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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

PRAYER FOR RAIN
 God of compassion, we wait and watch for your gift of rain to water the soil in drought effected regions and make the barren land come a l i v e a g a i n . We wait and watch for the gift of salvation to free us from hatred, greed and fear so that we may live again as people of faith, hope and love. We make this prayer in the name of our Saviour who comes to be with 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: 11.00 am
Mass times: Wendouree
 Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
 Sunday: 8:30 am Rural
 10:00 am OLHC
 Tuesday: 5:00 pm
 Wednesday: 9.30 am
 Thursday: 11:00 Kelaston
 Friday: 10:00 am
Readings for next weekend:
 Prv 9: 1-6
 Ps 33: 2-3, 10-15. R. V 9
 Eph 5: 15—20
 Jn 6: 51-58

12th August ~ 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Focus on the Scriptures
 There are times God seems to ask too much of us. We labour for others, but do not see the fruits of our labour. Our families take us for granted, and we are exploited at work. This is particularly trying when we only wanted to be of service to others, to help them wherever we could. What's the point of giving of oneself when it only seems to be futile? In this we are like Elijah.
 There are other times when we are challenged to change our way of thinking and to accept what seems to make extraordinary demands on us. A new way of understanding church may call us to be open to the cultural diversity within the community. Or it might claim that we have a responsibility toward the poor and homeless in our midst. New biblical insights make us question our familiar understanding of God or of Jesus or of ourselves. In this we might be like the Jews who murmured against Jesus.
 We want evidence to substantiate these radical new claims. But the evidence that Jesus offered could only be accepted in faith. And so it is with us. When we ask God for some kind of sign that will assure us that this new challenge is really what God wants, the answers received must themselves be accepted and understood in faith. The only assurance we have is rooted in faith, and those who are not open in faith will not understand. God does indeed ask a great deal from us.
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Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Florence Stott, Louise Taylor (daughter of Pam Dunne), Gertrude (Trudy) Walters, Rodney Stapleton
Anniversaries: We remember: Michal Yaworowicz, Jack Nuttall, Steven King
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

Feast of the Assumption Mass on Wednesday 15th August will be held at 11am in the Church. All welcome. The school will be joining us for this Mass.



Baptisms we congratulate Milla Louise Keighrey, daughter of David and Katie and Isabelle May Considine, daughter of Thomas and Nicole, who will be baptized on Sunday morning. We pray that they will grow in faith with the loving support of their parents, family and our parish community.

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.

Refugee and Migrant Week 20th—Sunday 26 August Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees. More information to follow

Pope Francis on the Death Penalty Pope Francis has changed church teaching about the death penalty, saying in a new policy published Thursday August 2, 2018 that it is always "inadmissible" because it "attacks" the inherent dignity of all humans." For full article go to <https://www.theage.com.au/world/europe/pope-francis-shifts-catholic-church-teaching-on-the-death-penalty-20180802-p4zv8i.html>.

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.



2018-2019 Social Justice Statement A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land. Copies of the statement will be available towards the end of September.

Parish Office please note that the Parish office will be closed next Thursday for planning purposes for 2019. You are invited to email or telephone any anniversaries or information and it will be attended to on Friday. Thank you

Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 650.15		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1095.40	Average for this financial year	\$ 1616.91

<u>NEXT WEEKEND</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	What's coming up:
	<u>18th August</u>	<u>19th August</u>	
WELCOMER	Anne Caine	Catherine Fara	Wed 15th Mass for Feast of Assumption 11.00 am
COMMENTATOR	Jan Mullaly	Irene Monigatti	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Kathleen Keogh	Geraldine Mugavin	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tom Keogh (Snr)	Anthea Hinchey	
GIFTS	Scanlon Family	Lorna & Carmel	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jennifer Adams, Kate Lawry, Troy Severino	Judith O'Sullivan, Mary Kennedy, Kathy Bennetts	
OVERHEADS	Trish Simmons	Megan Bourke	
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan Bourke	

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. 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 Last weekend we welcomed through the sacrament of Baptism Tiarn Van Der Hoven, daughter of Tegan and Kristopher, May Tiarn grow in the love of God through the guidance and care of her loving family and this faith community.

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.

Compassion Walk: Come join us in this community event promoting and celebrating compassionate actions in Ballarat on Sunday, September 16, 2018. This event is linking into the work of Compassionate Ballarat, who are enrolling Ballarat as a Compassionate City. Participate in experiential activities as you walk around the lake and enjoy food and entertainment in the main area near the rotunda and Pipers by the Lake. The event will feature Barry Gilson, Men's Shed, Amie Brûlée with band, Peter Daffy, the HanzOn Percussion Group, The Bandits, Lisa Wood and more! Registrations at 10.00am for 10.30am start and concluding at 1.00pm. Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=404489>. For enquires please contact Steph via email compassionwalk.ballarat@gmail.com

Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 647	Loose money—2nd Collection	\$ 103
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1,058	Weekly Average	\$

<u>18th/19th August</u>	<u>Sat 6 pm</u>	<u>Sun 10:00 am</u>	What's coming up:
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Sue Searls	
MINISTER of the WORD	John Schonfelder	Deanna Osman	Wed 15th Mass for Feast of Assumption 9:30am
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Bev Hayward, Des Lloyd, Mavis McNulty + 2 volunteers	Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy, Pauline Howard + 2 volunteers	Wed 15th PPC Meeting 7:pm
SACRISTAN	John & Sue Calistro	Joyce Jackson	Thurs 16th Mass at Kelston—11am
COUNTERS		Des Lloyd & John Calistro	NEXT WEEK:
CHURCH CLEANING	Maxine Rousch, Catherine Clifford, Leonie Hogan		Sun 19th Time Out Family Group—Ballarat Golf Club—Roast lunch at noon
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Learmonth	Next Weekend— Waubra	Wed 22nd St V.de P.-11:45
Minister of Word:	Anne Dalton	Cate Molloy	
Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward	Sharon Moran	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Anne Dalton	