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### Child Safe Church

Here at the Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Wau-bra) we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office. Our Safe Guarding Officers are Peter Marquand (SC) and Maree Roache (OLHC) and you can download our Code of Conduct and Child Safety Policy from the Parish website or on the foyer notice board. If you have any concerns whatsoever—please contact the Parish Office, Fr. Marcello or one of the Safe Guarding Officers at ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**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](http://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, Wau-bra, 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: 12 noon

**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:**

Gen 15:5-12. 17-18  
Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14.  
R. v.1  
Phil 3:17 – 4:1  
Lk 9:28-36



### 10th March 2019 ~ 1st Sunday in Lent (C)

#### Focus on the Scriptures

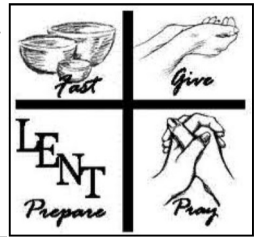
The wilderness, or desert, is used repeatedly throughout the Bible as a place of special encounter with God and preparation for a new direction or a new ministry. The 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately followed his baptism in the Jordan where his status as the beloved of God was confirmed. He is led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness for a period of fasting, prayer and preparation before entering into his public ministry. In fact, the event that immediately follows this passage is the episode in Nazareth where Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah and declares the intent of his ministry. It is presented as if, having spent his time in preparation and overcoming the temptations before him, Jesus strode out of the wilderness and laid out what he had decided.

The episode of the temptations is a clear indicator of the humanity of Jesus – he experienced doubt, uncertainty and fear just as we do. If the gospel intended to emphasise the divinity of Jesus, none of these temptations would have been an issue. We are told that Jesus was indeed tempted, not just pestered by the devil. The opportunities laid before Jesus were actually tempting to him. They challenged his resolve. They made Jesus question the sort of Messiah that he was to be: the all-conquering, powerful Messiah that the people expected; or the servant to the poor who will be tortured and put to death. Jesus is tempted to use his power to make his task easier or to display his authority to others. Had he chosen to do this, surely it would have been easier to get people's attention – and that was the temptation: to take the easier path or stick to the more subtle, more personal, more difficult path.

© G Sunter

**Responsorial Psalm:** Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Kathleen Squire, Peter Calistro (brother of John)

**Anniversaries: We remember:** John Murray, Jim Gallagher

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes, especially Saskiah Gallagher, Blake Dridan, Pat Hogan and for the success of the Plenary Council and for those on the RCIA & RCIC journey for 2019.

**Stewardship Program 2019** Our Parish Stewardship Program will resume next weekend on Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 March, with 'Our Future' Weekend. This is a very important part of the Program - when we will be asked to finalise our commitments by (1) signing up for a Parish Group or Ministry and (2) making our meaningful pledge of financial support to the Parish.

We thank you in advance for your support and please pray for the success of the Program.

**Mass of the Oils Monday, April 15, 2019** The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, April 15, 2019. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2019 - the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed. All members of the diocese are invited to participate in this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church. Ministries required for the Mass of the Oils include ushers, readers, oils bearers, presentation of the gifts, collection of oils, musicians and singers. For further information contact the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5337 7159 or [pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au) If you can assist at the Mass of the Oils as a reader, singer or musician or collector of oils please contact your Parish office.

**Stations of the Cross** will be offered on Fridays during Lent starting on Friday 15th March at 6.30pm in St Columba's Church. This will be followed by a time of reflection and sharing on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. All welcome to join in this wonderful preparation for Easter. For further info please contact Judith on 5331 1012



**Exodus Community Donations** The leadership team of Exodus are now able to receive donations of food to support their community. Please support this very worthwhile project.

**Lenten Booklets** will be for sale this weekend in the St Columba's foyer. The cost is \$5. This excellent book 'Trust' is jam packed with reflections and readings to help you on your Lenten journey. They will also be available in the Parish Office.

**Project Compassion 1st Sunday of Lent**

Twelve-year-old Thandolwayo would walk seven kilometres each day to collect contaminated water for her family. It looked like she would never realise her hope of finishing her education and becoming a nurse, until a Caritas Australia supported project created access to clean water helping Thandolwayo to stay at school and achieve a future full of hope. Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and to provide clean water and a future full of hope for vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe. Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



**Catholic Women's League Ballarat** are hosting a Lenten Retreat at Nazareth House Chapel on 18, 19 and 20 March, presented by Fr Thomas Casanova CCS. Cost \$65 for 3 days including a 2 course lunch or \$25 per day including a 2 course lunch. Entry by donation if not having lunch. Monday 18th - Mass 10.30am. Tuesday 19th - Mass 9am, Wednesday Mass - 9am. Each day will conclude at 6pm. RSVP to Co-ordinator - Joan on 53 382 484 - by Monday 11th March to assist with catering.

**Kim's Overseas Volunteering Experience** on Wednesday 13th March Kim Butler (St Columba's School principal) will share with us her experiences of having a year's leave to volunteer in India & Timor Leste. The sessions will be at 11am with coffee & cake and at 7pm with wine & cheese. All welcome to come. St Columba's Church Foyer.

**Nazareth House Auxiliary** presents St Patrick's Day Sing a long on Friday 15th March at 1.30pm Admission \$5. Door prize. Afternoon tea, cake stall. Inquires to Margaret 0419003415



**Rosters for Holy Week St Columba's** will be in the foyer from this weekend. Readers please take readings from the back of the clipboard. Palm Sunday Passion copy is only for the Narrator. Further rosters will begin after Easter please contact Judith for any changes. Thank you

**Sew 'n' So** meet Thursday 14th March at 1.30pm in the Church foyer. Enquires to Margaret ph: 5331 4032

**Visiting Group** Thursday March 14th at 1:30 pm—2:30 pm. at OLHC Parish Centre; Invitation to any parishioners who do any visiting in the parish. A guest speaker will make a presentation. All welcome

**Baptisms** This weekend at St Columba's we welcome Astrid Vivienne Rowe, daughter of Sam and Elise and Xavier Harvey Somers, son of Michael and Lana, who will be baptized on Sunday morning. We pray that they will grow in their faith with the love and support of their loving parents, family, friends and our Parish Community.



**Grief to Grace Program - Spiritual and Psychological Healing from Abuse** Since 2005, the international program Grief to Grace has been assisting people wounded by abuse - whether clergy, spiritual, sexual, physical, domestic, spousal, or emotional abuse - to restore their dignity and their relationship with a loving God. Grief to Grace will be available on Sunday, July 14, 2019 at Safety Bay, WA. For more information [www.rachelsvineyardministriesperth.wordpress.com](http://www.rachelsvineyardministriesperth.wordpress.com) or the international website [www.grief-to-grace-lsi.squarespace.com](http://www.grief-to-grace-lsi.squarespace.com). Email: [g2gperthwa@gmail.com](mailto:g2gperthwa@gmail.com), phone (SMS/voicemail only) 0490 956 745.

**Liturgy preparation** St Columba's Parish is looking for people to assist over Holy week/Easter. If you can assist please let Judith know in the Office.

**Developing Parents' Digital Literacy and Tackling Cyberbullying** Damascus College presents this free community workshop discussing the strengths and challenges of navigating the online world as a young person. Learn about major social media platforms and the issue of cyberbullying, plus hot topics and strategies that parents, guardians and carers can use to support young people online. This session allows for an open Q&A at the end. Wednesday, May 1, 2019 from 7.00pm - 8.30pm at the John Shannon Centre. Book at [www.damascus.vic.edu.au](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au). Flyer in foyer.

**"Saving the Bishop" by Jordan Knottman** An action-adventure novel written specifically for Primary school students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation followed by First Communion in the Roman Catholic church. A book that combines adventure and theology; helping children to understand sacraments in a fun and exciting way. More information at <https://jordanknottman.com/>

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 657.20		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1,914.25	Average for this financial year	\$ 1,731.25

Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 581	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 117
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 687	Weekly Average	\$ 1497

SC 16th/17th March	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Margaret Ranger	Pat & Bernie Kenna
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Jennifer Adams	Judy Brown
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Carmel McCormick	Irene Monigatti
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Shirley Edgar	Terry Ranger
<b>GIFTS</b>	Jan Mullaly	Colleen Wakefield
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Kathleen, Keogh, Kate Lawry, Troy Severino	Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Trish Simmons	Megan
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Trish	Megan

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

**This week's tip:** Commentators, please extinguish the candles after the end of the Prayer of the Faithful

OLHC 16/17th March	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am
<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Vin Dillon	Veronica Stott
<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Trish Pora	Helen & Colin Feely
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Bev Hayward, Pat Dillon, Pauline Newman + 2 volunteers	Helen Rieniets, Tony Bruty, Christine Richardson + 2 volunteers
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Joyce Jackson	Geoff & Marg McLean
<b>COUNTERS</b>	Brendan Curran and G & P Doery	
<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Learmonth</b>	<b>Waubra</b>
<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Fon Ryan	Julia Cini
<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Kerryn Gallagher	Tony McDonald
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Bev Hayward	Anne Dalton

What's coming up:	
Next Week:	
Sun 17th	St Patrick's Day
Wed 20th	PPC Meeting at 7:00 pm
Thurs 21st	Mass at Kelaston at 11 am.