

## 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](http://www.acu.edu.au/acu_centre_for_liturgy/short_courses). For more information phone 02-9701 4751.

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**Pat Cashin Funerals**

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**ACDF FUNERAL FUND**

Prepaid funerals  
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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: 5331 1012  
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: 9:30 am  
**Mass times: Wendouree**  
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural  
10:00 am OLHC  
Tuesday: 5:00pm  
Thursday: 10:00 am  
Friday: 10:00 am  
**Readings for next weekend:**  
Dt 4:32-34. 39-40  
Ps 32:4-6. 9. 18-20.  
22. R. v.12  
Rom 8:14-17  
Mt 28:16-20

### 20th May Pentecost Sunday (B)

**Focus on the Scriptures**

Pentecost Sunday is often called the birthday of the Church. For the ancient Israelites, Pentecost (meaning 'fiftieth') was a harvest festival celebrated 50 days after the beginning of the harvest. When the Jerusalem Temple was built, this harvest festival was transformed into a pilgrimage feast to celebrate the covenant that God had made with Israel on Mt Sinai. Several decades after the death of Jesus, the early Christians reflected on their origins and chose this feast to mark the birth of God's new covenant with God's people.

For the teaching at the heart of the new covenant, we turn to the gospel reading from John. The risen Christ appears to the disciples who are huddled behind locked doors. He offers the simple greeting: "Peace be with you," the greeting we offer each other at every Eucharistic celebration. He sends them on a mission of peace in continuity with his own God-inspired mission. He breathes on them the gift of the Holy Spirit and tells them that God will forgive those whom they forgive, and will "retain" or "seize hold of" the transgressions of those whose sins or transgressions they "retain".

Much of the enduring conflict in our world derives from the inability of ordinary people and of leaders to know how to deal with transgression. The Holy Spirit is the unique source of our power to forgive, of our capacity to deal with the perpetrators of violence, and of the strength we need to refrain from vengeance. Sadly, the desire for vengeance often inhibits healing in those who have suffered violence or abuse, and even in those who endeavour to support them, so that the cycle of transgression continues. We must work ceaselessly as a global community to address the causes of violence and abuse and search together for lasting solutions. As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, let us gather into our hearts all the distressed members of our Earth community and pray with greater urgency than ever: "Come Holy Spirit, renew the face of the Earth." (Abridged)

Veronica Lawson RSM



**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Brian Molloy, Marlene Odum, Patricia Quarrell, Tess Hayes  
**Anniversaries: We remember:** Andy and Mollie Mooney, James Eagan, Kathleen Fillipi  
**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes and the children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation OLHC and those still preparing (St Columba's)



## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

**Confirmation** this weekend sees the final dismissals at Mass for the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next weekend. Please keep the 36 children and their families in your prayers during this time.



**Mass Count** the annual Mass count will be conducted over the next three weeks.

**Defibrillator** there will be a training session for those who are interested to learn how to use this in an emergency. This will be held on Saturday 2nd June following the 6pm Mass. Please register your name with Judith in the Parish Office 5331 1201

**Message from Fr Barry Ryan** The 6pm Mass at OLHC on June 2 and the 10am Mass at St Columba's on Sunday June 3 will mark the end of my voluntary weekend ministry here. As I move to join the Cathedral Mass roster, I want to thank each one of you for the witness of your faith and for the invaluable gift of your friendship and hospitality. I am confident that you will continue to grow in wisdom, caring for one another and for our troubled earth and so witnessing to God's love for our world. Every blessing, Barry.

**Thank you** as a thank you to Fr Barry for his service to both OLHC and St Columba's Parish communities, there will be a time of hospitality after each of his final Masses and an opportunity for you to say thank you.

**Plenary Council 2020** – Listen to what the Spirit is saying. Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

Plenary Council 2020  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

**Men's Group** next gathering will be Thursday 31st May at 2pm—3.30pm. A cuppa and a catch up in the Parish meeting room. All men welcome. FYI—The June gathering will be the last one until Spring.

**DATE SAVER—YOUTH FESTIVALS!** Ballarat Diocese is holding 3 x day-long Festivals for Youth and Young Adults 15- 30 years old. Sundays—August 5, September 2 and November 25. The events are free and is an initiative for the Year of Youth—Opening New Horizons for Spreading Joy! More details soon.

Thanksgiving		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 860.35	2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1285.20
		Average for this financial year \$ 1943.27	
NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY 26th May	SUNDAY 27th May	What's on:
WELCOMER	Greta Kelly	Pat & Bernie	Sacrament of Confirmation 26/27 May during the 6pm and 10am Masses
COMMENTATOR	Jan Mullaly	Anne Rossiter	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ruth Marquand	Kierce O'Loughlin	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Maureen Mooney	Bruce Chapman	
GIFTS	Confirmation children	Confirmation children	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Simmons, Torie Waight, Kathleen Keogh	Judith O'Sullivan, Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Harry Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Maree	Maureen	

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

**Confirmation program** This weekend Our Lady Help of Christians Parish celebrates Pentecost. A significant part of this celebration is the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation at both parish Masses. We prayerfully congratulate the 17 children who will receive this second sacrament of Initiation, on the pathway to full communion in our church. Thank you to the parents and catechists from our school who have assisted the children on this journey. Please keep these children and families in your prayers.



**Mass count** The Annual Mass Count will be conducted over the next few weeks. 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.

**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.



**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.

**Ballarat NILS - Volunteers needed** A service provided by the St Vincent de Paul Society to assist low income earners in the Ballarat region to purchase essential goods and services up to the value of \$1500. We currently require volunteers to assist in running this service. The role would include being an independent witness in the interview process. No previous experience is required, simply to be available four hours a fortnight on a Thursday between 9.00am - 1.00pm. If you can assist, please call Richard Francis on 5331 3907 for more information.



Collections:		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 664	Loose Money	\$ 131
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 950	Weekly Average	\$ 1,436
26th/27th May	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Margaret White	Wed 23rd may St V d P. 11:45 @ Violet Grove
MINISTER of the WORD	John Schonfelder	Harry Kennedy	Thurs May 24th OLHC Feast Day—Mass at 10:00 am
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Pauline Newman, Pat Dillon, Trish Pearce + 2 volunteers	Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy, Pauline Howard + 2 volunteers	<b>Next Week:</b>
SACRISTAN	John & Sue Calistro	Helen Rieniets	
COUNTERS		Brendan Curran, Geoff & Trish Doery	
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>	Phyllis Bourke	Margaret McDonald	
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Kerryn Gallagher	Sharon Moran	
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Trish & Steve Coleman	Bev Hayward	