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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



**St Patrick's College Yr. 7 2020**  
Enrolments will be closing on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, if you have not put your enrolment in yet, please do so before this date.

If anyone would like a prospectus to contact Kathryn Mundy on 5322 4449 or email [kmundy@stpats.vic.edu.au](mailto:kmundy@stpats.vic.edu.au)



## 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: 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:

Jer 33:14-16

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R.

v.1

1 Thes 3:12 - 4:2

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36



## 25th November ~ Feast of Christ the King (B)

The Gospel today breaks from our usual Gospel of Mark, to read from John's Passion account. On Sundays we hear just a small section of the Gospel and so can miss its wider context. This is particularly true today. Throughout the entire narrative of John's Gospel, Jesus has spoken of his passion, his 'Hour', not as a death, but as a 'lifting up'.

"Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what death he was to die.' (John 12:31-32; also 3:14; 8:28)

This expression must be understood with two meanings. It refers to his being lifted up on a cross, but the word also means to be exalted, and, in John, the Cross is the great Hour of Jesus' exaltation. In the Hour he brings to completion the ministry he was sent to accomplish.

From Chapter 10 in John's Gospel, the Kingship theme comes into strong focus. In John 10 Jesus uses the image from the Old Testament of the Shepherd-Kings of Israel and speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd, one who will lay down his life for his flock (10:11). Then in Chapter 12, Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, just as King Solomon once did to claim his kingship (see 1 Kings 1:32-40).

In John, the crowds acclaim Jesus as 'King of Israel,' and wave the same types of palm branches that were used to greet Judas Maccabeus after his victory over the Greeks in 142 BCE. We read in the book of Maccabees, 'the Jews entered in [Jerusalem] with praise and palm branches, and with harps and cymbals...' (1 Macc 13:51). Even in his Passion the soldiers ironically give him a crown and a royal purple cloak to wear. And when Pilate presents Jesus to the crowd he says, 'Here is your King' (19:14), Jesus is still wearing the royal purple. So throughout John's passion Jesus is King.

Poor Pilate! He just doesn't get it. He is thinking of a kingdom with soldiers and armies, but Jesus speaks about truth. Armies can be conquered - even Rome's - but truth outlives Emperors. Even in oppressive regimes small sparks of truth refuse to be overcome by the darkness. Jesus is God's truth for us.

I speak now more personally as this is the final reflection for this liturgical year. I have tried to bring to these words both biblical scholarship and reflections born of my own faith. I name this clearly, as sometimes I meet people who are afraid that scholarship and faith are enemies to each other. Not so! Theological education has the goal of helping the searcher gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of his/her faith. It does challenge us to keep allowing our faith to grow and change to the rigorous faith of an adult. This will involve, at times, letting go the simplistic and sometimes erroneous notions we have carried.

Tough! Painful! And liberating! God's truth is like that. May the peace of God reign in all our hearts. Maranatha - come Lord Jesus. Abridged © Mary Coloe

King of Glory  
King of Peace

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Barry Mitchell, Francis Monigatti, Bruce Clifton

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Mary Gercovich, Rose Schreenan, Rita Seymour, Norah Sowter, Bob Waight

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes, especially Saskiah Gallagher, Blake Dridan, 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*

**Advent booklets** we will be selling reflection booklets from the Diocese of Wollongong 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.



**Parish Census** this weekend 24/25 November we will continue the update our Parish database. If you did not complete a card last weekend please do so this weekend. Please print clearly on the card. Thank you



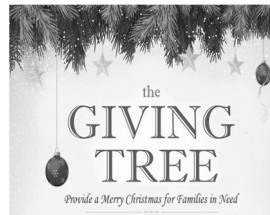
**Baptism** we congratulate Harrison Huie, son of Michelle and Andrew, who will be Baptized on Sunday morning. We pray that he will grow in faith with the loving support of parents, family and our Parish community.

**June 2019 Cathedral Parish Holy Land Pilgrimage** An information session will be held at 6.00pm on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 in the Ballarat Cathedral Presbytery for the June 9 – 22, 2019 pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Fr Justin Driscoll and Leonie Spencer from Lifestyle Travel in Ballarat invite interested people to 'come and see'. This pilgrimage will include Petra in Jordan, the Dead Sea, Mt Nebo, Madaba, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, Cana, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Ein Kerem, Jericho and Quamran.

**Christmas Rosters** this weekend roster sheets will go out for our Christmas Masses of 6pm and 8pm Christmas Eve and 9am Christmas Day. If you will be at one of these Masses please put your name down for a ministry.

**SVDP** group are currently selling Christmas cards, Columban calendars and small gifts in the foyer after Mass. Get yours now before they sell out!

**Giving tree** this year we will be having a giving tree in the foyer of the Church. Please take a card from the tree and purchase a gift suitable for the age and gender of the person. Gifts can then be returned to be placed under the tree up to or prior to the weekend of 14/15 December. There will also be a box for you to donate food or toiletry items (also something special for single mum's would be appreciated) for those in need within the wider Ballarat area. Your assistance with one or other or both these causes would be greatly appreciated.



**Men's group** there will be no gathering this month due to the lunch on Friday 30th November. The next gathering will be Thursday 31st January 2019. Details to follow.

**ODC** please pick up your copy of the latest Our Diocesan Community magazine this weekend.

Collections	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 645.00	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1695.65	Average for this financial year \$ 1627.87

NEXT WEEKEND	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	What's coming up:
	1st December	2nd December	
WELCOMER	Helen O'Loughlin	Helen Linane	Tuesday 27th November 7pm PPC meeting in the Parish office meeting room.  <b>Advance notice:</b> Advent Anointing Mass will be held on Wednesday 12th December at 11am. This will be followed by a light luncheon.  Advent Reconciliation will be on Thursday 13th December at 7pm.
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Geraldine Mugavin	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	John Kennedy	Anne Rossiter	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	John van de Laar	Bruce Chapman	
GIFTS	Scanlon family	Pat & Bernie	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jan Mullaly, Rosemary Fithall, Annette Madigan	Alison Thorpe, Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey	
OVERHEADS	Troy Severino	Sharon De Beer	
SACRISTAN	Mary & Margaret	Josie	

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

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

This weekend the OLHC Parish community celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the new church. This day has also been earmarked to thank those parishioners who have completed their generous service in various ministries of the parish over the past 12 months.

**Follow up to 'Mission For Life'** A number of people who attended the sessions with Fr Richard Leonard sj have inquired how his books may be purchased. Purchases can be made through Pauline Books & Media, 7 Denmark Hill Rd., Hawthorn East 3123. Ph: 9822 3424; [www.paulinebooks.com.au](http://www.paulinebooks.com.au) The Diocesan Resource Centre at 5 Lyons St South, Ballarat has most of Richard's books available for borrowing. Contact Kate Lawry (5337 7149)

**Plenary 2020 Discussion Groups** A reminder that there will be two discussion groups gathering in this coming week.- Monday Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, 7.00pm - 9.00pm, and Wednesday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. If you intend to come it is most important to put you name on the sign-up sheet in the Church foyer. Both sessions will be held in the Parish Centre (Old Presbytery)



**Parish Census** Over this weekend (24/25th of November) cards will be distributed to update our Parish Data Base. Please complete these cards and return to the Parish asap.

**The annual OLHC Christmas Day Lunch:** The hall will be set up on Saturday 22nd December at 10am, Food preparation will be on Monday December 24th at 10am. Forms will be provided for volunteers to place names. Many thanks for your time and assistance. Bookings for lunch 0419975914



OLHC Parish

**Catholic Mission Annual Appeal** Thank you to those parishioners who have already donated. If you wish to contribute to the work of mission, it is not too late. Your prayers and financial support is appreciated.

**OLHC/St Columba's Christmas Lunch**—at Midlands gold Club on Friday 30th November at 12 noon. Sign-up sheet in the foyer. Or phone Judith (5331 1012)

**Reunion—YCW Cricket Club** A get-together of former YCW cricketer, families and supporters will be held on Sunday, 2nd December 2018. Further details contact Terry 0401 730 670 or John 0409 864 080.

<u>Christmas Mass times:</u>	<i>St Columba's</i>	<i>OLHC</i>	<i>Waubra</i>
<b>Christmas Eve</b> (24th Dec)	6:00 pm & 8:00 pm	7:00 pm	
<b>Christmas Day</b> (25th Dec)	9:00 am	10:00 am	8:30 am

Collections	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 603	Loose money (2nd collection) \$ 70
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	Weekly Average \$ 1463

24th/25th November	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Laureen Rhodes	Veronica Stott	<b>Advance Notice:</b> <b>Anointing Mass</b> on Thursday December 13th at 11:00 am. All welcome.  <b>Reconciliation:</b> Wednesday 19th at 7:00 pm
<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Sue Calistro	Bill Jones	
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Bev Hayward, Pauline Newman, Pat Dillon + 2 volunteers	Sue Searls, Margaret White, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers	
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Tony & Pauline Newman	Joyce Jackson	
<b>COUNTERS</b>	Brendan Curran, G. & T. Doery		
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	This Weekend— <b>Learmonth</b>	Next Weekend— <b>Waubra</b>	
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Julia Cini	Kerri Mullane	
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Bev Hayward	Margaret McDonald	
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Bev Hayward	Trish & Steve Coleman	