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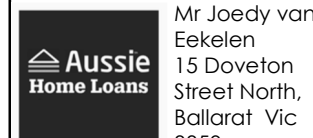
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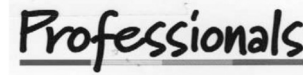
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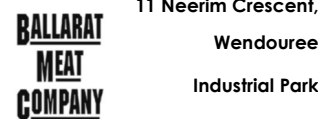
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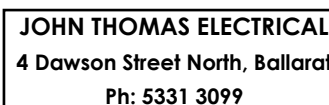
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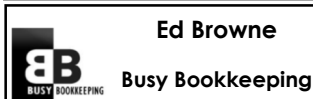
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Open every day  
 8.00am to 9.00pm  
**1010 Sturt Street, Ballarat**

Enquire at the Parish Office



### Child Safe Church

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

### Other notices:

**Help Palms Achieve a World Free of Poverty** Share your skills with a community organisation in Asia or the Pacific to contribute to sustainable solutions to poverty. Our community partners have requested teachers, nurses, tradies and more to work alongside a local counterpart in 2020.



Palms Australia

We welcome all those who envision volunteering their skills overseas in the next few years to join our next training course, starting in Sydney on July 6th. Visit palms.org.au or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333 for more details



## 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

### 19 May 2019 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)

**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 OLHC**

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

Tuesday: 2:30 pm Funeral

Wednesday: 9:30am

**Mass times: OLHC**

Saturday: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Thursday: 10:00 am

Friday: 9:30 am OLHC

Feast Day

**Readings for next weekend:**

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8, R. v.4

Rv 21:10-14, 22-23

Jn 14:23-29



### Focus on the Scriptures

The word love has to be the most misused word in our language. We often say we love our house, our car, our holiday or even ice cream. Then we use exactly the same word to describe our feelings for our spouse, family, friends or children. If language is a window into meaning, then we are in strife at the loose way we transfer the same word for vastly different feelings and realities. At least I hope we feel differently about people over possessions. The way some people go on about their car, pets or money we begin to wonder.

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today's Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to 'love as I have loved you'. The core of Jesus' love for us is sacrificial love, where he laid down his life that we might live. While love is a popular word, and even more popular notion, in our music, film, art and literature, sacrificial love is not something we hear much about these days or that we embrace very easily. Loving someone in the popular imagination has come to mean hanging in there until someone better comes along, or we grow bored of each other sexually or personally. Often it entails keeping the exit door on commitment nice and handy for the quick get away. But this hardly describes a love that involves sacrifice.

Sacrificial love is demonstrated in deeds not words. It states that there is no point in saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make. Sacrificial love is not just about warm and fuzzy feelings; it is an intensely practical affair where our love is judged by our gentleness, kindness and patience with each other. Christian love is not arrogant or rude, it does not drag other people down, but rejoices and weeps when others are successful or downhearted. Loving as Jesus has loved means telling the truth with compassion, forgiving, working at trust and holding on to faith in the face of difficult times. Jesus does not promise us that this commandment is easy, just necessary if we are to love as he loves us.

While sacrificial love demands of us that we die unto self, Jesus never asked us to 'kill' ourselves. The distinction matters. All too often the Church has been guilty of giving out this teaching in a way that people thought they should put up with violent, undignified and soul-destroying behaviour from their spouse, children, parents, family or friends. Sacrificial love is never destructive. It is a free gift where we sometimes forego other options, opportunities and even good things for a love and life that is even better. The Lord laid down his life for us and in turn the Father raised him up to a glorified life. What's true for him is true for us. We lay down our lives for each other so we can take up a new and richer life. We are never meant to destroy ourselves or stay in relationships that rip our dignity from us. Sometimes the most Christian thing we can do is to set up boundaries or make decisions that protect ourselves from behaviour which is neither loving nor Christian.  
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**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise your name for ever, my King and my God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Margaret Sherman (mother of Fr Peter), Kathleen Clohesy,

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Brian Molloy

**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 19, 2019 - 5th Sunday of Easter** "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34)

It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes strength and courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage to "love my neighbour" when he may be someone I don't like, someone I don't know or someone that doesn't look like me.

**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

**St Columba's Men's Group** this month's gathering will be held on Thursday 23rd May at 2pm in the Church foyer. Please note change of date. This will be the last gathering until the spring. If you need transport please contact Bernadette or ring Judith in the office.

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

**Asylum Seeker Fundraiser** Wednesday June 19th Refugee Week Soup and Sandwich Luncheon at Nazareth House Hall, Mill Street, Ballarat. Entry \$20. Speakers and Entertainment. Stall and Competition. Inquiries 0401175045 - annkav1234@gmail.com

**Thank you** to everyone who has completed a Parish Groups and Ministry Form – It is pleasing to see both continuing and new participants contributing to our parish life. For people new to a ministry you will be contacted by your new ministry Team Leader over the coming weeks.

**OLHC Feast Day Mass** 9.30am 24th May. All welcome to celebrate our Feast Day

**Confirmation Masses** will be held over the weekend of 1/2 June at St Columba's and 15/16 June at OLHC. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

**Save the Date: RCIA Diocesan & State Conferences, "It takes a village"**  
The diocesan RCIA Conference will be held on Friday, November 15 from 5.30pm – 9.00pm and the RCIA State Conference will be held on Saturday, November 16 from 9.30am – 4.30pm. Both events will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, Ballarat. More information to follow.

**Sponsorship opportunity for the APMN Conference "Listen to the Spirit and Sing"** The Ballarat Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering sponsorship for six people from across the diocese to attend the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network, Inc (APMN) Conference Listen to the Spirit and Sing to be held in Melbourne from October 1 – 3, 2019 at the Catholic Leadership Centre. APMN promotes the art of Religious Music in the service of the Church in Australia through education, support, networking and advocacy, with a special focus on supporting the use of Australian compositions. The APMN aims to actively assist parishes, schools and other Church agencies to have educated, skilled musicians and composers available for the vital ministry of providing suitable quality music for worship, church life and religious education. The conference intends to provide the knowledge, resources, encouragement and motivation for lay people to be ministers of music in their parishes. It is an opportunity to broaden networks and meet people who are also trying to make their parishes vibrant places of worship through the appropriate use of Liturgical, Catechetical and Religious music. From the six people selected, we would anticipate that two from each zone would attend. Contact the Parish office for application forms.

**Eco playgroup at St Columba's** is held on Fridays in the School Hall 9am—10.30am. As it is held on the school grounds, parents need a WWC card. For further details please see the flyer in the Church foyer or contact the school

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

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

**Holy Hour for Vocations** will be held at Nazareth House Chapel, 218 Mill Street, Ballarat on Thursday, May 23, 2019 from 7.00pm—8.00pm. All welcome.

**CAPSA National Week of Prayer and Action, 16-23 June 2019** A National Week of Prayer and Action for the Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA) will be held from June 16 – 23, 2019. During this week, the CAPSA network (schools, parishes and organisations) will join together across the country to pray, advocate and raise awareness for people seeking asylum in our communities. Activities are focussed on the recent cuts to basic material and case management support for people seeking asylum. For more information go to <https://capsa.org.au/>

**Mums 4 Refugees** (M4R) is a network of women working with and for people seeking asylum. We wish to work towards an Australia that is fair, just and inclusive and which treats asylum seekers and refugees with dignity and compassion. Message us to get involved email: [mums4refugees@gmail.com](mailto:mums4refugees@gmail.com), facebook: Mums 4 Refugees, website: [www.mums4refugees.org](http://www.mums4refugees.org)

**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.

**Farewell to Lia and Harlan Yu**, who are returning to the Philippines. The OLHC parish community thanks them for their significant contribution to the life of this parish, and wishes them a safe journey.

**Collection for OLHC school** Safeway (Howitt Street) have a sticker collection for the school. Stickers can also be left at the school office.

**Baptisms:** The OLHC Parish community welcomes through Baptism Aria Jade, Boadle, daughter of Rebecca and Eugene, and Kamryn Dolly Lillyst, daughter of Kylea and Jayden.



Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support		Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 752.15			1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 524	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 65
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 3,070.10	Average for this financial year	\$ 1674.55	2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 2,301	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1483

SC 25/26 May	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 25/26 May	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up in April
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Ruth Marquand	Helen Linane	Third weekend of Dismissals for our Confirmation candidates.	<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Corrie Harbour	Margaret White	Fri 24th OLHC Feast Day Mass @ 9:30am  First weekend of Dismissals for Confirmation candidates.  <b>Other Collections to date:</b> Holy Places (Good Friday) \$ 327.90 Caritas Project Compassion \$ 2381.35 Easter Offerings \$ 1040.00
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Kate Lawry	Kim Butler		<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Trish Pora	Harry Kennedy	
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Kathleen Keogh	Bruce Chapman		<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	John Bourke, Des Lloyd, Joyce Jackson + 2 volunteers	Pauline Howard, Marie McMillan, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers	
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Tom Keogh	Geraldine Mugavin		<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Tony & Pauline Newman	Joyce Jackson	
<b>GIFTS</b>	Kath Scanlon	Lorna & Carmel		<b>Counters</b>	Helen Rieniets & Kath Connors		
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Ann Lacey, Trish Simmons, Torie Waight	Judy Brown, Eleanor Kennedy, Margaret Martino	<b>Other Collections to date:</b>	<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Waubra</b>	<b>Learmonth</b>	
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Volunteer	Harry Chapman	Holy Places (Good Friday) \$ 539.25	<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Phyllis Bourke	Margaret McDonald	
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Maree	Maureen	Caritas Project Compassion \$ 3,043.10	<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Kerryn Gallagher	Sharon Moran	
			Easter Offerings \$ 871.50	<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Sharon & Marty Moran	Bev Hayward	