

BALLARAT NEWS

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

"In the Footsteps of Mary McKillop" 2018 Pilgrimage from October 23rd to November 3rd. Information brochure is on display in the foyer.

Secondary School Reunions for Loreto, Damascus and St Patrick's colleges - Information on the notice board in the foyer.

Irish Heritage Exhibition: The Archives of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat and the Ballarat Diocesan Historical Commission presents an Irish Heritage Exhibition on April 14 & 15, 2018 from 9.30am – 4.30pm in Ballarat

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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 Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Web: ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish) Parish Web: ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)
School Web: www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au School Web: 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
pastoral@stcolumbasparish.org
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
Tuesday: 11:00 am Haley House Anointing
Wednesday 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural
10:00 am OLHC
Thursday: 11:00 am Kelaston
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:
Acts 4:8-12
Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23.
26. 28-29. R. v.22
1 Jn 3:1-2
Jn 10:11-18



15th April, 2018. Third Sunday of Easter (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

The first sentence of the gospel reading sets the context for the themes of today: 'Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.' Who is the Jesus that they recognised? And what does this recognition require?

Jesus is the servant of the God of the early ancestors, the long awaited messiah, and the innocent sufferer portrayed in the prophetic tradition. He is the fulfilment of our deepest aspirations. When we gather around the table for the sacramental meal, we encounter the Risen Lord. There the sacred traditions of our religious heritage are opened for us and we are enabled to recognise him in the traditions and in the breaking of the bread.

In order to encounter the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread and in the breaking open of the word, we need docile hearts ready to embrace the deepest meaning of our religious heritage. We need hearts that have been purified in the love of God; hearts that have been totally transformed. The commandment of love requires nothing less.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people described in the first reading, must live reformed lives. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people addressed in the second reading, must be obedient to God's commandment of love. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the disciples portrayed in the gospel, must preach the good news of God's forgiveness to all nations. Easter faith assures us that all of this is possible. © Dianne Bergant CSS



Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your face shine on us.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Douglas Howell

Anniversaries: We remember: Andrew Duke, Richard Patrick Francis, William Eddy, Monica Eddy, Eleanor Eddy

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Stan White, Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School).

ALLELUIA

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ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS



RCIA Congratulations to Emma, Debbie and Sophie on their reception into the Church on Easter Saturday evening. Thank you to the team and to their sponsors for assisting them this far on their journey. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Confirmation we will soon begin preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation (for children in Grade 3 and over who have been Baptized) which will take place on the weekend of 26/27 May. If you would like your child to receive this Sacrament please contact Judith (0417168 716) for more information.



Easter water please feel free to bring a container and help yourself to the water of new life in the Easter font, which may be used to bless people, homes, vehicles, machinery, farming land prior to sowing seed for the forthcoming season etc. It's free!

Mens' Group April get together will be an outing to the Golf House Hotel in Doveton Street for coffee Thursday 26th 2pm. Please contact the office if you require transport.

Plenary Council 2020 Plenary Council 2020 Everyone is invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?" www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. To begin our preparation for this time of dialogue and discernment amongst all members of the Church in Australia, the Diocese of Ballarat will commence by Praying Towards 2020 (April 21st – May 6th). In Ballarat city there will be events during the week of April 29th – May 5th to which all parishioners will be invited. Watch this space.

Interested in becoming Catholic? Any adults interested in exploring the Christian initiation process to become Catholic (RCIA) are invited to attend the Alpha adult faith formation opportunity that will soon commence in the Cathedral. Please share this invitation with those known to you who may be interested or if you would like further information contact Judith or Maree in the respective Parish Office.



Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	738.95
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$	1573.95
	Average for this financial year	\$ 1980.56

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY 21st April	SUNDAY 22nd April	What's on:
WELCOMER	Jan Mullaly	Alison Thorpe	Tuesday 17th April Liturgy meeting 7.30pm
COMMENTATOR	John van de Laar	Pat Kenna	Wednesday 18th April Links Meeting 7pm School Board room
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tony Beggs	Min Myers	Tuesday 24th April Confirmation Info Meeting for parents 7pm School Hall
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Eileen van de Laar	Jo-Anne van der Voort	Wednesday 25th April Anzac Day
GIFTS	Scanlon Family	Maureen and Hans	Thursday 26th April Men's' Group 2pm outing to the Golf House Hotel
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ann Lacy, Trish Simmons, Torie Waight	Anthea Hinchey, Judith O'Sullivan, Mary Kennedy	Thursday 26th April Parish Pastoral Council at 7pm Meeting room office.
OVERHEADS	Trish Simmons	Harry Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Sullivan sisters	Maureen and 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**. There will be four dismissal sessions from either the Saturday night or Sunday morning Masses. The Confirmation ceremony will be held on either **May 19th & 20th May**. Brochures are available in the foyer of the church. NB: Confirmation is available for children in Year 3 or older who have been Baptised. We are looking for leaders for the Dismissal Groups. If you are interested in assisting please contact Maree at the Parish Office.



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.



Parish Pastoral Council is calling for nominations for this important leadership group within this community. A discernment session will be held on Wednesday May 16th at 7:30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. If you are interested in joining this leadership group please contact Mario Cordioli or Vin Dillon via the Parish Office for further information.

PPC Report: Attached to this Bulletin is a Report from the PPC for the first quarter of 2018. This report includes reports about the various activities occurring within this parish, and information about the OLHC School building project and other school activities.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) is underway. There are 6 children from this parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism in the near future. Please keep these children and families in your prayers.

Retreats: There are several flyers for Spiritual retreats in various locations in Victoria. These flyers are displayed in the OLHC church foyer.

Collections: We thank you for your generous support			21st/22nd April		Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's on this week
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	594	LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Margaret white		Wed 18th Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at 7:00 pm.
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	641	MINISTER of the WORD	Margot Mulcahy	Mario Cordioli		Wed 18th Confirmation Information meeting for parents at 7:00 pm in the Meeting Room
	Loose Money	\$ 71	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Kirby, Lia Yu, Des Lloyd + 2 volunteers	Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy, Tony Bruty + 2 volunteers		Thurs 19th Mass at Kelaston at 11 am
			SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Helen Rieniets		Next Week:
			COUNTERS		Kath Connors		Wed 25th ANZAC Day
			CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir, Melva Muir			Mass at Exodus Community at 5:30 pm.
			Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend— Learmonth		
			Minister of Word:	Margaret McDonald	Bev Hayward		
			Minister of Eucharist :	Kerryn Gallagher	Clare Mullane		
			Church Cleaning:	Phyllis & Pat Bourke	Bev Hayward		