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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

### Nazareth House Ballarat Fete

Saturday, Nov 17, 2018 at 10.00am. Home-made goodies, grab a bargain and win a prize on the very popular spinning wheel. We are continuing to collect donations of items for our spinning wheel or other homemade wares and food for selling at our stalls. Donations can be collected by contacting Margaret, ph. 0419 003415 or left at Nazareth House Reception.



## 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

### 4th November ~ 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

#### Focus on the Scriptures

Today's Gospels draws upon the great prayer of Israel, known as 'The Shema' from the Hebrew word to hear, or to listen. This is the prayer said every morning and evening by the religious Jew and is the prayer on the lips of the dying. These words are printed on small pieces of parchment which Jewish men wear on their foreheads and on the hands as they pray each morning. The words sum up Israel's faith – God is one – and Israel's moral code – love God with all your heart and your neighbour. The first command is found in Deuteronomy where we read: 'Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.' (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

The second commandment about love of neighbour is found in Leviticus. 'You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin... You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself.' (Leviticus 19:17-18)

These two commands about love of God and neighbour are of more value than Israel's cultic practices which can be mere outward show. This has been a constant message of Israel's prophets and the scribe commends Jesus' answer to his question.

The first word Jesus answers to the scribe's question sums up an essential attitude within all religions – listen. Only by spending time in listening will we ever really know God's presence in our lives. Without listening it is impossible to love for we will never discover what, or who it is we are to love. It can sound very easy, but learning to really listen takes a lifetime. It is the essence of any genuine relationship – to really listen to the other. The mystics in our Christian tradition often write of knowing God in silence, which is an intense form of listening. As children we are taught to pray with words and can think of prayer as our 'talking' to God, but this is only the first step in a lifetime's relationship. As you know, if someone spends all the time talking to you, after a while you tune out, for the person doesn't seem interested in hearing your story. Prayer also means spending quiet time listening to God within our hearts. If we practise becoming still, giving time over to God, then we can gradually discern God's quiet voice amidst all the other distractions and voices that arise within. This is when real prayer starts, for when we listen with our hearts then we can really allow God to shape our lives. (Abridged) Mary Coloe ©



**Responsorial Psalm:** I love you Lord, my strength.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Leo McGoldrick, Liz Fitzpatrick

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Margaret Haintz, Kit McNamara, Lilia Marfori (Lia Andanan's grandmother)

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes, especially Blake Dridan, Marie Duffy (Canberra), for the success of the Plenary Council and for those on the RCIA journey for 2018/2019.



## ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

*Love, pray, serve, hope & follow Jesus*

**Remembrance Service** A time for families to remember loved ones who have died during the past year. Wednesday 14th November at 7pm in the Church. It will be a time to offer hope and consolation to those of us left behind. This will be followed by a light supper. All welcome.



**November Masses** During the month of November the Church traditionally remembers all those who have died. Rather than adding all anniversaries in the notice sheet during November, names will be recorded in a Memorial book. We invite you to add a new name to the blue book (you do not need to add if you have done so in previous years). These will be transferred to a permanent book which will be in front of the altar during November. All weekend Masses during the month will be offered for the deceased.



**Christmas lunch** will be held on Friday 30th November 12 noon Midlands Golf Club Fairways Room. \$28 a head for a two course Christmas themed meal. Bookings to Judith in the office or write your name on the list before the 14th November. All parishioners and friends from OLHC and St Columba's are welcome.

**Rosters** I will be preparing the next roster for January—April within the next couple of weeks. If you wish to join a ministry or make any changes to the current roster please let me know asap. Please also advise if you will be away during this period. Thank you. Judith 5331 1012.

**Advent** we will be selling reflection booklets to help you in your spiritual journey in Advent as we head towards Christmas. These will be available after both Masses from next weekend. They will also be available from the Parish Office. The cost will be \$4.00—correct change will be greatly appreciated.

**Holy Hour and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament** Friday 9th November 7pm to 8pm in the Church. All most welcome.

**Sew'n'so** no gathering this month due to the Funeral of Liz Fitzpatrick.

**Garden Party - Asylum Seeker fundraiser** - On Sunday November 18th, the annual fundraiser for Asylum seekers/Refugees and vulnerable people will be held from 2 pm to 4pm at 30 Waller Avenue, Newington. Celtic Music, Irish dancing, children singing, Guest speaker, cake stall, plant stall, face painting. Drawing of Victor Harbour holiday competition. Mini auction. Lucky Dips. Entry \$20. Children free. All welcome.

Collections	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 698.85	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1625.05	Average for this financial year \$ 1618.18

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	What's coming up:
	10th November	11th November	
WELCOMER	Anne Caine	Pat & Bernie	<b>Liturgy meeting</b> will be held in the Parish meeting room on Tuesday 20th November at 7.30pm. New members most welcome.
COMMENTATOR	Trish Simmons	Bruce Chapman	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Rosemary Fithall	Mandy Carroll	<b>Requiem Mass</b> for Liz Fitzpatrick will be held on Thursday at 2pm
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Kate Lawry	Terry Grano	
GIFTS	Helen & Bill O'Loughlin	Colleen & Judith	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ann Lacey, Torie Waight, Maureen Eddy	Judy Brown, Eleanor Kennedy, Margaret Martino	
OVERHEADS	Norah	Judith	
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne	

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

*WELCOMING ~ SPIRIT OF MISSION ~ CHURCH/SCHOOL LINKS*

**A MISSION FOR LIFE - Thank You** What an amazing three days our parish experienced through the Mission led by Fr Richard Leonard SJ. A total of in excess of 700 people attended the six sessions with an increased number each day. Thank you to the Parish Pastoral Council for their vision in seeing the possibilities and working to implement it. Many of our visitors from other parishes commented on the spirit of welcome they experienced and as a parish community we can be very proud of that. Special thanks to Leigh Bradshaw and the school staff who provided the hospitality each evening and to the parishioners who assisted with the morning sessions. A number of people have asked how they can purchase Richard's books. Hopefully details on this will be available on the notice sheet next week.

**Appreciation Sunday - Feast of Christ the King (November 25<sup>th</sup>)** As previously advised the Parish Pastoral Council is compiling a list of names of parishioners who during the past twelve months have concluded their involvement in a parish ministry. The generosity and commitment of these parishioners, some of whom have served in the role for many years, will be suitably acknowledged at our Eucharist on the Feast of Christ the King. If you have a name you wish to put forward please speak with a PPC Member or ring the Parish Office (ph: 5339 2302)

**Celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Opening of the New Church** Sunday November 25<sup>th</sup> will mark 20 years since our new Church was blessed and opened on the Feast of Christ the King 1998. To celebrate this significant milestone we will be having a shared morning tea following the 10.00am Mass.



**Advance Notice:** Due to the Celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the Opening of the New Church there will be no Mass celebrated at OLHC on Saturday 19th November, so that the community can come together to celebrate at the Sunday Mass and gathering.

**Plenary 2020** Some further opportunities for Plenary 2020 Discussion Groups will be available during November. If you wish to have input into the Plenary 2020 process please put your name on the sheet in the church foyer.



**Mass at Pootilla Cemetery** Sunday, November 11 at 9.30am. Some chairs provided; BYO if possible. All welcome to attend.

**Memorial Notices** Please advise the parish Office if you would like someone named in "Anniversaries".

Collections	We thank you for your generous support		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 527	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 109
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 593	Weekly Average	\$ 1469

10th/11th November	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Laureen Rhodes	Margaret White	
<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	John Bourke	Peter Dwyer	
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Pauline Newman, Pat Dillon, Lia Yu + 2 volunteers	Helen Rieniets, Judith Potter, Peter Briody + 2 volunteers	
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Tony & Pauline Newman	Helen & Mick Rieniets	
<b>COUNTERS</b>		Des Lloyd & John Calistro	
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	This Weekend - <b>Waubra</b>	Next Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b>	
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Margaret McDonald	Anne Dalton	
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Clare Mullane	Sharon Moran	
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Phyllis & Pat Bourke	Bev Hayward	