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 <p><b>Ed Browne Busy Bookkeeping</b></p> <p>Phone 5364 2922</p> <p>ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au</p>	 <p><b>N.J. &amp; A.M. HAINTZ Building Contractors</b></p> <p>Phone: (03) 5332 3069</p> <p>Mobile: 0418 504 254</p>	 <p><b>CAFÉ 14</b></p> <p>Tel: 03-53328138 No. 14 Doveton Street North Ballarat Central (near RACV)</p> <p>Breakfast, lunch, coffee and catering</p> <p>Open from 7.30 am to 5 pm weekdays 9 am to 2 pm on Saturdays (closed on 1st Saturday)</p> <p>find us at facebook (Cafe 14 Ballarat) email: olivia_fs@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>YOUR ADVERTISEMENT COULD BE HERE</b></p>
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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:

**Ireland Tour—Eat Pray Love** Joyce Clery and Emma Coburn (Ararat parishioners) are co-hosting a tour of Ireland from 1-13 September 2020. For more information go to [www.eatpraylovetravel.com.au](http://www.eatpraylovetravel.com.au)

**St Joseph's Church Nullawil Final Mass** All are welcome to attend the Final Mass at St Joseph's Church Nullawil on Sunday, April 4, 2020 at 12.30pm. A light luncheon will follow. For further information please contact Kaylene James, ph. 0428 935270.

**Mercy Pilgrimage with Oberammergau** Explore the iconic pilgrimage sites of Eastern Europe in this 16-day pilgrimage led by Fr. Patrick Jackson departing on 08th August 2020. This pilgrimage features Warsaw, Krakow, Prague, Munich, and Oberammergau. Witness the famous Passion Play 2020 which takes place once-a-decade for an all-inclusive price of \$7900 + Tips. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more. For inquiries & bookings email: [info@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:info@magiholidays.com.au) or call 03 8839 6615. See flyer on noticeboard



## Parishes of St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians

Communities of Ballarat North, Lexton, Miners Rest, Waubra, Wendouree



<p>306 Gregory St, Ballarat North <b>Phone:</b> 5331 1012</p> <p><b>Email:</b> ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au</p> <p><b>Parish Web:</b> ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)</p> <p><b>School Web:</b> www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au</p> <p><b>Presbytery:</b> Phone 5332 4324</p>	<p>480a Gillies Street, P O Box 192 Wendouree <b>Phone:</b> 5339 2302</p> <p><b>Email:</b> wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au</p> <p><b>Parish Web:</b> ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)</p> <p><b>School Web:</b> www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au</p> <p><b>School Phone:</b> 5339 4726</p>
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**Parish Priest:** Fr Marcello Colasante

**Visiting Priests:** Fr Gary Jones

#### 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 Waubra

1st & 3rd Sunday Lexton 5th Sunday

10:00 am OLHC

Thursday: 7.30 pm Miners Rest

Friday: 10.00 am

#### Readings for next weekend:

Is 58:7-10

Ps 111: 4-9 r v4

1 Cor 2: 1-5

Mt 5:13-16



## 2 February 2020 ~ The Presentation of the Lord (A)

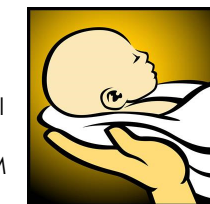
### Focus on the Scriptures

This year the Feast of the Presentation falls on a Sunday and takes precedence over the celebration of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. We might ask why this feast is of such importance in the liturgical calendar. Between the story of Jesus' birth and the beginning of his ministry, Luke inserts three stories. The first tells of Jesus' circumcision on the eighth day after his birth. The third story has Jesus teaching in the Jerusalem Temple at twelve years of age. He has come with his parents on pilgrimage to Jerusalem to celebrate the great feast of Passover. Luke notes that the family makes this pilgrimage from Nazareth in Galilee to Jerusalem every year. The second story, today's reading, has Mary and Joseph presenting their child in the Temple forty days after his birth, in observance of the Law of Moses (as prescribed in Leviticus 12:2-8). This Sunday marks the fortieth day since the celebration of Jesus' birth: it is not a moveable feast. All three stories locate Jesus and his parents firmly within the tradition as law-observant, faithful Jews.

Luke introduces into today's story two faith-filled wisdom figures, first a man, Simeon, and then a woman prophet, Anna. Both witness to the identity and future ministry of the child presented this day in the Temple. Their witness provides a microcosm of the gospel story. Simeon, guided by the Holy Spirit, comes into the Temple, takes the child in his arms and utters some of the most memorable words in the Christian scriptures. The child is to be God's saving presence in the world, a light to give revelation to the nations and glory to Israel. There are echoes in this proclamation of Isaiah 49:6 which speaks of God's servant bringing light to the nations and salvation to the ends of the earth. There is also an echo of Isaiah 46:13 where God is said to bring salvation to Jerusalem and glory to Israel. Simeon declares that this child is destined for the rising and the falling of many, that he will experience opposition and that his mother too will know deep sorrow.

Anna, like Simeon, raises her voice in the courts of the Jerusalem Temple, the heart of Israel's religious, political and economic power. While Simeon is given direct prophetic speech, Anna's prophesying is recounted indirectly. While Elizabeth and Mary proclaim prophetic words, Anna is the only woman in Luke's gospel to be named as "prophet". This woman prophet proclaims the good news of salvation in Jesus. The verbal form used indicates that Anna "keeps on speaking" about the child to "all who await the redemption of Jerusalem." The invitation here might be for us to emulate Anna's courage and persistence as we enter the halls of power and seek to move the hearts of religious and political leaders to compassion and justice for all those displaced within the Earth community.

Veronica Lawson RSM



**Responsorial Psalm:** Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Stuart Robertson

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Bill & Mary Martin, Pauline Buscovey Segun, Michael Fitzpatrick

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers especially 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

**Commissioning Mass for St Columba's School Staff** there will be a commissioning of the staff from the school during the 10am Mass on Sunday 9th February. We will especially welcome the new co-principals Bambi Afford and Shaun Mohr. There will be a cuppa after Mass and a time to meet & greet with the staff. Please bring a plate for morning tea. Thank you

**Invitation to join 2020 Roundtable Conversations on Ecological Theology** with Sr. Veronica Lawson and Fr Barry Ryan at Mercy Gathering Room, 16 Gent Street, Ballarat East (side entrance). Wednesday Evening Series: 7-9pm, February 26, March 25, April 22, May 20, June 17, July 15; Thursday Afternoon Series: 1-3pm, February 27, March 26, April 23, May 21, June 18, July 16. Registration: email: veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au (kindly include contact details). Donation (to cover expenses and to make a contribution to ecological justice): \$5 per session.

**Plenary Council Delegates from the Diocese of Ballarat** Bishop Paul is inviting us to nominate delegates from our diocese for the sessions of the Australian Plenary Council to be held in 2020 and 2021. Copies of Bishop Paul's letter are available through parishes, through the diocesan website at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) and are also attached. Nominations need to reach Bishop Paul by Friday, February 7, 2020.

**Senior Reconciliation @ St Columba's** for children in Grade 6 or over. There will be an information night for parents on Wednesday 19th February at 7pm in the St Columba's School Hall. Contact Judith 5331 1012 for more information

**Catholic Social Services 2020 Conference – Registration** Registrations are open for the CSSV Conference, "Serving Communities with Courage and Compassion" to be held from February 26-28, 2020 in Melbourne. For more information and to register go to <https://www.css.org.au/Serving-Communities>

**OLHC Minister's Rosters** are now being prepared for the next 4 months. New Ministers (readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Musicians are urgently needed—please consider if you are able to assist) please contact the parish office Ph 5339 2302 or email : wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**National Biennial Liturgy Conference** Save the date for the National Biennial Liturgy Conference, March 12-14, 2020 in Parramatta, "Liturgy: Forming a Prayerful and Eucharistic Church." This conference is organised by the National Liturgical Council and National Liturgical Office of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and aims to provide those working in liturgical ministry in parishes, schools and other communities with enriching opportunities for liturgical education, prayerful celebration, professional networking and fellowship. Keynote presenter is sacramental theologian Fr Paul Turner STD from the USA. Visit our website for more info [[bit.ly/nlc2020event](http://bit.ly/nlc2020event)]

**Mercy Works** recruits volunteers to support students from a refugee/asylum seeker background in Ballarat Schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The project aims to provide mentoring for young people to optimize their literacy development, academic and social learning. Often this leads to a long term mentoring relationship. Mercy Connect volunteers work with students during school hours and the volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but volunteers receive on-going training and support. Obtaining a current Working with Children Check is part of the application process. More information contact Donna Stewart, ph. 0417 624 330 or email [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com).

**CWL Cathedral Branch** will meet for February at Nazareth House Parlour on TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4TH AT 1.30PM. This will be a Social Afternoon and all ladies of the Parishes are invited to come along. Anna Krohn will give an update of Branch events for the year along and the installation of the Catholic Womens League of Australia at the inaugural Mass at St Patricks Cathedral, Melbourne on February 9th. Inquiries 0401 175045

**OLHC Eucharistic Ministers** meeting on Tuesday 25th February at 7:00 pm in the church.

**St John's Primary School Dennington – Centenary Celebrations** for St John's Primary School Dennington will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2020 beginning with Mass at 10.00am and celebrations to follow. If you have any memorabilia or stories, please contact Sharon Easley by email [100years@sjdennington.catholic.edu.au](mailto:100years@sjdennington.catholic.edu.au) or text on 0423 361 914

**The Community of St Joseph's Learmonth** expresses its sincere gratitude to the communities of St John the Baptist Waubra and St Joseph's Lexton for their support and understanding in deciding to cease gathering for worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. The support and contributions of both communities have been invaluable in ensuring that we could accommodate the various ministries required for the celebration of Mass. The final Mass on Sunday 12th January was a wonderful way to conclude worshipping on a semi regular basis at Learmonth with the BBQ lunch catered for by the Mt Bolton Lions Club. A big thank you to you all as we continue worshipping our God together at Waubra.

**World Interfaith Harmony Week in Ballarat** All are invited to events for World Interfaith Harmony Week in Ballarat (flyer on noticeboard): · The Civic Flag Raising on Tuesday, February 4 at 11.00am. Meet at Queen Victoria Square opposite the Town Hall. · Walk and Talk in the Wetlands, at which Hedley Thomson, Community Member who assisted in the City Council planning of the wetlands at Lake Wendouree and Deanne Gilson, Indigenous local artist who created the Indigenous Sculpture nearby, will both be speaking on Saturday, February 8 at 10.00am. Meet at the Indigenous Sculpture Park, Wendouree Parade.

**Bushfire Appeal** thank you to those who gave so generously to the leaving collection last weekend to the appeal organised by Vinnies for distribution to the conferences in the effected areas. **St Columba's \$1,046.20 - Our Lady Help of Christians \$ 1,441.65**

**Sew and So** Thursday 13th February 2020, at 1.30pm in the St Columba's Church Foyer. It will be good to have a catch up after the Christmas break. Enquiries to Margaret 5331 4032.

**Cosy Koala Fundraiser** hosted by the YESS Youth Ballarat. BBQ, bake sale and live music on Sunday 2nd February 11.30am-5pm. Proceeds to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal. Donated goods can be dropped off on the day. See flyer in church.

**Men Alive** see notice board for more information

Collections at St Columba's	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 662.15	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1,217.40	Average for this financial year \$ 1742.98

Collections at OLHC	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 475.95	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 92.00
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 778.85	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1,498.75

SC 8/9 Feb	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's coming up:	OLHC 8/9 Feb	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Greta Kelly	Helen Linane	<b>Upcoming:</b> <b>13th February</b> 12 noon Welcome Mass for St Columba's school. All welcome	<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Laureen Rhodes	Sue Searls	<b>Upcoming:</b> <b>6th Feb</b> Miners Rest community Mass—7:30 pm <u>Venue:</u> Bill Loader's home.
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Ann Lacey	Colleen Wakefield		<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Trish Pora	Peter Dwyer	
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Vicki Moroney	Audrey Brown	<b>26th February</b> 12 noon Ash Wednesday Mass	<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Pauline Newman, Mavis McNulty, Joyce Jackson + 2 volunteers	Coralie Kennedy, Harry Kennedy, Tony Bruty + 2 volunteers	<b>_14th February</b> 10am Welcome Mass for OLHC School. All welcome
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	John van de Laar	Terry Ranger		<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Tony & Pauline Newman	Helen Rieniets	
<b>GIFTS</b>	David & Catherine Farra	Pat & Bernie Kenna		<b>Counters</b>	Trish Pora, Catherine Clifford, Brian Ratcliffe		<b>26th February</b> 9.15am Ash Wednesday Mass
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Annette Madigan, Peter Marquand, Ruth Marquand	Georgina Hinchey, Bruce Chapman, Alison Thorpe		<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Waubra</b> 2nd Feb		
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Norah & Stephen	Judith		<b>Minister of Word:</b>	James Molloy		
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Norah	Anne		<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Sharon Gallagher		
				<b>Church Cleaning:</b>			