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The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) 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

Other Notices:

Help reach out to the people of Sri Lanka Following the devastating Easter Sunday attacks on the people and Church of Sri Lanka, we invite you to stand in solidarity with our Sri Lankan brothers and sisters. All donations received will directly help the people of Sri Lanka. Your prayers and gifts are much appreciated. You can donate on line via Catholic Mission

https://catholicmission.org.au/donate/your-donation?id=srilanka&utm_source=eDM&utm_campaign=link



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 Sajan Mathew
Fr Vincent Pham CSsR

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: 9:30am

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am Rural
10:00 am OLHC
Wednesday: 10:00 am
Thursday: 10:00 am
Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Acts 13:14, 43-52
Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3
Rv 7:9, 14-17
Jn 10:27-30



5th May 2019 ~ 3rd Sunday of Easter (C)

Focus on the Scriptures

March 25 this year saw the publication of Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*. The Pope addresses his words to "young people and to the entire people of God". Quite early in the document, there is a call for the church to be a "living church", a church that is "attentive to the legitimate claims of those women who seek greater justice and equality" (par. 42). For Johannine scholar, Elizabeth Dowling RSM, this would entail a return to the spirit of the early chapters of John's gospel.

John's final chapter marks an unfortunate shift in the portrayal of gender roles, a shift that would seem to reflect struggles in the early church to accept women in leadership roles. The focus is clearly on Peter, on his role as leader and his relationship with Jesus. In John 20, it is not at all clear that Peter has come to resurrection faith, while there is no such doubt about the faith of Mary of Magdala. It is she who receives the first resurrection appearance and she who is commissioned to proclaim the news of the resurrection to the other disciples.

In Chapter 21, Peter goes fishing and several of the other disciples join him. They catch nothing. At dawn, they see the figure of Jesus on the shore. His disciples, with the exception of the "beloved disciple", do not recognise him immediately. They follow his instructions and find themselves overwhelmed with their catch. At the invitation of Jesus, they breakfast on bread and fish. This provides the setting for the rehabilitation of Peter, already foreshadowed in his decision to clothe his naked body. In the wake of his three-fold denial, Peter makes a three-fold profession of love of Jesus. This brings with it the responsibility of tending not only his "sheep" but also his "lambs". This command has particular resonance for a church that has failed so many of its children.

While the passage is filled with symbolism, we might pause to appreciate the materiality underlying the symbols. Fishing is an important gospel metaphor for ministry. The number of fish (153) probably denotes the universality of the mission. The 30% decline in large fish species in my country provides a sober reminder that the mission must include the natural world as never before. The untorn net is a symbol of unity, like the seamless garment in the passion narrative. The verb "to draw" has several layers of meaning in this fishing context: the disciples were not able "to draw in the net...so Simon Peter went aboard and drew the net ashore". These statements evoke earlier sayings of Jesus, particularly his words on the cross, "And I if I am lifted up from the earth will draw all to myself" (12:32). The "all" allows for the whole Earth community, human and more-than-human, to be drawn to the crucified and resurrected One, despite the failures of the past.

Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia



Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Betty Kirkpatrick

Anniversaries: We remember: Doreen Davies, Michael Ryan, Mark Ryan

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Sasskiah Gallagher, Blake Dridan & Pat Hogan. We also pray for the children preparing for Baptism (RCIC) and for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

May 5, 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

"Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'" (John 21:17)

All of us are challenged to show our love for Jesus and others. Discern how God is calling you to use your time in prayer, your talent in charitable works and your treasure to assist those who in need. Remember that giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church

Youth Every Second Sunday YESS is a dynamic group of young people aged 13-18yrs, who come together to share their faith and connect with other youth. We would like to extend a warm invitation to anyone interested in joining YESS in 2019. Youth group sessions will commence May 5th 6pm with a bbq and information gathering (parents are welcome) at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, and continue each fortnight onwards, during the school terms. If you have any questions or would like to contact the Youth Leaders please phone Felicity Liston on 0409 393 464 or email yessballarat@gmail.com.

Rosters for St Columba's the May rosters have been sent out to you, the remainder of the year will be completed and emailed out in the next couple of weeks. If you do not receive one please contact Judith with your email address. Thank you.

Sacramental program the Confirmation program at OLHC will begin with an information night on Tuesday May 14th. At 7:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Please contact Maree for further info



OLHC Parish Pastoral Council Discernment meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th May at 7:00 pm in the Parish Centre. Parishioners interested in the future direction of this parish, and are willing to serve on this Council are encouraged to attend. Please register your interest with Maree at the parish Centre 53302302.

"Anniversaries" are printed upon request. Please advise the parish offices.

OLHC Volunteers for assistance with Funeral Catering: Volunteers to help: provide slices; to assist with set-up and pack-up; and help with serving. Contact: Noeline Smith ph: 0451 675 718

Sew and So Thursday 9th May at 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Foyer. Come along for a pleasant afternoon. Enquiries Margaret 0409533140.

Rosary beads did you loose your set on the Good Friday Way of the Cross? If so, they have been handed in to the St Columba's Office. Please contact Judith to collect them.

Baptism we congratulate Sadie Collishaw, daughter of Glen and Leanne, who will be Baptized at St Columba's on Saturday evening. We pray she will grow in faith with the love and support of her parents, family and our parish community.



Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday 10th May 7pm—8pm St Columba's Church. All Welcome.

Annual Mass count will take place over the four weekends in May. Collectors will count all Mass attendees at both Masses.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation St Columba's has begun preparation for the sacramental programme. The children attend Masses for the next four weekends and made a commitment to their preparation for this sacrament. The children will receive the Sacrament over the weekend of 1st and 2nd June. Please keep them in your prayers.

Easter water please feel free to bring a container and help yourself to the water of new life in the Easter font, which may be used to bless people, homes, vehicles, machinery, farming land prior to sowing seed for the forthcoming season etc. It's free!

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

Final Mass at Lavers Hill The Final Mass for Sacred Heart Church, Lavers Hill will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR on Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 2.00pm. All welcome.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries, employed or volunteers. Sacraments, scripture, social justice, youth ministry, liturgy and many other subjects available – a subject is completed in 5 weeks. Next study cycle starts June 2. Registration is now open. Contact us by May 16. Info: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au ph. 5337 7125.

Catholic bishops' federal election statement The bishops call for respect in public debate, share Catholic social teaching and detail some key issues to reflect on before you vote. "Politics in service of peace: a statement by the Catholic bishops of Australia for the 2019 federal election" can be found on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news/feature-articles.cfm?loadref=102&id=670&categoryid=101>

Behrouz Boochani Video Night Rural Australians for Refugees, Grandmothers against Detention of refugee Children, the House of Welcome and the Ballarat Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Network invite you to a free, public, live video presentation featuring Manus Island detainee and author Behrouz Boochani on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at the Eureka Centre, 102 Stawell Street South, Eureka at 6.00pm. Bookings at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/no-friend-but-the-mountains-with-behrouz-boochani-tickets-59807514887>.

OLHC Mini Vinnies Commissioning. Students from OLHC school were commissioned on Saturday in their role as Mini Vinnies. The Parish congratulates to children and the school for their commitment.

Save the date Diocesan RCIA Conference "It takes a village" will be held on Friday 15 Nov 5.30pm—9pm and Saturday 16th November 9.30am—4.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Ballarat. More info to follow.

Collections at St Columba's	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 824.40,	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2131.40	Average for this financial year \$1674.55

Collections at OLHC	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 520	Loose money (2nd collection) \$ 87
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 2,694	Weekly Average \$ 1,483

SC 11th/12th May	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am
WELCOMER	Mary & Margaret	Alison Thorpe
COMMENTATOR	Eileen van der Laar	Anne Rossiter
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Mary Dinning	Terry Ranger
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Trish Simmons	Kierce O'Loughlin
GIFTS	Nola Molloy	Maureen & Hans
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Ann Lacey, Jennifer Adams, Kate Lawry	Alison Thorpe, Anthea Hinchey, Judith O'Sullivan
OVERHEADS	Norah & Stephen	Judith
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne

What's on:
First weekend of Dismissals for our Confirmation candidates

OLHC 11th/12th May	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG	Laureen Rhodes	Margaret White
MINISTER of the WORD	Jan Godfrey	Helen & Colin Feely
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Pearce, Mavis McNulty, Pat Dillon + 2 volunteers	Christiane Richardson, Peter Briody, Maxine Rousch, + 2 volunteers
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Peter & Sapphire Osman
COUNTERS	Helen Rieniets & Kath Connors	
Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra	Learmonth
Minister of Word:	Fon Ryan	Kerryn gallagher
Minister of Eucharist :	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward
Church Cleaning:	Sharon & Marty Moran	Bev Hayward

What's coming up in May	
Tues 14th	Parent Information Meeting for Parents-Confirmation 7:00 p.m. in Parish Meeting Room
Wed 15th	Parish Pastoral Council—Discernment meeting at 7:00 p.m. the in Parish Centre
Thurs 16th	Mass at Kelaston 11 am
Other Collections to date:	
Holy Places (Good Friday)	\$ 327.90
Caritas Project Compassion	\$ 2361.35
Easter Offerings	\$ 964.00