

## 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.

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants** The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. A wide range of subject areas are offered: Scripture, Sacraments, Social Justice, Leadership skills, Youth Ministry, Pastoral Care and lots more. Study one subject or more - it's a flexible program! Registration for the April 2018 study cycle are open until 28 March. A study cycle means you do one subject over 5 weeks. You can start in any one of the 6 study cycles each year. More info or contact Amanda, ph: 5337 7125 or email [amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

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**ACDF FUNERAL FUND**  
Catholic Development 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: 0417 168 716  
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  
Wed—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 11:00 am Anointing  
**Mass times: Wendouree**  
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural  
10:00 am OLHC  
Tues: 5:00 pm  
Thursday: 10:00 am Anointing  
Friday 10:00 am  
**Readings for next weekend:**  
Is 50: 4—7  
Ps 21: 8-9. 17-20, 23-24 . R v 2  
Phil 2: 6-11  
Mk 14: 1—15: 47  
The Passion  
Mk 15:1-39 The Passion - Shorter Form

### 18th March 5th Sunday of Lent (B)

**Focus on the Scriptures**

The words of Jesus in today's Gospel must have been very important to a community that was awash with the blood of their fellow believers. Our foremothers and forefathers in the faith counted themselves blessed to die as Jesus died, alive in the faith of God's love for the world. Just imagine how that community of martyrs first heard these words, 'Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.'

By comparison we have it easy today, but martyrdom comes to all believers in different ways. In the broadest sense a martyr is one who is prepared to pay the price for holding true to Christ. For us now this might mean making serious choices about the company we keep, the business ventures we enter into, the non-violent protests we mount, foregoing luxuries so that others in our world might have necessities, and even remaining faithful to the vows and promises we have made. Christian faith sometimes bites hard, and when it does we know we are sharing in the martyr's lot.

And what should be our response when our faith in Christ costs us something big? Jesus models it for us in today's Gospel, '...what should I say? "Father, save me from this hour." No, it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.'

May this final week of Lent, then, see this flesh and blood community be like our forebears in Ephesus and actively seek out ways of sharing in the martyr's lot by letting go of what is not essential and focusing on the One who loved us to the end. (Abridged)

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**Responsorial Psalm:** Create a clean heart in me, O God.  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Gerard Humeniuk, Jim Gallagher, John Murray, Mary Semple (sister of Pauline Newman),  
**Anniversaries:** We remember:  
**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes especially Elizabeth Smith, Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School). For our RCIA and RCIC candidates who are preparing for reception of the Sacraments.

## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

**Palm Sunday** a reminder that (Palm) Passion Sunday is next weekend (24/25 March). We invite you to bring your own palm for blessing before Mass. Please note rosters below need volunteers, please fill the gaps where you are able. Thanks



**Please Help** Holy Week roster sheets are in the foyer for you to add your name to the rosters for Palm Sunday and the Triduum (Holy Thursday– Easter Sunday). There are still a few for Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. We would appreciate your assistance during this busy Easter period. If you haven't already, please sign up today! Thank you.

**Anointing Mass** will be held in the Church at 11am on Wednesday 21st March followed by a light luncheon. If you require transport please contact Judith at the Office 0417 168 716.

**Reconciliation** **Reconciliation for Lent** will be held on Tuesday 27 March at 7pm in the Church.

**Mini Vinnies** The Saint Vincent de Paul Conference of St Columba's would like to congratulate the Mini Vinnies of St Columba's Primary School 2018. We are so impressed that 60 of you have volunteered to be part of team that focusses on helping out those in our community who are in need. Each year we have been overwhelmed by your efforts and generosity - and it looks like this year will be another year of enthusiasm and passion for social justice. We look forward to working with you in 2018 - keep up the good works. To help celebrate, please join us after Saturday night Mass for a cuppa

**General Rosters** have now been uploaded to the website and emailed to you. If you have not received one please email the office so we have an updated address for you: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au This roster runs through to the end of the year. Please find a replacement if you are going to be away at any stage. Printed copies of the roster are in the foyer for those who do not have email addresses. Thank you

**Save the date** next Parish luncheon will be held on Thursday 12th April. Details to follow.

**Overheads** we are looking for one more person to operate the data projector on a Saturday 6pm Mass on a regular basis. If you are able to assist please contact Judith in the Parish Office.

**Security** Unfortunately St Columba's Church was broken into sometime last Sunday night as well as the building that is leased to the ACU. Access was gained to the safe and the weekend collections were taken. Fortunately no vandalism was sustained in any way. If you are in the church can you please ensure all doors and windows are locked when you leave.

**Funeral Ministry Team Meeting** Thursday 15th March 4.00pm in Church Foyer. All welcome.

Thanksgiving	<b>We thank you for your generous support</b>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 795.00	Average for this financial year \$ 2044.65

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY 24th March	SUNDAY 25th March	What's on:
WELCOMER	Volunteer please	Volunteer	<b>Wednesday 21st</b> March 11am Mass of Anointing in the Church followed by a light lunch <b>Sunday 25th</b> March Palm Sunday <b>Monday 26th</b> March 6.30pm Mass of the Oils, St Patrick's Cathedral <b>Tuesday 27th</b> March 7pm Parish Reconciliation in the Church <b>Holy Thursday 29th</b> March 7pm, <b>Good Friday 30th</b> March 3pm, <b>Easter Vigil 31</b> March, 6pm, <b>Easter Sunday 1st</b> April 10am
COMMENTATOR	Ann Lacey	Judy Brown	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD & Narrator	Narrator Trish Simmons	Proclaimer 1: Terry Grono Narrator: Geraldine	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD & Other	Other Jennifer Adams	Proclaimer 2: Other Bruce	
GIFTS	Volunteer please	Maureen & Hans	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Volunteers please	Volunteers please	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Harry Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Maree	Maureen & Hans	

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

**Parish Sacramental Program:** The Sacrament of Confirmation will commence in mid April. The information meeting for parents will be held on Wednesday April 18th. The Confirmation ceremony will be held on May 5th and 6th.

### Easter Liturgies



Mon 26th	<b>Mass of the Oils 6.30pm</b>		
Thurs 29th	<b>OLHC 7:00 pm Lord's Supper</b>		
Fri 30th	<b>Waubra 10 am</b>	Fri 30th	<b>OLHC 3pm: Lord's Passion</b>
	<b>'Way of the Cross'</b>		
Sat 31st	<b>OLHC - 7:30 pm Easter Vigil</b>		
Sun 1st	<b>Waubra Mass 8:30 am</b>	Sun 1st	<b>OLHC Mass 10:00am</b>

**Baptism:** This weekend we welcome Frederick James Francis Coleman, son of Felicity and Patrick. May Fredrick grow in the love of God through love from his family.



**Save these Dates—October 27th—31st:** Fr Richard Leonard will be presenting a Mission in OLHC Parish. This will be an opportunity for personal and community renewal. There are a few books written by Fr Richard available for borrowing from the church foyer. See display in foyer.

**Parish Community Meeting:** Advance Notice for Sunday July 29th after 10:00 am Mass.



### Caritas ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent 2018



Ditosa in Mozambique is cared for by her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, aged 12, thanks to Caritas Australia's support, Ditosa has now graduated from school with plans for university.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help young women like Ditosa to grow up with an education, confidence and hope, providing them with a just future. A Just Future starts with your support!**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

<b>Collections:</b>			<b>We thank you for your generous support</b>
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	570	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	676	
	Loose Money	\$ 114	
24th/25th March	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Margaret White	Tuesday 20th Liturgy Meeting at 10:00 am <b>Tues 20th Reconciliation 7 pm</b> Wednesday 21st Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at 7:00 pm Thursday 22nd Anointing Mas at 10:00 am Lenten Group at 7:00 pm. <b>Next Week: Holy Week</b> See above for details.
MINISTER of the WORD	Darryl Clark	Marie McMillan	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Pat Dillon, Trish Pearce, John Kirby + 2 volunteers	Marie McMillan, Tony Bruty, Pauline Howard + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman	Joyce Jackson	
COUNTERS		Trish Pora Catherine Clifford, Brian Ratcliffe	
CHURCH CLEANING	Helen Rieniets & Robert Rhodes		
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	This Weekend - <b>Waubra</b>	Next Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b>	
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Julie Cini	Tony McDonald	
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward	
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Sharon & Marty Moran	Bev Hayward	