

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

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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
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

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
Monday: 10:30 am Funeral
Wednesday 9:30 am
See Holy Week schedule
Mass times: Wendouree
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural
10:00 am OLHC
Tues: 5:00 pm
Wednesday: 5.30 pm Exodus
See Holy Week schedule
Readings for next weekend:
Acts 10:34. 37-43
Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24
Col 3:1-41 or 1 Cor 5:6-8
Jn 20:1-9

25th March Passion Sunday (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

In this final Lenten Sunday, we see that we have been saved through the kenotic (partial renunciation of divine nature) humility of Jesus, not through military power. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted criminal, and there endured the sense of abandonment. However, this saviour was later lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives.

Jesus became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. He was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. The passion recounts the extent to which he willingly offered himself. We have a saviour who first offered himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with him is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair seems to hold sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for us.
© Dianne Bergant CS

Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Elizabeth Smith,
Anniversaries: We remember: Annie Sullivan, Jean McDonald
We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Stan White and 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

Please Help Holy Week roster sheets are in the foyer for you to add your name to the rosters for 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. We would also appreciate help with setting up for the Easter vigil.

Rosters for Holy Week please see separate schedule in the foyer

Reconciliation for Lent As preparation for Easter, all are invited to the celebration of the Second Rite of Reconciliation, Tuesday 27th March at 7.00 pm. During this liturgy there will be opportunity for Individual Confession as well as prayer and reflection on the Holy Scriptures. All welcome.

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

Defibrillator a kind, thoughtful and generous parishioner has donated a defibrillator to St Columba's Parish. The Parish extends it's sincere gratitude for enabling this to happen.

Parish luncheon our next get together will be held on Thursday 12th April 12.30PM at the City Oval Hotel. Sheets are available to add your name to or contact Judith in the office.

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.

Supper at the conclusion of the Easter Vigil there will be supper to congratulate our RCIA Candidates reception into the Church. All welcome. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. Volunteers to assist with serving would also be appreciated. If you can assist please contact Judith in the office.

Easter Vigil you are invited to please bring your own candle to this celebration. Ensure that it is in something to catch any drips. Thank you

New Vicar General: Bishop Paul has appointed Fr Kevin Maloney as the new Vicar General from 2nd April. Fr Justin Driscoll has resigned from this position having given the past five years in this role.

Good Friday collection for Holy Places appeal envelopes available in the Church for this collection which promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to the local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing, Churches, Parish, schools, orphanages and medical centres. The collection of these envelopes takes place during the Good Friday 3pm Liturgy.

Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 768	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2019	Average for this financial year \$ 2007.66

Holy Week Schedule:

Monday 26th March 6.30pm Mass of the Oils, St Patrick's Cathedral

Tuesday 27th March 7pm Parish Reconciliation in the Church

Holy Thursday 29th March 7pm Mass of the Last Supper includes Reception of Oils and washing of feet and will be followed by Holy Hour with the Lord until 9.00pm

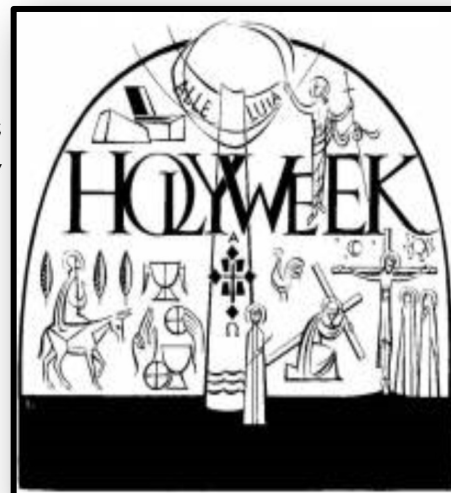
Good Friday Way of the Cross will start at St Columba's at 10am

Good Friday 30th March 3pm Passion

Easter Saturday Vigil 31 March 6pm Blessing of Fire and Water

Easter Sunday 1st April 10am The Mass of the Resurrection

Rosters for Holy Week please see separate schedule in the foyer



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

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

Way of the Cross– Waubra. Parishioners are invited to participate with the Waubra community at 10 am on Good Friday.

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 19th & 20th May**. Brochures are available in the foyer of the church.



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 ~ Sixth Sunday of Lent 2018



When Psyche Mae featured in Project Compassion 2008, she was living in a squatter settlement, on the edge of a giant rubbish dump outside Manila in the Philippines. She is now a young social worker, with plans to study a Master's degree, whilst helping others emerge from poverty, thanks to the support of individuals and Caritas Australia.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help improve the health and wellbeing of communities in the Philippines so they can work towards eradicating poverty, providing a just future for all.

A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes.

Collections:		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	762	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	797	
	Loose Money	\$	265
31st March/1st April	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Volunteer	Volunteer	Holy Week See above for details.
MINISTER of the WORD	Volunteer	Volunteer	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Lia Yu, Des Lloyd, Joyce Jackson + 2 volunteers	Elly Green, Maxine Rousch, Sue Searls + 2 volunteers	Wed 28th St VdP at Violet Grove at 11:45 am.
SACRISTAN	Joyce Jackson	Peter & Deanna Osman	Next Week:
COUNTERS		Trish Pora, Catherine Clifford, Brian Ratcliffe	
CHURCH CLEANING	Maxine Rousch, Catherine Clifford, Leonie Hogan		
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Learmonth	Next Weekend— Waubra	
Minister of Word:	Tony McDonald	Sharon Moran	
Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward	Margaret McDonald	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Phyllis & Pat Bourke	