

BALLARAT NEWS

COMBINED PARISHES BAPTISM PREPARATION: Clergy, staff & Baptism coordinators from the Parishes St Columba's Ballarat North, Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree, St Alipius Ballarat East, St Patrick's Cathedral, St Aloysius Redan and St James' Sebastopol have been meeting to discuss centralisation of the Baptism preparation process. Commencing on the 3rd August at 10.00 am & 7.00 pm and monthly thereafter on the first Thursday of each month, all families wishing to have their children (under 7) baptized will be invited to attend these preparation sessions. All initial enquiries will still need to be directed to your own Parish.

Notice Board flyers: Nazareth House Axillary Coffee Party, Liturgy Formation for Ballarat area—July 9th. Lay Formation Symposium. Family Matters Brochures (from Centacare)

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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 7131
Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Web: ballarat.catholic.org.au (Select parish)
School Web: www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au

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

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Visiting Priest: Fr Barry Ryan

Staff at St Columba's

Pastoral Associate: Judith O'Sullivan
 Parish Secretary: Ruth Marquand
 Wed 9- 1.30pm, Thurs & Fri 9-2.30pm

Staff at Wendouree

Parish Co-ordinator: Maree Roache
 Wed-Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

Exodus Community: 5338 2118

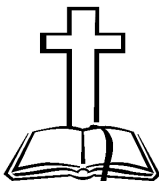
Mass times: St Columba's

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
 Sunday: 10:00 am
 Wednesday: 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
 Sunday: 8:30 am Rural
 10:00 am OLHC
 Tuesday: 5:00 pm
 Thursday: 10:00 am
 Friday: 10.00 am

Readings for next weekend:

 Is %:10—11
 Ps 64:10-14, Lk 8:8
 Rom 8: 18—23
 Mt 13: 1—23

9th July, 2017. 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Reflection on the Gospel-14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 11:25-30) -Veronica Lawson RSM

The final verses of today's gospel are among the best known and best loved in all of the gospel tradition. "Come to me...and I will give you rest" is a lovely invitation. It is issued to those who are weary and burdened, and that includes most of us at some or another. The "rest" that Jesus offers is God's rest. It is not just relief from drudgery and hard work. In the biblical tradition, rest is *shabbat*. It is freedom from any sort of enslavement, freedom to remember God's goodness in creation. Rest time or *shabbat* is about making a space to contemplate the wonder of the galaxies, the wonder of life in all its forms and all its potentialities. God's rest restores life to our wearied spirits. It frees us to open ourselves to ever new possibilities and to be there for others. For me, spending a little time each day with a poem or a beautiful painting, even a postcard, has become an experience of entering into God's rest.

"Take my yoke upon you..." is Jesus' further invitation. Later in this gospel, the same verb will be used when Jesus tells his disciples, "if any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." The "yoke" of Jesus, the cross that he will take up, and the cross that his disciples are invited to bear are all of a piece. A yoke is a cross-beam or cross-bar. Jesus will carry his cross-beam to execution. Disciples, in their turn, will carry their cross-beams, figuratively if not literally. They will not be weighed down or burdened by this prospect for the "yoke" of which Jesus speaks is easy and the burden is light. How can this be? The answer lies in the final invitation: "Learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart..." In Matthew's beatitudes, the gentle are those who inherit the earth. There is nothing weak about the gentle ("meek" is not a helpful translation). The non-violent methods of the gentle are infinitely more effective in restoring creation than the violence of so many who present themselves as "wise and intelligent". God's "rest" is the source of their power-and of ours.

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise your name forever, my King and my God

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom. Alleluia!

Anniversaries: Alice O'Donnell, Jim Gercovich, Molly Reilly, Reese Morgan, Eileen Lynch, Kevin Deady, Brian Kenna

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School), Lesley Bigarelli

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Baptisms: This weekend we welcome Max and Imogen, son and daughter of Emily and Simon Booker. May they grow in the love and support of their family and our parish. We also welcome Leni Svanosio through the rite of reception in readiness for full membership into the life of the Church.

Save the Date Our next Parish lunch will be held on Thursday 27th July. Mark your diaries now. Further details to follow.

Children's Newsletter We now have a separate newsletter for our children. There is some activities and colouring for them and some questions for parents to help with discussion. We are hoping to make this a regular feature so your feedback would be most welcome

Opening of the New Parish Office We are pleased to report that the relocation of the office from O.L.H.C Wendouree to 306 Gregory Street occurred during the week and is functioning. If you happen to be visiting the church you are most welcome to visit and have a look. On Sunday 23rd July after 10.00 am Mass there will be a blessing and a opportunity to walk through.

Thanksgiving Envelopes Thank you to all those who assisted with the distribution of the weekly envelope sets last weekend.

First Eucharist/First Reconciliation Preparation Dates are as follows: Wednesday 19th July at 6:00pm in the Church—preparation session followed by the Celebration of the Rite of Reconciliation (parents and children who have not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation) please advise if you will be attending. The parents only on Wednesday 2nd August Info session for First Eucharist will be held at 7:00pm in the Church. Sacrament of First Eucharist will be held on either Saturday 2nd September during the 6:00pm Mass or Sunday 10th September during the 10am Mass. To receive an information pack please contact Judith on 5331 7131.

National Day of Action: 'Close the Camps Bring them here' Please join in an hour of vigil to remember the 4th anniversary of the decision that people arriving by boat to seek asylum in Australia would be detained on Manus Island and Naru and never allowed to settle here. Both centres have been condemned by UNHCR, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, the Australian Human Rights Commission, Amnesty International and many other human rights organisations. **When:** Wednesday 19th July, **Where:** Queen Victoria Square (opposite Ballarat Town hall), **Time:** 5.00—6.00 pm **BYO: A Candle.** *Cath McDonald, Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children Ballarat.*

Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 731.25	Average for this financial year
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2,872.66	Week

THIS WEEKEND	SATURDAY 8th July	SUNDAY 9th July	What's on this week: Wednesday 12 July 9.30 am Mass in the Foyer. Thursday 13th July 1.30 pm Sew and So in the Foyer. Come along for a chat and a cuppa. At 2.00 pm Guest Speaker, Andrea will talk about Horizon House, which is an arm of St John of God Hospital Social Outreach. Enquiries Margaret Ranger 5331 4032 Friday 14th July 7.00—8.00 pm Holy Hour and Adoration. All welcome
WELCOMER	Jan Mullaly	Gerard Macklin	
COMMENTATOR	Volunteer	Terry Grano	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Eileen Van de Laar	Brian Kennedy	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	John Van de Laar	Carmel King	
GIFTS	David & Catherine Fara	Judith O'Sullivan & Colleen Wakefield	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Peter & Ruth Marquand, Annette Madigan	Derek Streulens, Alison Thorpe, Kim Taylor	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney		

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

Exodus Community: There is a basket for donations of canned, dried or packaged food stuffs to be collected by the members of the Exodus community. This basket is available in the church foyer. Donations will be gratefully accepted. Toiletries would be greatly appreciated.



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Raffle Tickets are available for the support of our Seminary. First prize: Travel Voucher to the value of \$15,000. Cost per ticket: \$10. Please contact Joyce Jackson.

First Communion for parishioners of OLHC parishes will commence with a parent information evening on Wednesday, August 16th at 7:00 pm in the parish Meeting Room. OLHC First Communion dates are set for Saturday, September 17th at 6:00 pm and Sunday September 23rd at 10:00 am. ,



Nazareth House Coffee Party on Friday 28th July commencing at 1:30 pm. Devonshire Tea, Entrance Prizes, Fancy Good & Produce Stall, Spinning Wheel.

Funeral Ministry Team meeting on Wednesday 19th July at 10:30 am.

Updated **Church Cleaning Rosters** are available in the sacristy. Please collect for your information.

Parish Office: Maree will be on annual Holidays for the next 3 weeks. Information can be sent via email, or phone messages to the parish will be collected regularly. In emergency, **please contact Fr Marcello on 5332 4324.**

Collections:	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 623.10	Annual collection for the Pope:\$ 255.70
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 1,408.00	
	Direct Debit	\$ 1,075.00
	Loose Money	\$ 125.50

NEXT WEEKEND	6pm	10:00 am	What's on this week: Next Week:
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Margaret White	
MINISTER of the WORD	Kath Connors	Deanna Osman	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Bev Hayward, Des Lloyd, Mavis McNulty, Maxine Rousch + 1 volunteer	Tony Bruty, Pauline Howard, Sue Searls + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	John & Sue Calistro	Joyce Jackson	
COUNTERS		Des Lloyd, John Holdsworth	
CHURCH CLEANING	Robert Rhodes, Helen Rieniets		
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Learmonth	Next Weekend— Waubra	
Minister of Word:	Bev Hayward	Kerryn Gallagher	
Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward	Margaret McDonald	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Sharon & Marty Moran	