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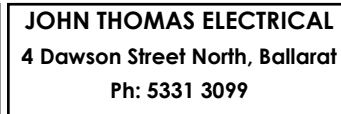
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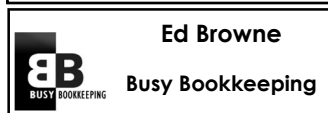
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Child Safe Church The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as 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: Catholic Theological College Open Day Wednesday 6 November, 2019 · Study options, Library and Building tour, Refreshments · Two programs: 4.30pm–6.30pm or 6.00pm–8.00pm · Bookings essential RSVP to Jenny Delahunt by Friday 1 November Phone: 9412 3314 Email: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne VIC 3002

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.

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.

Loreto College Past Pupils are invited Wednesday 6 November, 2019 High Tea: 2:00pm – 3:45pm, Past Pupils AGM: 3:35pm – 4:45pm, Mass of Remembrance: 5:00pm – 6:00pm. High Tea Tickets \$15 Please RSVP Friday 25 October for catering Book tickets here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BEGUB> or contact Jayde 53296137



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

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
Thursday: 10:00 am
Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:
2 Kgs 5:14-17
Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2
2 Tm 2:8-13
Lk 17:11-19



6 October 2019 ~ Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Focus on the Scriptures

The strength to remain faithful in the face of adversity, the capacity to forgive, and the courage to do what we ought to do without seeking recognition or reward are perennial challenges for most people. According to the Lukan Jesus, it takes faith to meet such challenges. The devastating fires in the Amazon forests and in north-eastern Australia are testing the faith of those who have devoted much of their energy, even their whole lives, to speaking truth to power about the need for action to offset the effects of global warming. And yet these people remain faithful, finding the strength to forgive and the courage to do what must be done for the sake of our common home.

Today's gospel reading brings to closure the central section of the long journey narrative that recounts the teaching of the Lukan Jesus on his way from Samaria to the final events of his life in Jerusalem. The "apostles" ask Jesus to increase their faith. Their request is in itself an act of faith. He has been telling them to be on their guard. He has been emphasising the importance of endless and unconditional forgiveness. These disciples are well aware that to keep on forgiving those who offend repeatedly is not easy. It is in this context that they ask him to increase the faith. Jesus responds by insisting that even the smallest amount of faith can work wonders. His metaphorical language stretches the imagination. Even transplanting a mulberry tree from land to sea becomes possible through the power of a faith-infused word! They have no answer to this.

Luke seems to be invoking "faith" in much the same way as does Habakkuk in today's first reading which closes with a comparison between the proud whose "spirit is not right" and the just who "live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). The Hebrew word for faith in this passage is probably better translated as "fidelity" or "faithfulness". For the Lukan Jesus, a little fidelity or faithfulness goes a long way. Among other things, it enables us to keep on forgiving even wilful ignorance and to keep on acting for justice.

Finally, Jesus puts a number of questions to his disciples, questions that align their status with that of slaves in the service of a master. His questions provide a stark contrast with an example he has offered earlier in the gospel where the slave master serves the faithful slaves (12:37). These questions are consistent, however, with his insistence that true disciples do not seek the reward of honour or recompense for their service. Jesus' followers must admit that their service is "unprofitable" in that it is no more than is required of them. Power, status, wealth acquired at the expense of others, refusal to forgive, all run counter to the path of gospel fidelity. To live by faith in our times is to be humble, forgiving, just and unremittingly attentive to the cry of the earth.

Luke 17:5-10 The apostles said [to Jesus], "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"
Veronica Lawson



Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. Alleluia

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Mary Quarrell

Anniversaries: We remember: Margaret Butler, Kevin Dower, Tim McKeegan, Carmel Mitchell

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 candidate

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)

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.

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 8.30am – 4.30pm. Both events will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, Ballarat. Information available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au Those attending the diocesan conference are also welcome and encouraged to attend the State Conference.



Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment – October:

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Humble, Healing and Merciful? 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.

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 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 or Frank Sheehan, ph. 0429 347 345 or email franksheehan@bigpond.com

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

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.

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

Sew and So Thursday 10th October 2019. This month we are not meeting in the Church Foyer. A number of our regular attendees are taking the advantage of going to the Seniors Jade Hurley Concert at the Regent Theatre. Those who have their tickets know that we are meeting at 1.30 to try to sit together but there are no allocated seats so feel free to go in and find your own seat and enjoy the concert.. Enquiries Margaret 53314032.

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

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 or fran.peterkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au ph 5337 7154.

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

Holy Hour & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Friday 11th October from 6.00pm till 7.00pm in the church. All most welcome

Church Lawn Mowing roster a new roster is being prepared in the coming week so if you would like to volunteer on this roster please contact Helen on 0409501926. There are a number of volunteers already on the roster so you would only have to mow about 3 times in the year.



Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 469.60		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1,796.00	Average for this financial year	\$ 1,787.61

Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 537.10	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 64.00
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 2,127.00	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1,491.89

SC 12/13 October	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 12/13 October	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
WELCOMER	Ruth Marquand	Geraldine Mugavin	<p>Can you help? 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>Rosters—I will be preparing the new roster in the next few weeks. This will go through to the end of March. Please advise any changes asap. A separate roster for the Christmas Masses will be available for completion in November. Many thanks Judith</p>	LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Margaret White	<p>Help required: 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>
COMMENTATOR	John van der Laar	Pat Kenna		MINISTER of the WORD	John Schonfelder	Peter Dwyer	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tony Beggs	Min Myers		MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John Bourke, Val Bourke, Pauline Newman + 2 volunteers	Marie McMillan, Maxine Rousch, Sue Searls + 2 volunteers	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Eileen van der Laar	Jo-Anne van der Voort		SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman	Peter & Sapphire Osman	
GIFTS	Glenane Family	Sharon de Beer		Counters	Kath Leonard & Kaye Stringer		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Kathleen Keogh, Jennifer Adams, Kate Lawry	Mary Kennedy, Irene Monigatti, Kathy Bennetts		Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra	Learmonth	
OVERHEADS	Norah and Stephen	Judith	Minister of Word:	Sharon Moran	Phyllis Bourke		
SACRISTAN	Norah	Anne	Minister of Eucharist :	Margaret McDonald	Clare Mullane		
			Church Cleaning:	Anne Dalton	Bev Hayward		