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ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
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wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
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Or speak with Fr Marcello

**YOUR AD HERE**

## 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: 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 1:4-5. 17-19  
Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15  
1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13  
Lk 4:21-30

### 27th January 2019 ~ 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next. The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!' From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!'

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**Responsorial Psalm:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Michaeaa Murphy-Engeler  
**Anniversaries: We remember:** Mary McFarlane, Margaret Deady, Henry Deady, Annie Morgan  
**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.

**Thirsting for God: Faith Seeking Understanding** Venue: Mercy Gathering Room, Gent Street, Ballarat East. Dates: February 14, March 14; April 11; May 9; June 6. Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson invite parishioners to sign up for five two-hour sessions on faith commitment in the contemporary world. Simply contact Sr. Veronica by email (veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au) or by text (0408392297) before February 4. Kindly provide contact details (email and mobile) and indicate whether you wish to enrol in the afternoon sessions (1-3pm) or the evening sessions (7pm-9pm). Donation to cover costs is \$25. Note that this is a new course, not a repeat of sessions held over the past four years.

**World Day of Prayer 2019** will be at St Columba's Ballarat North on Friday 1st March 2019 at 2pm. If anyone from any Ballarat Parish would like to be involved in the prayer service as a reader, musician, greeter or could assist with the hospitality please contact Judith on 5331 1012 asap.



**World Interfaith Harmony week** February 2-9 starts with official flag raising event at 11am on Monday at the Sturt St flagpole opposite the Town Hall, on Tuesday at 7pm there will be a film screening of "The Kite Runner" @ Sisters of Mercy Convent 151 Victoria St with discussion & supper to follow (Gold coin donation). All week there will be displays at the Library 178 Doveton Street North.



**The Catholic Man Breakfast** Men of all ages are invited to a Catholic Man Breakfast to be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Craig's Royal Hotel in Ballarat. The Breakfast will be hosted by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and will feature former leading Radio Executive, Shane Healy, as guest speaker. Shane has walked a fascinating path to the top of the highly competitive radio industry in Australia and has connected with high profile performers such as Brian Taylor, Neil Mitchell and Rex Hunt. Further info from Chris Liston, ph. 0437 318 251 or email chris.listo2@gmail.com or Vincent Sully, ph. 0407 310 115 or email vcjdh.sully@gmail.com.

**St Columba's Men's Group** first gathering for 2019 will be on Thursday 28th February 2pm. Further details to follow.

**World Youth Day Panama 2019** is currently happening. The WYD Vigil from Panama with Pope Francis is live streaming 10.30am -12.30pm Sunday morning at [ww.sydneycatholic.org/live](http://ww.sydneycatholic.org/live)



**OLHC Combined Ministries Roster** for March to June 2019 is now being prepared. If you would like to be included in this roster for any of the Ministries, please contact Maree at OLHC (phone 5339 2302 or email: [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)). If those already included on the Roster have any specific requests, please contact the Ministry co-ordinator, or Maree.

**Plenary Council 2020 - Listening and Dialogue Encounters** Everyone is invited to participate in the Listening and Dialogue process to contribute to the Plenary Council agenda. Information flyer available on the Ballarat diocese website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au). All of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" Questions for individuals or groups: 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 for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020? 3. Do you have a story of your experience of faith, or the Church you would like to share? Please submit your responses by Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2019 at [www.plenarycouncil.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.org.au)

**International Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action against Human Trafficking** Events for the Feast of St Josephine Bahkita, Patron Saint of modern slavery and human trafficking, will be celebrated by Archbishop Peter Comensoli on February 7, 2019 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne with Holy Hour at 6.30pm and Vigil Mass at 7.30pm. Further Masses will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2019 at Holy Eucharist Church, 1a Oleander Drive, St Albans at 3.00pm celebrated by Fr Ciril Bozic EV and Thursday, February 17, 2019 at St Anthony's Church, 90 Buckley Street, Noble Park at 2.30pm celebrated by Archbishop Peter. All welcome.

**Bulletin notices** we would appreciate it if we could receive any notices for the bulletin before 1pm on Thursdays. Thank you



**Stewardship Reflections 3rd Sunday in Ordinary time** "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..." (Nehemiah 8:10) Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all that He has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need without expecting anything in return.

**Parish Stewardship Renewal, February - March 2019** The Ballarat North and Wendouree Parishes, together with the other 4 parishes of Ballarat are working together for a Parish Stewardship Renewal. Frank Schobon from the Development Office will facilitate this renewal with the assistance of our own Stewardship Renewal Team of Jim Kierce, David Fara, Kierce O'Loughlin, Lisha Hewitt, Peter Eddy, Bruce Chapman (Ballarat North) and Mike Beaumont, Adrienne Cove, Pauline and Tony Newman (Wendouree).

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**Baptism Preparation**—for those families who are wishing to have their child baptised, the next Preparation session will be held on Thursday 7th Feb at 10:00 am or 7:00 pm at the Cathedral Hall.



**Rite of Election** advanced notice.... For those on the RCIA journey, the Rite of Election to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, will be held on Saturday 2nd March at 12.30pm. All welcome.

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 639.25		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1,449.40	Average for this financial year	\$ 1678.69

Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 686	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 139
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 655	Weekly Average	\$

SC 2nd/3rd February	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's coming up:	OLHC 2nd/3rd Feb	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Anne Caine	Alison Thorpe	Rite of Naming on Sunday 24th February during the 10am Mass	<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Vin Dillon	Sue Searls	
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Ruth Marquand	Terry Grano		<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	John Bourke	Harry Kennedy	
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Vicky Moroney	Bruce Chapman		<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Pauline Newman, Pat Dillon, Bev Hayward + 2 volunteers	Pauline Howard, Peter Briody, Helen Rieniets, + 2 volunteers	
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Jennifer Adams	Geraldine Mugavin		<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Sue & John Calistro	Helen & Mick Rieniets	
<b>GIFTS</b>	Pat & Bernie Kenna	Colleen Wakefield		<b>COUNTERS</b>	Kevin Murphy, Trish & Chris Pearce		
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Peter Marquand, Ann Lacey, Maureen Eddy	Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Bruce Chapman		<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Learmonth</b>	<b>Waubra</b>	
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Troy Severino	Sharon De Beer		<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Bev Hayward	James Molloy	
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Mary, Margaret & Bernice	Josie		<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Clare Mullane	Tony McDonald	
				<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Bev Hayward	Clare & Kerry Mullane	