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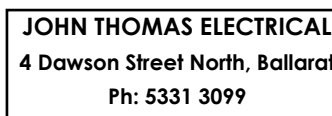
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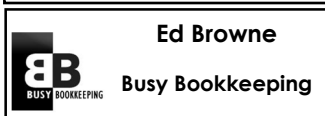
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Child Safe Church The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office. 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

More notices:

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

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

Footprints of Jesus Trace the journey of Jesus from the land of his birth to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice in this 14-day Holy Land pilgrimage to Jordan & Israel led by Fr. Joseph Amal (Mel) and Fr Robert William (Syd). Two groups departing in Sep 2019. This pilgrimage features places from the Old & New Testament and includes Petra, Bethlehem, Jericho, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem for an all-inclusive price of \$5690 + \$150 Tips. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email us info@magiholidays.com.au. Departures: 8th Sept 19 and 16 Sep 19. Bookings Open for 2020 Pilgrimages.



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

18 August 2019 ~ Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Focus on the Scriptures

There is a sense of urgency in today's gospel. Jesus feels constrained or under stress until the "fire" he has come to cast on the earth is kindled and the baptism of fire that John the Baptist foreshadowed in 3:16 takes effect. Elsewhere in Luke's writing, fire is associated with judgement (3:9, 17; 9:17; 17:29), and with the presence of the Holy Spirit (3:16), especially in the Lukan story of Pentecost (Acts 2:3) where "tongues as of fire" appear and rest on all those assembled in the upper room. Fire is a sign of the end times when the Spirit of prophecy descends on all God's people (Acts 2:18-19). Those who have experienced the effect of the all too frequent bush fires in Australia or the wild fires of California can appreciate the power of this image. Climate change is undoubtedly increasing the risk of destructive fires. Drier conditions wither plant life that then becomes fuel for the fires. Fire can take all before it. It can also bring the most astonishing new life in its wake.

Linked with the image of fire is that of water: Jesus has a "baptism with which to be baptized". Once more, a sense of urgency is expressed as the power of water is evoked. Like fire, water has power to destroy and power to save. Fire and water become metaphors for the hard won gospel path to peace. Jesus seems to be contradicting so much of what he has stood for to this point. At his birth, he is presented as the bringer of peace (Luke 1:79 and 2:14). He tells the hospitable woman of 7:50 and the faith-filled woman of 8:48 to "go in peace". He instructs his disciples to bring peace to the families they visit (10:5-6). He refuses to be a divider (12:13-14). And now he declares that he has come not to bring peace but division. His hearers can expect members of families to be divided one against another. How can this be?

The Lukan Jesus is almost certainly describing the status quo rather than prescribing what ought to prevail. In other words, by the time Luke is writing, it is clear that some have accepted the gospel way of peace and justice and compassion and others within the same families have not. Acceptance of the gospel and of Jesus as the Christ or Messiah would have involved a monumental shift for Jews on the one hand and for adherents of the diverse philosophies or faiths of the Roman world on the other. Today's families of mixed faith might be able to get inside this experience and to understand the suffering involved when a family member makes a life choice that other members of the family find hard to accept. This is not an easy text to understand or even to accept. We need to struggle with its ambiguity.

Veronica Lawson RSM



Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come to my aid!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

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: 11:00 am Hailey House

Wednesday: 9:30am

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Thursday 1100 am Kelaston

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Is 66:18-21

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

Lk 13:22-30



Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Anniversaries: We remember: John Brusaschi, Lesley Bigarelli, Gwen Souter, Mavis Keegan

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.

Nazareth House Ballarat Auxiliary Fundraiser Nazareth House Auxiliary are hosting an Iconic Movie (Sleepless in Seattle) and High Tea fundraiser on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at 10.00am at the Regent Cinema Ballarat. Tickets are \$25.00. Prepayment and prebooking essential. For more information contact Margaret, ph. 0419003415.

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

Keep this date free—Friday 30 August 6pm Father Robert McCulloch is presenting "PERSECUTED FOR THEIR CHRISTIAN FAITH" at Nazareth House Ballarat Hall in Mill Street at 7 pm. Entry by donation. He will celebrate Holy Mass preceding this at 6pm in St Anne's Chapel. All welcome. Inquiries 0401175045

First Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola - A Retreat in Daily Life "Inner Peace in Friendship with Jesus" is the retreat in daily life over 4 weeks and will be offered to the first 24 parishioners who apply. Beginning on September 2 from 1.00pm – 3.00pm or 7.00pm – 9.00pm and each Monday in September at the same times, with a combined groups gathering on Saturday, October 5 from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. These meetings will be held at St Alipius' Hall, Victoria Street, Ballarat East. For more information regarding content of the retreat and an application form, please collect from the Church entrance and return your application form, plus \$25.00 for the book, to the Cathedral Parish Office (open 10.00am – 5.00pm Monday – Friday), as soon as possible. For more information or to receive an online application form, contact Rachel McLoughlin ibvm_mcloughlin@me.com, ph. 0437 061 337 or Doreen Roache doreenroache@bigpond.com, ph. 0417 117

Plenary Council Final Report of the Listening and Dialogue stage The National Centre for Pastoral Research has just published Listen to what the Spirit is saying, the final report of the Listening and Dialogue stage of the Plenary Council. The report captures the voices of the more than 222,000 people who shared their submissions, questions and stories of faith during the 10-month process. Access the report at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports

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

Leadership for Mission Program (for women aged 25-35) Leadership for Mission is a joint initiative of the Council for Australian Catholic Women, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Catholic Mission and the Australian Catholic University. It is designed by and for women who are inspired by the Gospel vision of justice, freedom and the dignity of the human person. Across a series of educational and formative encounters, this unique program brings the leadership experiences of women within the Church together in the context of an academic and collaborative learning environment. Applications close October 14. More details at <https://www.opw.catholic.org.au/projects/leadership-for-mission>

Baptism Alexa Delaney, daughter of Danielle and Bradley is welcomed into the parish family of OLHC. Blessings to Alexa and family at this joyous time.



Lydiard Park 906 Lydiard St Nth The townhouses to be erected have been released for sale. If Parishioners are interested in purchasing, kindly contact Jim Kierce or David Fara for further information.

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

ACBC National Office for the Participation for Women Audrey Brown, Director of Catholic Education Ballarat, liaises with and participates in gatherings sponsored by the National Office for the Participation of Women. You can connect with the office too by subscribing to their bi-monthly newsletter, *Women Matter* (go to <https://www.opw.catholic.org.au> and scroll to the bottom of the page to subscribe). You can also send Audrey information about or reports on any special events you are holding for women in your parish/community and we can celebrate these in the national newsletter, email director@ceob.edu.au

Christmas Day Lunch Volunteering Since 1991 the OLHC Parish Wendouree has hosted a Christmas Day Lunch. On average around 140 people who otherwise would not be experiencing a traditional Christmas Day meal sit down in a joyous Christmas Spirit to a roast meal and dessert. Assistance is required with planning this event. If you may be in a position to assist in some way, an information evening will be held on Thursday August 29th at 7.00pm in the Wendouree Parish Centre (to the left of the Church Car park). Your volunteering is not contingent upon your being available on Christmas Day. Enquiries Sandra 0438 448 942

Summer in the Forest A highly acclaimed documentary film about the work of Jean Vanier. This showing has been organised by St. Matthew's, Wendouree through FanForce and is a fundraiser for Ballarat Specialist School. Book at fan-force.com/screenings. The screening will only go ahead if at least 62 tickets are sold. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 6PM, SHOWBIZ CINEMAS, BALLARAT see flyer on noticeboard

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)	\$ 465.65			1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 507.15	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 71.00
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 3,641.95	Average for this financial year	\$ 1,741.39	2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1,896.20	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1,543.25

SC 24/25 August	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 24th/25th Aug	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
WELCOMER	Kate Lawry	Geraldine Mugavin	St Columba's Parish Lunch Friday 30th August 12.30pm at the Queens Head Hotel, Humffray Street, Brown Hill. All welcome. Sign up sheets in Parish foyer. Further info contact Judith 5331 1012	LEADER of SONG	Sue Searls	Margaret White	Next Week: Thurs 22nd Mass at Kelaston at 11 am
COMMENTATOR	Jennifer Adams	Colleen Wakefield		MINISTER of the WORD	Ena Bruty	Mario Cordioli	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	John van der Laar	Terry Grano		MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Pearce, Joyce Jackson, Bev Hayward, +2 volunteers	Harry Kennedy, Coralie Kennedy, Maxine Rousch + 2 volunteers	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ann Lacey	Irene Monigatti		SACRISTAN	John & Sue Calistro	Peter & Sapphire Osman	
GIFTS	David & Catherine Fara	Pat & Bernie Kenna		Counters	Trish & Chris Pearce, Pauline Newman		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Kathleen Keogh, Jennifer Adams, Kate Lawry	Alison Thorpe, Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey		Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra	Learmonth	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Harry Chapman		Minister of Word:	Cate Molloy		
SACRISTAN	Maree	Maureen	Minister of Eucharist :	Sharon Moran			
			Church Cleaning:	Marg & Tony McDonald	Bev Hayward		