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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

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 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



Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012

Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ballararnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au

School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

School Phone: 5332 4894

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

P O Box 192, Wendouree

School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw

School Phone: 5339 4726

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Visiting Priest: 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

Thursday: 12 noon

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Waubra

(1st & 3rd Sunday, Lexton 5th Sunday)

10:00 am OLHC

Tuesday: 5:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Sir 15:15-20

Ps 118:1-2,4-5, 17-18, 33-34 R. v 1

1 Cor 2: 6-10

Matt 5: 17-37



9th February 2020 ~ 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Focus on the Scriptures

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community.

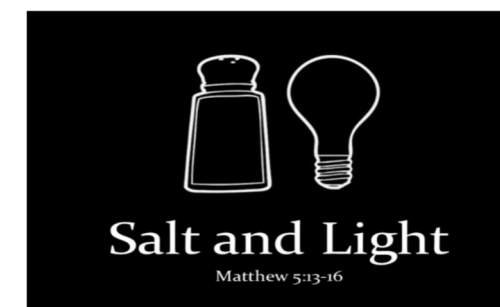
Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the cosmos? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

© Michael Tate



Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the Light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Susan Parkes, Allan Noone

Anniversaries: We remember: Valerie Lavery, Clare Humphrey, Annie Morgan, Henry Deady, Marianne Kenna, Mary McFarlane, Margaret Deady,

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 today during the 10am Mass on Sunday 9th February. We especially welcome the new co-principals Bambi Afford and Shaun Mohr. Please stay for a cuppa after Mass and meet & greet the staff.

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.

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

Welcome Mass for St Columba's school Thursday 13th Feb at 12 noon. All welcome

Welcome Liturgy for OLHC school Friday 14th February at 2:45 pm. All welcome

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 53314032.



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]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 & 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.



MercyWorks

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 or text on 0423 361 914

Plenary Council Listening and Discernment next session will be held on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm in the St Columba's Church foyer. The topic for reflection is *How is God calling us to be a Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic.* Please contact Judith in the office to register your attendance. All most welcome.

Men Alive see notice board for more information

Adoration and Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament Friday 14th February at 6pm–7pm in St Columba's Church. All most welcome.

Jubilees congratulations to 5 Sisters of Mercy who very recently celebrated 60 years of religious profession - Sisters Carmel Sefford, Helen Forbes, Trish Fitzsimmons, Margaret Kelly and Mary Nuttall. During those 60 years some of their ministries have been in this parish, the former Sacred Heart College, ACU and the Religious Education Centre...and in another variety of ways their ministries continue in other ways in a variety of places!

An invitation to Lenten prayer You are invited to join for prayer and exploration of the Word on Mondays during Lent. We will gather from 7.00pm until 8.00pm in the parish meeting room on Monday 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 March. Come to all or to those you can manage. Resources provided.

Damascus College Ballarat 2020 class reunion dates Damascus College Alumni (including past students or staff from Sacred Heart College, St Paul's College and St Martin's in the Pines) - it's time to celebrate your 2020 Class reunion: 50 Year - Class of 1970 on Sunday, April 19; 40 Year - Class of 1980 on Saturday, April 18; 30 Year - Class of 1990 on Saturday, March 21; 20 Year - Class of 2000 on Sunday, May 3; 10 Year - Class of 2010 on Friday, March 20. For details regarding your Class Reunion please contact the Damascus Alumni Officer at k.hegert@damascus.vic.edu.au (03) 5337 2352 or visit the Damascus College Website.

OLHC needs volunteers to assist & support the Sacristans Ministry. The Sacristan Team have offered to explain the role/ duties to couples or individuals showing an expression of interest in this Ministry. The Sacristans have prepared an informative folder outlining all aspects of the role. Please contact Sue or John Calistro. Home: 53395329 or email suejohncal@gmail.com

Welcome to all Newcomers at OLHC: On Sunday 1st March after 10am Mass you are invited to stay for the Timeout Family Group's Hospitality Hour. Especially we invite our Multicultural friends and new families joining our Masses. Please bring and share your special traditional finger food. (Small Plate). We all would love to sample new tastes & diverse offerings. This will be happening in the Church Foyer at 11am. Any queries contact Sue Calistro Ph: :0409426928 or Connie Greenhalgh Mob: 0449 053 647

Collections at St Columba's	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 779.75		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish) \$ 1,441.00	Average for this financial year	\$ 1742.98

Collections at OLHC	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) \$ 677.15	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 110.50
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish) \$ 1,766.00	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1,498.75

SC 15th/16th Feb	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's coming up:	OLHC 15th/16th Feb	Sat 6:00 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
WELCOMER	Mary & Margaret Sullivan	Geraldine Mugavin	Upcoming: 26th February 12 noon Ash Wednesday Mass 27th February 2pm Men's group	LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Vin Dillon	14th February 2:45 pm Welcome Liturgy for OLHC School. All welcome
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Irene Monigatti		MINISTER of the WORD	Laureen Rhodes	Bill Jones	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Jennifer Adams	Anne Rossiter		MINISTERS of EUCHARIST	Bev Hayward, Pat Dillon, Trish Pearce + 2 volunteers	Peter Briody, Helen Rieniets, Maxine Rousch + 2 volunteers	Upcoming: 19th February Liturgy Meeting at 10:00 am in the Parish Centre
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ann Lacey	Bruce Chapman		SACRISTAN		Geoff & Marg McLean	
GIFTS	Margaret Staley	Maureen & Hans		COUNTERS	Trish Pora, Catherine Clifford, Brian Ratcliffe		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Trish Simmons, Maureen Eddy, Kathleen Keogh	Shane Bruty, Anthea Hinchey, Kim Butler		Rural Communities 8:30 am	Waubra 16th February		26th February 9.15am Ash Wednesday Mass
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please		Minister of Word:	Kate Molloy		
SACRISTAN	Trish	Carmel	Minister of Eucharist :	Kerryn Gallagher			
				Church Cleaning:	Phyllis & Pat Bourke		