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BALLARAT NEWS

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

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
Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:
1 Kgs 19:4-8
Ps 33:2-9. R. v.9
Eph 4:30 - 5:2
Jn 6:41-51

5th August ~ 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

Following the feeding of the five thousand, the crowd thinks that when Jesus says he is the Bread of Life he is simply referring to the source of their next meal. If this were true it could put a new spin on what some might mean when they use the term 'cafeteria Catholicism'.

Jesus, however, is referring to himself as the fulfilment of all appetites, where we will never be hungry or thirsty again. Appetites are important things. They demand regular attention. Physical appetites tell us that we need nourishment, hydration, exercise or sleep. We have learnt to read our body's signs and if we ignore them we die. We also have emotional appetites, where we need affection, acceptance and a listening ear. If we ignore these signs our mental health deteriorates and our quality of life is compromised. Jesus, however, also alerts us to our spiritual appetites. These are the needs we have for Him, for meaning and purpose, for faith, hope and love. If we ignore these appetites we can lose sight of where we came from, why we are here, and where we are going.

As the sixth chapter of John's Gospel goes on, Jesus becomes clearer about the hunger and thirst he has come to fill. And as he does the crowd's wires get uncrossed and they're shocked. Jesus, the Bread of Life, is interested in us fulfilling our physical, emotional and spiritual appetites in this world as a way of glimpsing the life to come in Him, where all our hungers and thirsts will be fulfilled.

May this Eucharist prepare us for the day when our confirmed departure from this world comes. May there be no confusion at the gate, no need for any appeals and may we be reunited with those we love as we bask in the warmth of the Son's love, as he shows us to our place at the Eternal Banquet.

Richard Leonard SJ (Abridged Homily)

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord gave them bread from heaven
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Lachie Poulter
Anniversaries: We remember: Hilda Duggan, Gwen Sowter, Hugh Deady, Ella Deady, Lawrence Deady, Jacqueline Curran
We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (St Columba's school), for the success of the Plenary Council and for children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Love, pray, serve, hope & follow Jesus

First Eucharist we have commenced our preparation for First Reconciliation & First Eucharist. Please keep the children in your prayers. Reception of the Sacrament of First Eucharist will be on the weekend of 15/16 September.



Plenary Council 2020 information video online This video from Plenary Council 2020 is a helpful summary of the Plenary Council and the current 'Listening and Dialogue' phase, presented by Lana Turvey Collins, Facilitator of the Plenary Council (9 minutes). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZdk5ez3EcM>. Other videos and information at <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/> We encourage you to register to receive updates on this website and ponder the three questions for discussion: 1. What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time? 2. What questions do you have about the future of the Church in Australia that you would like the Plenary Council to consider? 3. What stories would you like to share of your experiences of faith or of the Church? You have up until Ash Wednesday 2019 to make your submission.

Feast of Mary Mackillop there will be an opportunity to donate to the ongoing work of our first Australian saint over this weekend (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 on this weekend or post directly. A receipt will be issued directly from the Sisters of St Joseph. Thank you. More information: marymackilloptoday.org.au. Feast day 8 August there will be Mass in the foyer at 9.30am



The Legion of Mary – Ballarat invites you to participate in a 9-day Novena of one hour's adoration in preparation and discernment for the 2020 Plenary Council. The Novena will commence on Monday 6th August 2018 (Feast of the Transfiguration) and conclude on Tuesday 14th August 2018, eve of the Assumption of Mary. Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Enquiries: Sarah Kuek 0408122173 or Doris Bastian 5339 4418.

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 or 7pm. Further information, please phone Maree at the Wendouree Parish Centre ph: 5339 2302 or Judith at St Columba's 5331 1012

Sew'n'so Please note there will be no gathering in August. Next get together will be 13 September.

Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament Friday 10th August 7pm-8pm in the Church. All welcome.



Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 539.15		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2083.90	Average for this financial year	\$ 1720

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	What's coming up:
	11th August	12th August	
WELCOMER	Kitty Dower	Geraldine Mugavin	Mass on Wednesday 15th August for the Feast of the Assumption will be held at 11am in the Church. All welcome.
COMMENTATOR	Jennifer Adams	Jo-Anne van der Voort	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ruth Marquand	Jim Kierce	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Maureen Mooney	Derek Streulens	
GIFTS	Linley & Margaret R	Sharon De Beer	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Simmons, Kathleen Keogh, Shirley Edgar	Bruce Chapman, Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey	
OVERHEADS	Norah & Stephen	Judith	
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

WELCOMING ~ SPIRIT OF MISSION ~ CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS

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—Fri from 9:00 am —1:00 pm)



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.

Parish Meeting This informative meeting has been re-scheduled for **Sunday 26th August** following the 10:00 am Mass. Please mark this date in your diaries.

Baptisms We welcome through the sacrament of Baptism Tully Clarke, daughter of Rachael and Shaun, and Ellie Mallia, daughter of Paul and Luella. May these children grow in the love of God through the guidance and care of their loving families, and this faith community.



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 eConference can be viewed at the Ballarat Cathedral Parish Mackillop & Glowrey Rooms on Wednesday, August 8, from 10.00am - 3.00pm. All are welcome to attend. BYO lunch. For more information on the eConference go to <https://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/news-events/111/event/217/synodality-in-practice--listening-to-the-spirit-and-leading-change>

Write to senators to oppose euthanasia The Senate will soon vote on a Bill which would allow territories to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide. Please contact your senators TODAY and ask them to protect vulnerable people by voting against the Bill. Visit the HOPE website to send your message <http://www.no euthanasia.org.au/sign>.

School Trivia Night: August 17th commencing at 6:30 pm. Tickets = \$15 Tables of 10. Further details contact Kim Squire (0412 715 922). Supporting OLHC School Community Team. Bookings essential.

Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 719	Loose money—2nd Collection	\$ 121
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 807	Weekly Average	\$ 1,553

11th/12th August	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:	
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Margaret White	Tues 7th	Eucharist Information meeting 7pm
MINISTER of the WORD	Trish Pora	Marie McMillan	Wed 8th	Feast of Mary McKillop
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Lia Yu, Joyce Jackson John Bourke, + 2 volunteers	Judith Potter, Peter Briody, Helen Rieniets + 2 volunteers	NEXT WEEK:	
SACRISTAN	Pauline & Tony Newman	Peter & Deanna Osman	Tues 14th	Reconciliation Workshop 1, at 7pm
COUNTERS		Des Lloyd & John Calistro	Wed 15th	Mass for Feast of Assumption 9:30am
CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir & Melva Muir		Wed 15th	PPC Meeting 7:pm
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend— Learmonth	Thurs 16th	Mass at Kelaston— 11am
Minister of Word:	Phyllis Bourke	Anne Dalton		
Minister of Eucharist :	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward		
Church Cleaning:	Anne Dalton	Bev Hayward		