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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

Readings for next weekend:
Gen 2:18-24
Ps 127. R. v.5
Heb 2:9-11
Mk 10:2-16



30th September ~ 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

As Catholics we believe the Scriptures reveal the truth of our salvation – they are not books of fact. Jesus was a skilled and powerful communicator. And like all great teachers he used metaphor and exaggeration to make his point. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus takes evil very seriously. He is always conscious of it around him and is aware that it comes from within us, and without us. Jesus teaches us today to stop doing the destructive things that prevent us from loving God, each other and ourselves.

Jesus underlines that we have to stop our destructive behaviour and offers three pieces of practical advice so we can. Firstly, do whatever helps. For some people the most unusual solutions attend to the deeper issues and help us piece our lives back together. It doesn't matter whether others approve of it, or it's related to religious faith, for as long as it doesn't lead to other destructive behaviour then, 'whoever (or whatever) is not against us, is for us'.

Secondly, accept help. None of us can battle through life carrying all our burdens on our own. Steps four to six of Alcoholics Anonymous deal with sharing the exact nature of our burdens as a means to coming to terms with them. Our family and friends are not mind readers and we need to seek out wise counsel and follow it wisely. The help and support we receive could be like the cup of refreshing water Jesus tells us about today.

Finally, habitual and compulsive behaviour always has a pattern. St Ignatius Loyola taught in the sixteenth century that it was only when we regularly examined ourselves to see where, when, how and with whom we are most likely to walk away from God's love, that we can work out why we do it and change the pattern.

And when we really know ourselves as we are, and not as we would like to be, we have the chance to choose life over death more often than not.
© Richard Leonard SJ. (Abridged)



Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Kathleen Moran

Anniversaries: We remember: all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Love, pray, serve, hope & follow Jesus

Plenary Council at St Columba's On Sunday 14th October there will be a gathering in the foyer immediately following the 10am Mass. More information to follow. Also facilitators of small group are invited to attend the training session at OLHC on Thursday 4th October. Contact office for more info.

Plenary Council - Preparations in Ballarat Diocese Update The Ballarat Diocese invites all to hear from and meet Ms Lana Turvey-Collins, Facilitator of the Australian Plenary Council 2020 Preparation Team. Wednesday 10th October 7pm and Thursday 11th October at 10am in the McGlowery room (Small Hall) at St Patrick's Cathedral. All welcome.

Parish Mission all parishioners are warmly invited to the Wendouree Parish Mission with Fr Richard Leonard which will be held from the 29-31 October. Hourly sessions will be at 9am or 7pm daily. Monday 29th "Going out into the world we need all the help we can get" Tuesday 30th "Nine steps to making better choices for my life" Wednesday 31st "Where the hell is God" Holding onto faith through the tough times. Mercy Performing Arts Centre 480a Gilles Street. All welcome.



Can you help? We are looking for more people to help with Communion to the housebound. If you are able to assist either on a weekend or weekday, regular or as a fill in, please contact Judith ph: 5331 1012

Also if you would like to assist on any of our rosters, we will be doing the next roster in early December, so think about it now. Training will be given to anyone wishing to join one of the teams. We particularly need more Sacristans, Readers, Overhead operators and Ministers of Eucharist mostly for 6pm Mass.

Annual Leave Fr Marcello will go on Annual leave following the Masses this weekend. He will return for the weekend of 27/28th October. Please welcome our visiting priests over this time and pray for safe travels & a relaxing holiday for Fr Marcello.

Social Justice Week Australian Catholic Social Justice Statement 2018-2019: "A Place to Call Home" We will celebrate Social Justice Sunday on September 30th. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is entitled: A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land. This is a response to the growing problem of homelessness in Australia. For further details, a copy of the statement and relevant resources, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice website www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications/social-justice-statements#SJS2018 or call (02) 8306 3499. There are a few copies of this statement available in the foyer.

Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 747.05	Clergy support (to date)	\$ 1478
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1694.90	Average for this financial year	\$1651.48

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	What's coming up:
	6th October	7th October	
WELCOMER	Margaret Ranger	Pat & Bernie	14th October: Parish groups gathering on Plenary Council
COMMENTATOR	Eileen van der Laar	Geraldine Mugavin	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Peter Dalton	Bruce Chapman	27 & 28th October: Family Groups celebrations
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Mary Dinning	Jim Kierce	
GIFTS	Stephen & Norah	Maureen & Hans	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ruth Marquand, Ann Lacy, Trish Simmons	Eleanor Kennedy, Margaret Martino, Kay Merbach	
OVERHEADS	Troy Simmons	Sharon De Beer	
SACRISTAN	Volunteer	Josie	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

WELCOMING ~ SPIRIT OF MISSION ~ CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS

Plenary Council 2020. The Plenary Council 2020 is a gathering of the Church in Australia to make decisions for the future. Your voice is important. All people are invited to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda by sharing your experience of faith and of the church. See plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au for more information.



Leader training will be held on Thursday October 4th at commencing at 5:30 pm. To 7:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Sign-up sheets to Discussion Groups are available in the Foyer. Alternatively, individual response sheets are available - completed sheets can be 'posted' in the Plenary Council boxes provided in the Foyer. On-line responses are also invited. Information is available on the Plenary Council website listed above.

Ticket Sales for Rotary Car Raffle proceeds to support OLHC church development. Books of tickets are available from Pauline Newman in the Church foyer.

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: 9-11 November 2018. Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Andre and Maria 0411 225 992 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: www.wwme.org.au

Mass at Pootilla Cemetery Mass will be celebrated at Pootilla Cemetery (Bungaree) on Sunday 11th November, 9.30am. All welcome. Some chairs provided; BYO if possible. Info: ph. 5334 0450

High Tea—Sunday November 4th at 2:00 pm. "Kate's High Tea". Information on the board in the foyer.

3rd Anniversary Vatican Conference—Sr Adele Howard. Please note the change of date: 6th October. See notice below.

Miners Rest Community: Meeting this week on Thursday 4th October at 7:30 pm at Val & John Bourke's house. NB: this will not be a Mass as Fr Marcello is on holidays.

During Fr Marcello's holiday time please contact the Cathedral presbytery in case of emergency ph 5331 2933. Messages can be left on the office phones, and will be checked regularly.

Collections		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 545	Loose money (2nd Collection)	\$ 61
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1,000	Weekly Average	\$

6th/7th October	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
LEADER of SONG	Laureen Rhodes	Vin Dillon	
MINISTER of the WORD	Margo Mulcahy	Bill Jones	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Pat Dillon, John Bourke, Lia Yu + 2 volunteers	Margaret White, Tony Bruty, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers	Thurs 4th Miners Rest community gathering.
SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman	Geoff & Marg McLean	6th October 3rd Anniversary Vatican Conference—Sr. Adele Howard. At St Patrick's Hall at 10:30 am
COUNTERS	Trish Pora, Brian Radcliffe, Catherine Clifford		
CHURCH CLEANING	Helen Rieniets & Robert Rhodes		Next Week: Wed 10th Lana Turvey-Collins at Glowery Centre at 7pm Thurs 11th Lana Turvey-Collins at Glowery Centre at 10am
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Lexton	Next Weekend— Waubra	
Minister of Word:	Julia Cini	Sharon Moran	
Minister of Eucharist :	Sharon Moran	Marg McDonald	
Church Cleaning:		Sharon & Marty Moran	