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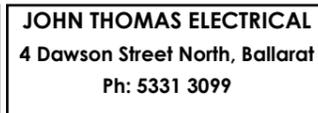
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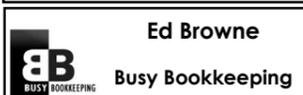
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**Child Safe Church** The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards 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: Newman College Melbourne Scholarships** Applications are welcome from any student who intends to study or is presently studying at the University of Melbourne. A limited number of applications are also accepted from students intending to study at RMIT and Monash Pharmacy. Details regarding scholarships and bursaries on offer are available from the college website <https://newman.unimelb.edu.au/prospective-students/scholarships-and-bursaries/> or contact the Admissions Office, ph. 03 9342 1602 or email [admissions@newman.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:admissions@newman.unimelb.edu.au)

**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. Interested parishioners can find more info on the Youth & Young Adult Ministry page of the diocesan website or contact Patrick, ph. 5337 7160.

**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. Flyer on notice-board—more information to follow



## 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

Wednesday: 9:30am

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Tuesday: 5:00 pm

Thursday: 7:30 pm Miners Rest

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

1 Pt 1:25

Lk 17:5-10



## 29 September 2019 ~ Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

### Focus on the Scriptures

The theme of the 2019-2020 Social Justice Statement is "making it real: genuine human encounter in a digital world." It calls us to ensure that the new digital technology facilitates rather than inhibits the spread of the gospel. The gospel reading invites us to look at the wealth we enjoy, to sharpen our awareness of the needs of those who seek to share the bounty we claim for ourselves, to notice the poor who wait for justice at our gates and seek a part in the life we enjoy. This inclusive embrace is the vision we espouse in this final week of the Season of Creation.

The gospel parable presents a nasty mega rich character using his wealth to support a totally self-centred life-style. He dresses in the finest clothes and feasts extravagantly every day. He has no concern for or interest in the destitute and badly wounded man, Lazarus, who has been cast at his gate and who longs for a share in whatever falls ('scraps' in our translation) from the rich man's table. The reference here is probably to the pita bread commonly used by diners at banquets to wipe their hands. The bread would be discarded after use and snapped up by the dogs. There is a reasonable chance that, even if the servants fail to offer Lazarus the leftovers, the dogs might share with him their daily fare. Begging for food was often the sole means of sustenance for those with disabilities. Lazarus has a serious disability: he is "sorely wounded"; he is "cast" at the gate and has no capacity to prevent the dogs from licking his sores.

Lazarus dies and is transported by angels into the arms of Israel's iconic ancestor, Abraham. In contrast, the rich man dies and suffers the torment of Hades. There is no mention of angels to transport him to the place of his ancestors. The rich man's suffering is exacerbated by the vision of the man whose needs he ignored in life now "a long way off" in Abraham's embrace. Earlier in Luke's story, Jesus has declared the bent-over woman to be a daughter of Abraham. Later, he will call the toll-collector Zacchaeus a "son of Abraham". To be "of Abraham" is to be true to the tradition inaugurated by Israel's ancestor in faith. It is to "hear" Moses and the prophets and their call to justice and right relationship.

Riches belong, not to the few, but to the whole Earth community. If they are all-consuming, they destroy our capacity to see or hear what really matters. All the honour and status they might bring are quite worthless in the final analysis. The rich man came to this realisation too late. The occasional period of digital detox might provide us with time to reflect and to restore the balance required for the health of all on our planet.  
Veronica Lawson rsm



**Responsorial Psalm:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Sr Noreen Torney rsm, Enid Brusaschi, Fiona Morris, Valerie Hocking

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Frank Sculley, Lilia Acero Marfori, Aileen Cheesman

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers, the sick, the homeless and those who are seeking employment, for the Plenary Council process in Australia (Listening and Discernment Phase) and our RCIA candidates

**Parish Offices** will be closed on Wednesday 4th October. Ballarat North will reopen on Thursday 5th October. The Wendouree office will reopen on 9th October. All notices can be emailed or phoned through to Judith at ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5331 1012.

**Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Ordination of Rev Shane Mackinlay as Bishop**

St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Wednesday, November 13th at 7.00pm, followed by supper in the Cathedral Hall. All welcome to attend. (Ordination in Bendigo, October 16th 12 Noon)

**Social Justice Sunday – September 29** We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on September 29, 2019. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled, "Making it real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world." It shares Pope Francis' challenge to us to 'boldly become citizens of the digital world'. It points out that we are called not just to be inhabitants of this world, but active citizens shaping it. For further details and resources go to [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or ph. (02) 8306 3499.

**Season of Creation** Pope Francis at his address on the World Day of prayer for Creation has urged all join the ecumenical "Season of Creation" initiative, which runs from the Sept. 1 day of prayer through the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 4. An ecumenical service for the Season of Creation is being held at OLHC Church, Wendouree on Sunday 29th September at 2pm. Refreshments to follow. All welcome.



**Catholic Earthcare Ballarat Diocese** also extends an invitation to attend a lecture "Fire and aboriginal Agriculture in Victoria" by Fred Cahir, Associate Professor of Aboriginal History, Federation University to be held at the Mercy Centre on Thursday 3rd October from 7-8pm. Entry via Gent Street.

**St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill Centenary Celebrations**

Centenary celebrations will begin with a Parish Mass on November 10 at 10.30am and a school Mass on Monday, November 11 at 9.15am. Tours of the school and St Mary Mackillop College will also be held on both days. For more information to go [www.smswanhill100years.com](http://www.smswanhill100years.com).

**Enrolment Information Evenings for Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2021**

**Loreto College** -Monday, October 21st at 7.00pm. Further information [www.loreto.vic.edu.au](http://www.loreto.vic.edu.au) **Damascus College** -Tuesday, October 22nd at 6.30pm. Register your attendance at <https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us> **St. Patrick's College** -Thursday, October 24th at 7.30pm. Register your attendance at [www.trybooking.com/BDEBO](http://www.trybooking.com/BDEBO)

**Alpha** is an 11 week series of sessions for adults which looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. The sessions involve food, a talk and good conversation. We especially welcome those who are wanting to know more about the Catholic Church but is open to all. Sessions are at the Cathedral Hall on Wednesdays at 6pm starting on October 9th. Contact Jess at [alpha.jess@icloud.com](mailto:alpha.jess@icloud.com) or register through the Cathedral Parish Office on 5331 2933

**John Molony Tribute** October 19th has been set aside as a day of tribute to John Molony, a priest in the Ballarat Diocese in the 1950s and early 1960s. The day will commence at 11.00am and will include a buffet lunch. Bookings essential For more information contact Phillip Moore, ph. 0448 623 142 or [phill.moore1@bigpond.com](mailto:phill.moore1@bigpond.com) or Frank Sheehan, ph. 0429 347 345 or email [franksheehan@bigpond.com](mailto:franksheehan@bigpond.com)

**Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment – September:**

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Missionary and Evangelising? This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared a passion for participating in the missionary nature of the Church and desire stronger support, involvement and formation among all the baptised who make up the Church. Our parishes will be conducting a Listening & Discernment experience soon. Watch this space. Please take time to read the snapshot report before attending. Copies available from the foyer or on [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

**Abide: Six: Thirty** in Learmonth Wednesdays 6.30pm. Afterwards, all are welcome to the Stag Hotel opposite the Church. Matt on: 0417 991 387

**Mass at Pootilla Cemetery** will be celebrated at Pootilla Cemetery (Bungaree) on Sunday 10th November, 9.30am. All welcome. Some chairs provided; BYO if possible. Info: ph. 5334 0450

**Plenary Council & Adult Theological Education** Over the past few weeks parishioners from all over the diocese have participated in the leadership training required to carry us into the next phase of the Plenary Council process. The Plenary Council theme for this month focuses on our Church as "missionary and evangelising". In other words, there is a deep desire among faith-filled people in this country for a better understanding of what it means to live and preach the gospel because that's what being missionary and evangelising means. Those who sent submissions to the Plenary Council asked, among other things, for affordable adult theological education and for good religious education in our schools. For the past four or five years, Fr Barry Ryan and Sr Veronica Lawson have been offering regular adult theology classes. These sessions are very worthwhile and very affordable. If you are interested, send your contact details (mobile and email) to Sr Veronica, email [veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au](mailto:veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au)

**Global Rosary - October 13** The Global Rosary group has sent an invitation for people to pray the rosary particularly on October 13. This is a date associated with devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. People can join in this prayer by praying the rosary personally or by praying the rosary with others

**OLHC Liturgy Rosters** for November to March (2020) will be prepared shortly. Any alterations to the current availability could be communicated with the Parish Office, or any additional volunteers would be welcomed.

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants**

A low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries, employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Study over 5 weeks per subject. Next cycle begins October 27. Register by October 12. More info at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [fran.peterkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:fran.peterkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au) ph 5337 7154.

**Study Tour to the Biblical Lands with CTC** The tour will travel to Jordan, Israel and Palestinian Territories and Greece plus the opportunity to add on 3 days in Crete and Delphi. The tour will depart November 14 returning December 7, 2020. Interested travellers are invited to an information session on Saturday, October 19, 2019, 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 501.60		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 872.40	Average for this financial year	\$ 1,964.34

Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 524.80	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 95.30
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1048	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1599

SC 5/6 October	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 28/29 Sept	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Catherine Fara	Helen Linane	<p><b>Can you help?</b> We are looking for more people to step up into several of our ministries. If you are interested please contact Judith in the Parish Office 5331 1012</p> <p>The areas needing assistance in particular are Reading, Ministers of Eucharist, brass cleaning and overhead. Training will be given for each role.</p>	<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Corrie Harbour	Sue Searls	<p><b>Help required:</b> Due to retirements, OLHC urgently need additional assistance for Sacristan Duty and to help with counting on Sundays. Thank you all who support the parish in many different ways Please contact Maree or Fr Marcello. 5330 2302.</p> <p>Miners' Rest Mass Thursday 3rd October will be held at the home of Helen and Colin Fealy at 7.30pm</p>
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Shirley Edgar	Bruce Chapman		<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Laureen Rhodes	Mario Cordioli	
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Jim Kierce	Carmel McCormick		<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Pat Dillon, Mavis McNulty, + 3 volunteers	Judith Potter, Helen Rieniets, Peter Briody + 2 volunteers	
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Frank Sheehan	Fiona Newton		<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Pauline Howard	Joyce Jackson	
<b>GIFTS</b>	Tom & Greta Kelly	Pat & Bernie Kenna		<b>Counters</b>	Kath Leonard & Kaye Stringer		
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Trish Simmons, Torie Waight, Maureen Eddy	Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey, Judith O'Sullivan		<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Lexton</b> —29th	<b>Waubra</b> —6th	
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Volunteer please	Sharon	<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Sharon Moran			
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Sullivan sisters	Josie	<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Margaret McDonald			
			<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Anne Dalton			