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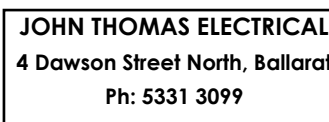


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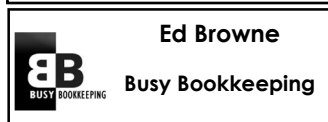
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Child Safe Church

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

Date Claimer – CSSV 2020 Conference Catholic Social Services Victoria Conference 2020 will be held from February 26-28, 2020 at the Catholic Leadership Centre Melbourne, "Serving communities with Courage and Compassion". More information is available from the CSSV website <https://www.css.org.au/> Serving-Communities

Marriage Encounter Weekend Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage! Married couples, come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing! This weekend is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 2019 Victorian weekend dates: 23-25 Aug, and 15-17 Nov. Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au



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 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: 11:00am (Funeral)

Wednesday: 9:30am

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Thursday 10:00 am

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Wis 18:6-9

Ps 32:1.12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19,

Lk 12:32-48



Responsorial Psalm: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

4 August 2019 ~ Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Focus on the Scriptures

Our tradition tells us that "the earth and all that is in it belongs to God" (Psalm 24). That does not stop people from arguing over possessions and even killing for them. It never has. The Iraq war should have been a lesson to the world. There were no weapons of mass destruction. There was much coveted oil and that seems to have been the covert justification for an unconscionable invasion that cost countless lives. There seems to be something deep within the human psyche that continually seeks for more. Those who seek to be "rich toward God" or "rich in God" find life. Those who seek to be rich in material possessions will simply be left, at life's end, with a question: "To whom will this hoard belong?" The question is rhetorical and expects the answer of Psalm 24: "the earth and all that is in it belongs to God".

Jesus is addressed as "teacher", and is asked to force a decision in an inheritance debate. He demonstrates that he is "teacher" rather than "divider". He tells a hard hitting story. He knows that story-telling is more effective in bringing people to life-giving decisions than is any attempt to bring down a definitive ruling, especially for those who surely know the law. His story is about a landowner who is blessed by an abundant harvest. The estate manager as well as the peasant workers and their families might reasonably expect a share in the profits, even a remission of the debts they inevitably carry. In this instance, the blessing of abundance turns the land-owner inwards rather than out towards others and so "toward God". First person singular pronouns predominate: "What am I to do? I have no place....I will do this....I will I will I will" The futility or senselessness of stockpiling for personal gain is highlighted by the shift to second person singular, "You fool...", and by the divine judgment on the landowner's self-focus and greed. Greed appears in today's reading from the letter to the community at Colossae. For the author of that letter, greed is simply idolatry, worship of a false god (Col 3:5).

In these times of planetary vulnerability, there is some urgency about the call to place our trust in the goodness of a generous God, to reduce our ecological footprint and to acknowledge that the good things of the earth belong to God and to all of God's people, not just to the privileged few. In refusing to "store up treasure" for our own selfish ends, we become forever "rich toward God". This applies to nation-states as well as to individuals. We have some responsibility for what is done in our name, for the size and deployment of our foreign aid budget for instance. The command to "be on your guard, be ever vigilant" in this respect is a demand for gospel justice.

Veronica Lawson



Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Jim Lamb, Bill Thompson, Mary Fleming (Graeme Spittle's sister) Guiseppina (Joyce) Rossi, Maureen Gatens

Anniversaries: We remember: Bill and Tess Maguire, Hilda Duggan, Gwen Sowter, Tess Sheehan, Luise Taylor, Florence (Flo) Stott, Rodney Stapleton, Eng Liang

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Sasskiah Gallagher, for the next phase of the Plenary Council and for the children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

OLHC Parish Meeting—Sunday 4th August following the 10:00 am Mass. This forum will review the previous year, and set direction for the work of the Parish Pastoral Council for the next year. All welcome. There will be a cuppa and a tour of the newly renovated school facility

Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament Friday 9th August St Columba's Church from 6.00 pm till 7.00pm in the church. All most welcome. Note change of time.

Sew and So no gathering in August. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting in September when we have a Guest Speaker".

Catholic Education—'Innovating for the Future Showcase On Sunday 11 August all families and friends are invited to the inaugural Innovating for the Future Showcase at the Catholic Leadership centre 576 Victoria Parade. This free event day runs from 10am to 4pm. It's a great chance to see 25+ Catholic Secondary Schools all in one spot, Hear from expert panel, lots of interactive exhibits, food and giveaways. Please come and support Catholic Education! More info www.catholicsschoolsguide.com.au

Ballarat Parishes following the decision of Fr Peter Sherman to conclude his service in priestly ministry, and building upon the growing collaboration amongst the parishes of Ballarat, Bishop Paul is pleased to announce the following changes: Fr Justin Driscoll as Administrator of the Parish of Ballarat East, incorporating the communities of St Alipius, Ballarat East and St Peter and Paul Buninyong. This appointment is in addition to Fr Justin's current appointment as Administrator of St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. I am also appointing Fr Jorge De Chaves OSJ as Assistant Priest in St Patrick's Cathedral Parish and in the Parish of Ballarat East. They will have the help of Fr Vincent Pham Van Long CSsR. Fr Kevin Moloney will assume responsibility for the Parish of Linton as well as continuing as Parish Priest of Redan and Sebastopol with the assistance of Fr Lovin Lolo CSsR. Fr Marcello Colasante will assume responsibility for the Parish of Beaufort, while continuing as the Parish Priest of Ballarat North and Wendouree. He will be assisted by Fr Sajan Matthew.

Catholic Secondary Schools—Information evenings Loreto College: Monday, October 21, 2019 at 7.00pm at the Mary's Mount Centre. St. Patrick's College: Thursday, October 24, 2019 at the OCA Pavilion. Damascus: Wednesday 4th September at 5pm Please arrive at 4.45pm for registration OPEN MORNING: Thursday 12th September, 9am – 10.30am Tours leave every 15 minutes

Catholic Man Breakfast Series Men of all ages are invited to a Catholic Man Breakfast to be held on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at 7.00am at Craig's Royal Hotel in Ballarat. The breakfast will be hosted by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and will feature Hawthorn premiership champion Steve Lawrence as guest speaker. Steve was Director of World Youth Day Sydney 2008 which saw 500,000 young people attend, Director of Faith and Mission at Mazenod College in Mulgrave, founded the Altum Leadership Group and is married to Annie with six children. The breakfast promises to be entertaining and spiritually uplifting. RSVP by Friday, August 23. Further information is available from Chris Liston, ph. 0437 318 251, email chris.listo2@gmail.com or Vincent Sully, ph. 0407 310 115, email vcjdh.sully@gmail.com

Catholic Women's League Social Afternoon "God never sleeps" - come along to a Spring afternoon tea and hear John and Margaret Millington OAM inspire you with their life story of faith which has enabled them to transform family tragedies into work for the community. Free entry, door prizes and afternoon tea. Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 1.30pm in the Mary Glowrey Room St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, Ballarat. Enquiries to Carmel, ph. 0401175045 or email annekav1234@gmail.com

Episcopal Ordination of the Bishop of Sandhurst Bishop-Elect Shane Mackinlay will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 12.00noon in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo

OLHC Sacramental Program for Reconciliation & First Eucharist Information evening for these Sacraments of Initiation will be held on Tuesday, 6th August at 7:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

Plenary Council – National Theme for Discernment #6 How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform? This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a desire to do things differently in response to Christ and the experience of our people, accepting that faithfulness to tradition requires change that is both personal and communal. Find out more at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au The full snapshot on each theme can be viewed on the Diocesan website

Australian Pastoral Musicians Network Conference – October 1-3, 2019 The APMN National Conference will be held in Perth from October 1-3, 2019. The conference will feature keynote addresses from Tony Alonso and Diana Macalintal (two internationally acclaimed composers and liturgists), workshops, prayer and liturgy, showcase concert, conference dinner and resource display and sales.

2019 Australian Catholic Youth Festival The next Australian Catholic Youth Festival will be in Perth from December 8-10, 2019! The Ballarat Diocese is partnering with the Melbourne Office for Youth to offer all-inclusive packages to the festival which will cover transport, accommodation, registration to the festival and meals. The event is for those in Year 9 up to 30 years old and is a great way to partake in celebrating the vitality of the Catholic Church in Australia. Interested parishioners can find more information on the Youth & Young Adult Ministry page of the diocesan website or contact Patrick, ph. 5337 7160.

Abide: Six: Thirty is a Eucharist Adoration prayer group meeting in Learmonth every Wednesday to provide those living in Ballarat a place to spend an hour with Jesus in prayer. Abide: Six: Thirty is an opportunity to spend some time in prayerful silence with Our Lord whilst away from the chaos of daily life. Afterwards, all are welcome to the Stag Hotel opposite the Church. For more details, call Matt on: 0417 991 387

OLHC Parking it would be appreciated if you could refrain from parking your vehicles in the school car park to enable families of church members safe access to the school grounds during the weekends. There is sufficient car parking in front of the Church or on the road. Thank you

Collections at St Columba's *We thank you for your generous support*

1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 664.55
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish) \$ 1,761.40 Average for this financial year \$ 1,741.39

Collections at OLHC *We thank you for your generous support*

1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 522 Loose money (2nd collection) \$ 47
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish) \$ 818 Weekly Average this Financial Year \$ 1,544

SC 10/11 August	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 10th/11th Aug	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
WELCOMER	John Madigan Family	Dan & Mern Coutts		LEADER of SONG	Sue Searls	Paul Hogan	Sunday 4th August Parish Meeting following the 10am Mass Next week:
COMMENTATOR	Tom Keogh	Pat Kenna		MINISTER of the WORD	John Bourke	Anne Briody	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Jim Kierce	Jo-Anne van der Voort		MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Bourke, Val Bourke, Des Lloyd + 2 volunteers	Marie McMillan, Judith Potter, Tony Bruty + 2 volunteers	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	John van der Laar	Fiona Newton		SACRISTAN	Joyce Jackson	Geoff & Marg McLean	
GIFTS	Nola Molloy	Colleen Wakefield		Counters	Trish & Chris Pearce, Pauline Newman		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Kate Lawry, Annette Madigan, Peter Marquand	Kay Merbach, Carole Barr, Georgina Hinchey		Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra	Learmonth	
OVERHEADS	Stephen & Norah	Judith		Minister of Word:	Phyllis Bourke	Anne Dalton	
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne		Minister of Eucharist :	Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward	
				Church Cleaning:	Marg & Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward	