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ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au Ph: 5331 1012 or wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au Ph: 5332 4894 Or speak with Fr Marcello

2019 Class Reunions Past students and staff of Damascus College and its foundation colleges, Sacred Heart, St Paul's and St Martin's in the Pines are invited to celebrate the following reunions:

- Class of 1969 Sunday 24 March 12.30pm
- Class of 1979 Saturday 23 March 2pm
- Class of 1989 Saturday 16 March 2pm
- Class of 1999 Friday 15 March 6.30pm
- Class of 2009 Friday 22 March 6.30pm

Full details and booking information www.damascus.vic.edu.au/past-students-reunions-events



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

10th February 2019 ~ 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

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

(OLHC opening school Mass)

Readings for next weekend:

Jer 17:5-8

Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5

1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

Lk 6:17. 20-26



Focus on the Scriptures

Luke's Gospel, unlike those of Matthew (4:18-22) and Mark (1:16-20), defers the call of the first disciples until Jesus' own ministry has got under way to this extent. In this way it allows Jesus to 'model' the ministry for which they, as his 'apprentices', will be involved.

So, as we read in today's Gospel, the call comes to Peter (5:1-11) in the context of Jesus' preaching to a crowd eagerly pressing around him to hear the word of God. Peter helps Jesus by allowing him to use his boat to avoid the crush of the crowd. One has the impression that Peter himself is not even listening to the sermon. He's busy about his fisherman's task of washing the nets.

But Jesus has further plans for Peter. He doesn't call him immediately to a new way of life but challenges him precisely in his own area of expertise: catching fish. Peter resists – perhaps thinking to himself, 'What does this fellow know about fishing?'. Eventually he does go along with Jesus' instruction to put out and try for a catch. The catch of immense proportions that results, where all night there had been no fish, becomes for Peter a sign of the presence and power of God. The conversion he undergoes is profound: 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.'

In this connection we can appreciate the aptness of associating with this gospel the First Reading set down for today, the call of the prophet Isaiah (Isa 6:1-8). Confronted with a sense of the presence and holiness of God in the sanctuary of the Temple, the prophet becomes aware of his own sinfulness and inadequacy. He knows God and he knows himself. It is a moment of painful and deep conversion: 'I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips.' Precisely at the moment of this realisation he receives healing as an angel purifies his lips with a live coal taken from the altar. There follows his own prophetic mission: 'Whom shall I send?' 'Here I am, send me.'

The call of Peter told in the Gospel follows this pattern closely. It is just when Peter recognises that he is confronted with the presence of God in Jesus, when he owns his own sinfulness and unworthiness to be associated with him ('Leave me, Lord, ...'), that the call comes to him: 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' Only those who have plumbed the depths of their own sinfulness and unworthiness, who have come to 'know' both God and themselves in this way, are apt to be servants of the healing and life-giving word.

The boats overlaid with fish – too many not only for Peter's boat but for 'the other boat' as well – become symbolic of the Church. Founded on the ministry of Peter and the other apostles, and obedient to the command of Jesus, the Church will brim with 'fish' caught for the Kingdom. (Abridged)

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Responsorial Psalm: In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Eileen Clare Humphrey, Audrey Walsh, Jye Andrews

Anniversaries: We remember: Marianne Kenna, Barbara Melican, Eileen Hamilton, Nicholas Gowans

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 & RCIC journey for 2018/2019.

Stewardship Reflections Parish February 10, 2019 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say "Here I am, Lord."

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 Schobben 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, Anthea Hinchey, Trish Simmons (Ballarat North) and Mike Beaumont, Adrienne Cove, Pauline and Tony Newman (Wendouree).



Parish 'Our Future' Forum All parishioners are warmly invited to special forums as part of the Program – the Our Future Forum - **Ballarat North: Tuesday February 26th** at 10.30am and 7.00pm in the foyer of St Columba's Church; **Wendouree: Thursday 28th February** at 10.30 and 7.00pm in OLHC Church. This is a great opportunity to make your contribution to the discussion. Please mark this date in your calendar. Full Program details will be available on the dedicated Program page on our parish website – which will be updated regularly throughout the Program.

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). If those already included on the Roster have any specific requests, please contact the Ministry co-ordinator, or Maree.

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.

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. 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 or in the box in the foyer before 17th February

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.



RCIC Baptism preparation sessions for children over the age of 7 will begin this week. If you have a child seeking Baptism please contact one of the Parish Offices to register your interest.

Sew'n'So Thursday 14th February at 1.30pm in the Church Foyer. Come along and start off the year with some pleasant company. Enquiries Margaret 5331 4032



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 vcjjdh.sully@gmail.com

Sacred Concert with David Parkes Irish singer, David Parkes, is a renowned international singer and witness on the great mercy of Our Lord through the intercession of Our Lady. David will be performing a Sacred Concert on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at Nazareth House Chapel, Ballarat. Holy Mass will be held at 6.30pm, followed by the Sacred Concert at 7.00pm. All welcome

Wendouree West Exodus Community Thank-You to Elly Green for her 8 years of dedicated service as Co-ordinator. We welcome Sandra Dillon to the position as Co-ordinator for Wendouree West Exodus Community 2019.

OLHC Maintenance Any issues with broken equipment or facilities should be reported to the Parish Office (Maree) via phone (5339 2302), email (wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or writing the issue in the Maintenance Book, which is housed in the sacristy.

Congratulations to John and Joan Richards, (Parishioners of OLHC) who celebrate their 50th (Golden) Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

PALMS Australia information session for anyone interested in an immersive cultural experience (April 7th—19th, 2019) in Timor Leste. Information flyer is posted in Church foyer. Web address: Palms.org.au/encounters or phone Robert on 02 9560 533

Exodus Community food donations Until further notice, please do not place food donations in the OLHC foyer, as storage of the items cannot be guaranteed until the Exodus premises is upgraded.

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 885.10		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1951.70	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)	\$ 607	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 136
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1822	Weekly Average	\$ 1497

SC 16th/17th February	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's coming up:	OLHC 16th/17th Feb	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up:
WELCOMER	Greta Kelly	Dan & Mern Coutts	Parish Council Meeting Thursday 14th Feb at 7pm in the Office Meeting Room	LEADER of SONG	Corrie harbour	Vin Dillon	Fri 15th OLHC School Mass at 10:00 am.
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Bruce Chapman		MINISTER of the WORD	Sue Calistro	Deanna Osman	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ann Lacey	Kim Butler	Rite of Naming on Sunday 24th February during the 10am Mass in preparation for the Rite of Election.	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Bev Hayward, Des Lloyd, Trish Pearce + 2 volunteers	Maxine Rousch, Christine Richardson, Tony Bruty + 2 volunteers	Wed 20th Liturgy Meeting
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Mary Dinning	Anthea Hinchey		SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman	Peter & Sapphire Osman	
GIFTS	Nola Molloy	Mandy Carroll	Rite of Election For those on the RCIA journey, the Rite of Election to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, will now be held on Saturday 2nd March at 12.30pm. All welcome RSVP numbers for lunch to Judith by 20th Feb.	COUNTERS	Kath Connors and Helen Rieniets		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ruth Marquand, Kate Lawry, Troy Severino	Volunteer, Shane Bruty, Mary Kennedy		Rural Communities 8:30 am	This week - Learmonth	Next Week - Waubra	
OVERHEADS	Trish	Megan	Minister of Word:	Roy Rhoderick	Cate Molloy		
SACRISTAN	Trish	Megan	Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward	Sharon Moran		
			Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Clare & Kerry Mullane		