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BALLARAT NEWS

Year of Youth—Joy Spreading
Sam Clear - special guest!

Sam Clear is to be 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.

Prayer for Plenary Council

Blessed are you, God of all creation. You have given us life and light and all the wonders of the world. You have sent your Son Jesus to be our Saviour and your Holy Spirit to be our guide. As we prepare for the Plenary council, we ask you to come into our hearts with your Son and Holy Spirit. Come to us and make your home in us. We pray for our local community, for the people of our diocese and for the Church throughout Australia. May your wisdom show us the way, for your word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path. Come and fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love, that we may live by your gospel and share your good news with all we meet. Holy Mary, Mother of our Saviour, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us. Amen

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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 Priests: Fr Gary Jones
Fr Anthony Nagothu
Fr Sajan Mathew

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

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: 5:00 pm
Thursday 10:00 am
Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:
Ex 16:2-4. 12-15
Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24
Eph 4:17, 20-24
Jn 6:24-35

29th July ~ 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

In John's account of the feeding of the 5000, the crowds keep following Jesus because they see the "signs" he works among the sick. The Johannine Jesus consistently tries to lead the people beyond a form of discipleship that is simply based on seeing the signs that he works. The inadequacy of the crowd's response on this occasion becomes clear towards the end of the reading.

Both place and time function powerfully in the story. The "mountain" place evokes the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt Sinai. For the crowds, Jesus is the prophet like Moses who points to a way of satisfying hunger in the wilderness of life. The time is Passover, drawing into the narrative the passing over of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the freedom of the desert and ultimately of the land where they could worship their God. This story is about the liberation that God brings through the agency of Jesus.

Jesus demonstrates that the answer to the suffering of the people, their liberation, is to be found in their care for each other. If they simply take the time to sit down together, discover the riches in their midst, give thanks, and distribute what they have, they may find they have more than they need. They must gather up the fragments, the "more-than-enough", so that nothing will be lost and others might benefit from their sharing.

Although the people partially understand Jesus' identity and teaching, their ultimate response is misdirected, even violent: they want to take him by force and make him king. He leaves them and returns to the mountain alone. We so often seek spectacular solutions to our problems. It may be that we too need to sit down together, on the grass or wherever, and discover the wealth we have at our disposal to satisfy the hunger in our world. That is what it means to be a Eucharistic people. Veronica M Lawson RSM (Abridged)



Responsorial Psalm: The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Leo Kelly, Marjorie Murtagh, Claire Jensen

Anniversaries: We remember: Mena and Bill Heagney, Alfred Keys, Tess Sheehan, Tom Morgan, Ivan Kovacic.

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes, and for the success of the Plenary Council

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Love, pray, serve, hope & follow Jesus

First Eucharist we will shortly begin our First Reconciliation & First Eucharist program for children in Grade 4 and over. For more information please contact Judith in the Parish Office 5331 1012.



Plenary Council Gathering Notice of a gathering with Melbourne based "Catholics for Renewal" to discuss the 2020 Plenary Council called by the Catholic Bishops of Australia. Sunday, July 29, 2018 at St Patrick's Cathedral Mackillop & Glowrey Rooms, Lyons Street, Ballarat from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Parishioners of the Ballarat region and beyond are urged/encouraged to come to this important event.

Feast of Mary Mackillop there will be an opportunity to donate to the ongoing work of our first Australian saint over the weekend of 4/5 August. There are envelopes in the foyer for you to place your donation in and they can be placed in the offertory baskets during Masses next weekend or post directly. A receipt will be issued directly from the Sisters of St Joseph. More information: marymackilloptoday.org.au

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage! Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit. There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 2018 Melbourne weekend dates : 17-19 August, and 9-11 November 2018. Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Andre and Maria 0403 569 079 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website:www.wwme.org.au

BBI eConference 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 eConference can be viewed at the Ballarat Cathedral Parish Mackillop & Glowrey Rooms on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 from 10.00am - 3.00pm. All are welcome to attend. BYO lunch.

The National Redress Scheme The Federal Government's redress scheme commences 1 July 2018. The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, through the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference, has committed to participate in the scheme as another avenue of support for people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse. People wishing to find out more and/or pursue support under the redress scheme can visit the Australian Government's Department of Social Services website www.dss.gov.au/redress or call the National Redress Information Line on 1800 146 713. I would like to confirm that any payments by our Diocese under the redress scheme will be paid from Diocesan resources, and not from the resources of parishes. Parish funds and assets belong to the local parish communities. They are a valuable resource for local communities and assist in fulfilling the mission of the Church at a local level. Andrew Jirik, Diocesan Business Manager.

Collections	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	679.95
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$	1893.70
	Average for this financial year	\$ 1629

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	What's coming up:
	4th August	5th August	
WELCOMER	Mary Dinning	Helen Linane	
COMMENTATOR	Kate Lawry	Pat Kenna	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Jan Mullaly	Ann Rossiter	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Trish Simmons	Bruce Chapman	
GIFTS	David & Catherine Fara	Mandy Carroll	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ann Lacey, Torie Waight, Maureen Eddy	Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens, Alison Thorpe	
OVERHEADS	Troy Severino	Sharon De Beer	
SACRISTAN	Volunteer	Josie	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

WELCOMING ~ SPIRIT OF MISSION ~ CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS

Parish Community Meeting: Due to Powercor works scheduled for Sunday resulting in a power outage for Sunday Morning and the forecast of very cold weather leaving the church without lights, heating or microphones, this meeting has been postponed until **Sunday August 26th**. Apologies for the inconvenience.



Parish Baptisms: This weekend welcome into the faith community of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Maggie Josephine Bourke and Rose Annabelle Bourke, children of Lauren and Thomas. May the family experience the love and support of our parish community.

Sacraments of First Eucharist & Reconciliation Preparation for these sacraments will commence on Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th August. Children who have received the sacrament of Confirmation are invited to participate in the preparation program over four weekends and two mid-week sessions. The information session for these programs will be held on Tuesday August 7th commencing at 7:00 pm. For further information please contact Maree at the Parish Centre ph: 5339 2302 (Wed—Fr from 9:00 am —1:00 pm)



Baptism Information session The next information session for parents wishing to have their child baptised will be held on Thursday August 2nd at either 10am am or 7pm. Further information, please phone Maree at the Parish Centre ph: 5339 2302

Parish Mission 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.



5 August Joy+ Youth Festival in the north! A reminder to all in the Northern Zone that the Robinvale Joy+ Festival is very soon – Sunday 5 August at Robinvale. For 15-30 y/o (and adult leaders). A free event – however you need to register in advance for our planning. Register at www.trybooking.com/WHVU. More details check youth ministry web pages www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Collections	We thank you for your generous support		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	531.45	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	636.35	Weekly Average \$ 1,426

4th August	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
LEADER of SONG	Sue Searls	Vin Dillon	
MINISTER of the WORD	Pauline Newman	Harry Kennedy	NEXT WEEK:
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Pat Dillon, Pauline Newman + 3 volunteers	Margaret White, Sue Searls, Val Bourke + 2 volunteers	Tues 7th Eucharist Information session at 7:00 pm. - meeting room.
SACRISTAN	Joyce Jackson	Helen Rieniets	Wed 8th Mary McKillop's Feast Day
COUNTERS		Kath Connors & Helen Rieniets	
CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir & Melva Muir		
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Lexton	Next Weekend— Waubra	
Minister of Word:	Tony Cini	Phyllis Bourke	
Minister of Eucharist :	Kerryn Gallagher	Tony McDonald	
Church Cleaning:		Anne Dalton	