking area.

**Baptism:** this weekend we welcome into the life of the catholic church Jed Kevin Townsend, son of Mark and Kara. May Jed's life be filled with blessings as he begins his journey in faith.



**Ash Wednesday Mass** will be celebrated at 10:00 am on Wednesday, 14th February. Children from OLHC school will be joining parishioners as we begin our Lenten journey.

**Public Lecture:** "Appraising the Royal Commission Report into Sexual Abuse and Religious Organisations" by Professor Desmond Cahill on Tuesday 6th Feb at Melbourne University. Information is displayed on the poster in the church foyer.

**Australia Day Award:** Our Lady Help of Christians Parish extends its congratulations to Peter Caligari OAM who received the major Citizen of the Year Award in the 2018 Australia Day Awards in Ballarat for his work as director of the 3BA Christmas Appeal.

**Chanel College 60th Anniversary Reunion** for students of THE MARIST FATHERS ERA [1958-1970]. For details send your email address to [chanel.geelong@gmail.com](mailto:chanel.geelong@gmail.com) OR your postal details to PO Box 3069 Geelong West 3218

**PROCLAIM Conference 2018—Sponsorship opportunity** The Diocesan Foundation has again offered sponsorship for six people from the Diocese to attend the PROCLAIM 2018 Conference in Brisbane from July 12 -14 ([www.proclaimconference.com.au](http://www.proclaimconference.com.au)) Further information is available on the Diocesan website: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) Applications close Friday, February 16, 2018.

<b>Collections:</b>			<i><b>We thank you for your generous support</b></i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	559			
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	578			
	Loose Money	\$ 88			

  

NEXT WEEKEND	6 pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Sue Searls	<b>NEXT WEEK:</b>  <b>Wed 14th</b> Ash Wednesday Mass at 10:00 am.
MINISTER of the WORD	Kevin Murphy	Mario Cordioli	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Kirby, Lia Yu, Des Lloyd + 2 volunteers	Margaret White, Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Joyce Jackson	Helen Rieniets	
COUNTERS		Br4endan Curran, Geoff & Trish Doery	
CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir & Melva Muir		
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b> This Weekend — <b>Waubra</b> Next Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b>			
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	James Molloy	Roy Rhoderick	
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward	
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Kerryn / Lawrence Gallagher	Bev Hayward	