

BALLARAT NEWS

ACU Courses: The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a public Short Course “**From death to new life: preparing and celebrating Catholic funerals**” in both Melbourne and Geelong. In Melbourne it will be run on at the ACU Mercy Lecture Theatre and Chapel on 4 Wednesday evenings in June, and in Geelong over two Saturdays (June 16 and June 23) at St Mary of the Angels Catholic Parish, Pioneer Room and Basilica. Leading scholars will investigate a Christian theology of dying and death and explore how the Order of Christian Funerals celebrates death in a specifically Catholic way. Experienced priests and funeral directors will discuss how they care for the dead and for those who grieve. There will also be an opportunity to prepare a Catholic funeral for yourself or a loved one. Registration is essential, at: http://www.acu.edu.au/acu_centre_for_liturgy/short_courses. For more information phone 02-9701 4751.

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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: 5331 1012
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
Wednesday: 9:30 am
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
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:
Acts 1:1-11
Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6
Eph 1:17-23
Mk 16:15-20




6th May 2018. 6th Sunday of Easter (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

The boundlessness of God's love is seen in the fact that God loved us even before we were deserving of God's love. In fact, it was God's love that made us able both to receive and to give love in return. Love is of God; love is God. Divine love is constant and trustworthy. How easily we can think this thought or speak these words, yet how difficult, even impossible, it is to comprehend what it means. We can only really recognise love in its many concrete manifestations. Love is patient, kind and forbearing; it believes, it hopes, it endures. The love of God breaks down the barriers between Gentile and Jew, between slave and free, between the poor and the prosperous, between women and men, between the healthy and the ailing, between young and old.

Embraced by such love we are gradually transformed. We begin to recognise God's love in places we never suspected it would be found. We discover that what we once judged unclean may merely be an unfamiliar openness to God's truth. We discover that our own insistence on legitimate religious practice may really be spiritual elitism. Our eyes are opened to ways we have tried to confine God's love to the conventional boundaries we ourselves have set. As we are drawn into God's love, we eagerly embrace the commandments that help us to live righteous lives. To the extent that we love as universally as God does, we will know that we live in God and that God lives in us.

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Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased. We commend to God: Franz Edgar (brother of Denis Edgar), Edna Petrie.

Anniversaries: We remember James McNamara, Doreen Davies, Bryan and Nellie Keighrey, Michael and Mark Ryan


We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School). The children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation and Baptism.



ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

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. We welcome Fr Antony Tran CSsR who is here with our Parish for the final time this weekend. We thank him for his ministry across both parishes.


St Alipius Parish Ballarat East invites applications for the part-time position (16 hours per week) of Parish Coordinator. A Position Description and Application Form can be accessed on their Parish website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

 **Alpha** – Adult Faith formation opportunity. Commencing May 9th from 6.00pm to 7.30pm for 11 week. This will be held in the Cathedral Presbytery. Enquiries to Judith or Maree in respective Parish office. The Ballarat city parishes are offering this for RCIA enquirers but it is open to anyone who is **Alpha** interested.

Confirmation preparation has began for the children to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 26/27 May. Please keep them and their families in your prayers during this preparation time.



Telephone We now have our land line reconnected but with a new number. Please take note of this for future use — it is **53311012**

 **Playgroup** the Links Committee (made up of Parishioners and school staff and parents) have been asked about the possibility of starting a playgroup for young children in the Parish/School Community. To gauge the level of interest in starting one we invite anyone who is interested to join us for coffee and a chat at Bodega Café in Howitt Street at 9am on Tuesday 15th May. If you have any questions please call Judith in the Parish Office.

Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament Friday 11th May from 7pm to 8pm in the Church. All most welcome.

Sew'n'So Thursday 10th May 2018 at 1.30pm in the Church Foyer. Come along for a cuppa and some company. Enquiries Margaret 53314032



Office please note that the office will be closed all day on Wednesday 9th May. It will reopen on Thursday.

Thanksgiving	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 868.50
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2565.80 Average for this financial year \$ 2972.22

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY 12th May	SUNDAY 13th May	What's on:
WELCOMER	Kitty Dower	Geraldine Mugavin	9th May in the Cathedral Presbytery 6.30pm. ALPHA course starting 10th May 1.30pm Sew'n'So in the foyer 11th May 7pm Holy Hour & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church
COMMENTATOR	Kate Lawry	Judy Brown	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Peter Dalton	Clara Geoghan	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Mary Dinning	Irene Monigatti	
GIFTS	Jan Mullaly	Sharon De Beer	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jennifer Adams, Rosemary Fithall, Annette Madigan	Irene Monigatti, Colleen Wakefield, Derek Streulens	
OVERHEADS	Norah & Stephen	Judith	
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS



Confirmation program: has commenced. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks. This week the candidates are exploring the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Please note: confirmation in this parish will be celebrated at both masses on the weekend of May 19th and 20th.

Praying Towards 2020 Fr Antony Tran CSsR continues to be present in this parish, working with Fr Marcello in preparing our parish community for the Praying Towards 2020.


Mass count. The Annual Mass Count will be conducted over 3 weekends, starting the 12th May. Please be aware that this is happening in each parish within the Diocese of Ballarat.

Rosters—the Ministries rosters for July October 2018 are now being prepared, and will be finalised by mid May. Please notify the ministries co-ordinator or the Parish Office if you have any alterations of your availability over the coming months.

Baptisms: Georgia and Gabriel Wilson, both RCIC candidates who have been preparing over the past few months for their reception into the Catholic Church, and Logan Wilson will also receive the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.



Gentle Dove Prayer Group—Prayer Circle. This prayer service provides a prayer line for anyone who requests prayer. CONFIDENTIALITY and ANONYMITY assured. Ring Val on 0412 840 296

 **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.

Nazareth House Auxiliary Fundraising Concert The Nazareth House Auxiliary are hosting a fundraising concert on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Nazareth House Hall Wendouree at 1.45pm. The Regina Caeli Choir (sacred music) and Kerin and Kyle from the St Columba's Parish will be performing. Tickets are available at the door - \$20.00 adults, \$25.00 family with afternoon tea included. For more information contact Margaret, ph. 5332 4454.

Cuppa after 10:00 am Mass, hosted by the Time Out Family Group. Please stay for a cuppa and chat.

Collections:		<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 716	Loose Money	\$ 116
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 933	Weekly Average	\$
12th/13th May	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Sue Searls	Vin Dillon	Sun 6th Time Out Family Group — cuppa after Mass Next Week:
MINISTER of the WORD	Pauline Newman	Eileen Franklin	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Kirby, Lia Yu, Des Lloyd + 2 volunteers	Peter Briody, Val Bourke, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Robyn Clark	
COUNTERS		Des Lloyd & John Calistro	
CHURCH CLEANING	Ena and Tony Bruty		
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend— Learmonth	
Minister of Word:	Fon Ryan	Keryn Gallagher	
Minister of Eucharist :	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward	
Church Cleaning:	Trish & Steve Coleman	Bev Hayward	