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**BALLARAT NEWS**

**Joy Spreading** - Sam Clear special guest!  
Sam Clear is the guest speaker at the next Joy Spreading event for young adults (18-30yo) on Friday 27 July from 6.30pm - 9.00pm at the Lake View Hotel, Ballarat. An opportunity for young Catholic adults to share ideas and views in a friendly environment. This is a Year of Youth initiative - Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy. More info www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or 53377125.

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program** - now open for new participants  
Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries, employed or volunteers. Sacraments, scripture, youth ministry, liturgy, leadership - many subjects available - 5 weeks per subject. Registration for the July/August study cycle is open until 4 July. See www.ballarat.catholic.org.au for more info or contact Amanda, ph. 5337 7125 or email amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au



**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 Priests:** Fr Gary Jones  
Fr Anthony Nagothu  
Fr Sajan Mathew  
**Staff at St Columba's**  
**Pastoral Associate:** Judith O'Sullivan  
Wed-Friday 9am-1pm  
**Staff at Wendouree**  
**Parish Co-ordinator:** Maree Roache  
Wed-Friday 9am-1pm  
**Exodus Community:** Ph: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: OLHC**  
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural  
10:00 am OLHC  
Tuesday: 5:00pm  
Wednesday: 10:30 am  
(Funeral for James Flynn)  
Friday: 10:00 am  
**Readings for next weekend:**  
Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24  
Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2  
2 Cor 8:7. 9. 13-15  
Mk 5:21-43

**24th June ~ Feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist (B)**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

When Elizabeth gave birth to a son, the whole village was quite certain that the child would be called Zechariah after his father. But Elizabeth resisted and Zechariah had no hesitation in writing, 'His name is John' - is John. Present tense.

This caused great consternation in the village. This could only mean that more shocking breaks with tradition were to come. And in the last verse of today's Gospel, we learn that this now young man is not preparing for priestly service at the Temple!

He is out in the wilderness! He has adopted the lifestyle of the most marginal, living outside settled existence where tradition suffocates.

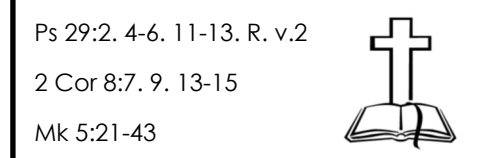
Pope Francis constantly urges us to be challenged by those existing on the margins. This encompasses not only those who are suffering exclusion, injustice or who are simply without the necessities of life. He is also concerned with those on the peripheries of world power. Perhaps this is best symbolised in the choosing of a Cardinal from Tonga which has only 15,000 Catholics!

We could pause for a moment to pray that we are sufficiently open to receive God's messengers, who may erupt from the margins, from 'the wilderness' of the peripheries, even from Argentina!

© Fr Michael Tate



**Responsorial Psalm:** I praise you for I am wonderfully made.  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways. Alleluia!



**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Kevin Sharp, James Flynn  
**Anniversaries:** We remember: Kath Leonard  
**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes

## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

LOVE, PRAY, SERVE, HOPE & FOLLOW JESUS



**Vinnies Winter Appeal** For those of you who still wish to make a donation to the annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal we have left some envelopes on the table in the foyer. Your donation can be placed in one of these envelopes and then just add it to the collection plate during Mass. Any donations are greatly appreciated as this appeal coincides with the time of year that many of our least fortunate in society need assistance the most. Funds raised will be dedicated to rebuilding lives – to providing blankets for warmth, assistance in paying utility bills and rent and the provision of food. It is hoped that the Appeal will be able to assist some 1.3 million people in chronic need this winter.

**Roster apologies**—please note that I have missed the weekend of 30 June/1st July off the roster in error. I have put one together which is below, if you are unable to minister that weekend I would appreciate you finding a replacement. Thank you in anticipation, Judith.



**BBI eConference: Synodality in Practice** Listening to the Spirit and Leading Change The 14th National eConference will focus on engaging communities around Australia in a landmark discussion around the future vision and direction for the Catholic Church in this country. This can be viewed at the Cathedral Parish Mackillop & Glowrey Rooms on Wednesday, August 8th 2018 from 10.00am - 3.00pm. All are welcome to attend. BYO lunch. For more information go to: <https://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/news-events/111/event/217/synodality-in-practice--listening-to-the-spirit-and-leading-change>

**Mercy Connect Volunteer mentors needed** to make a difference in the life of a school child with refugee or asylum seeker background. Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support students from a refugee/asylum seeker background in Ballarat Schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The project aims to provide mentoring for young people to optimize their literacy development, academic and social learning. Mercy Connect volunteers work with students during school hours and the volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but, you will receive on-going training and support. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in Third Term 2018. Obtaining a current Working with Children Check and Police Check is part of the Application Process. Contact Donna Stewart on 0417 624 330 or email: [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com)

**Urgent request for Rental Accommodation** Can you help a refugee family of two adults and three small children? They require a house to rent urgently. Reliable people. Short term or long term OK. Does anyone have a house available to rent? Please call Doreen 0417117382 or Des 0418537713

**National Redress** there are copies of the Bishops letter responding to the Royal Commission for you to take. It is also available on the diocesan website and in e-news.

**Plenary Council** visit the website to be involved and also subscribe: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

Collections:			<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)			\$ 631.20		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)			\$ 1753.40 Average for this financial year \$1936.11		
<u>NEXT WEEKEND</u>	<u>SATURDAY 30th June</u>	<u>SUNDAY 1st July</u>	<b>What's coming up:</b>		
WELCOMER	Catherine Fara	Alison Thorpe	<p><b>Mens' group</b> Thursday 28th June at 12.30pm. We will gather for a soup lunch at the home of Bernadette Clark. For more details or if you require transport please contact Judith on 53311012</p> <p><b>Parish Luncheon</b> coming up in late July watch this space for more details</p>		
COMMENTATOR	Ann Lacy	Judy Brown			
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Rosemary Filthall	Bruce Chapman			
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Kate Lawry	Geraldine Mugavin			
GIFTS	Simmons Family	Lorna & Carmel			
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jennifer Adams, Annette Madigan, Troy Severino	Georgina Hinchey, Colleen Wakefield, Kay Merbach			
OVERHEADS	Kathleen Keogh	Sharon DeBeer			
SACRISTAN	Volunteer	Josie			

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

WELCOMING ~ SPIRIT OF MISSION ~ CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS

**Stewardship Program: Weekly Envelopes Sets** are available for collection. Please collect your envelopes from the Church foyer this weekend. Thank you

**Corpus Christi Raffle tickets** are available at the Church \$10 per ticket. 1st prize is \$15,000 travel voucher. Please support our seminary. Contact Joyce Jackson ph: 5339 4320

**Sharing the Word ELibrary of Educational Resources for Catholic Ministry** An ELibrary of Catholic resources that has been made available with the support of Catholic Mission Australia. The initiative is called the Sharing the Word Project. The ELibrary can be accessed at <http://sharingtheword.info>



**Guidelines for Use of Visual Display Systems in Liturgy** The Diocesan Liturgical Commission has recently published the revised "Guidelines for Use of Visual Display Systems in Liturgy." These guidelines provide information on the installation and use of visual display systems in our churches. More information is available from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or contact the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5337 7159 or email [liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday - 1 July 2018** Every year we have an opportunity to deepen relationships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. As always, it will be held on the first Sunday of July. This year's theme is "Because of her, we can!" which focusses on the strength and roles that women have in families, communities and parishes. Electronic resources including a resource kit, a pastoral letter from Bishop Christopher Saunders and Youth Activities, are available at <http://www.natsicc.org.au/2018-aboriginal-and-islander-sunday.html>.

**Catholic Theological College Graduate Certificate in Ageing** Semester Two Saturday Intensive: Human Ageing: Theological and Spiritual Perspectives Six Saturdays: 4, 18 August; 1, 15 September; 13, 27 October Audit and Credit options available Enquiries: Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan, Associate Dean (Postgraduate and Research) T: 9412 3328 E: [kevin.lenehan@ctc.edu.au](mailto:kevin.lenehan@ctc.edu.au) (see flyer on notice boards)



### Catholic Theological College Intensive Study Options Now Available!

Winter Intensives: 6 Weekdays in July: Choice of Philosophy, Systematic Theology, Religious Education or Christian Spirituality units Saturday Intensives: 6 Saturdays: Choice of Meditation or Ageing units Weekend Intensives: 3 weekends: Liturgy and Sacraments unit Audit and Credit options available Enquiries: Mr Jude Caspersz (Registrar) T: 9412 3309 E: [ctc@ctc.edu.au](mailto:ctc@ctc.edu.au) (see flyer on noticeboards)

Collections:			<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)			\$ 649.65		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)			\$ 1440.65 Average for this financial year \$ 1399.78		
<u>30 Jun/1st July</u>	<u>Sat 6 pm</u>	<u>Sun 10:00 am</u>	<b>What's coming up:</b>		
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Margaret White	<p></p> <p><b>Parish Community Meeting:</b> Advance Notice for <b>Sunday July 29th after 10:00 Mass.</b></p> <p><b>Parish Mission: October 27th—31st:</b> 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.</p>		
MINISTER of the WORD	Kath Connors	Peter Dwyer			
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Bourke, John Kirby, Lia Yu + 2 volunteers	Pauline Howard, Marie McMillan, Maxine Rousch + 2 volunteers			
SACRISTAN	Joyce Jackson	Joyce Jackson			
COUNTERS		Trish Pora, Brian Ratcliffe, Catherine Clifford			
CHURCH CLEANING	Tony Bruty & Ena Bruty				
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	This Weekend - <b>Waubra</b>	Next Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b>			
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	James Molloy	Roy Rhoderick			
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Clare Mullane	Bev Hayward			
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Marg & Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward			