



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 8.30– 12.30, 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: 10:00 am

Tuesday: 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 **Feast Day**

Thursday: 12:30 pm pm

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for Next weekend:

Act 1: 1-11

Eph 1: 17-23

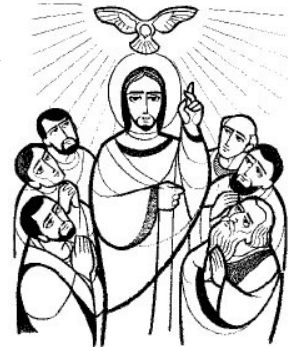
Mth 28: 16-20



21st May 2017, 6th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Focus on the Scripture

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: 'paraclete'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you another Paraclete to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a Paraclete, and he would send another.



What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, para-lllel. They run alongside each other. A paraclete is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor *par excellence*.

Our Lord promises another Paraclete dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This Paraclete particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two Paracletes, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

© Fr Michael Tate

Deaths:

Anniversaries: Margaret Stone, Anton Kors,

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

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Saturday 20th May—Tonight we welcome the Grade 3's from St Columba's School who are joining us for the celebration of Mass.

Men's Group— Next gathering will be on Thursday 1st June at midday (note change of date) Soup and roll lunch. Venue to be advised. Please contact the office for further details or if you require transport.



Commentators-please extinguish lectern candles after reading the Prayer of the Faithful. Thank you

Mass Count—Please be advised that the annual Mass Count will be conducted over the weekends in May. Collectors can you please count the number of people in the congregation at each Mass.



Confirmation—The celebration of the Sacrament will be on Sunday 28th May and Sunday 11th June during the 10am Mass. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

Bereavement meeting will be held in the Church foyer at 4.00pm 8th June, all welcome.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend -Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage! Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit. There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 2017 Melbourne weekend dates : 28-30 July, 17-19 November, 2017. Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/ Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 97330997 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Readings—the link below provides the appropriate readings that are used for the weekend mass. We are in Year A. Scroll down to find the appropriate reading. Once we move into our new premises we will be able to scan and email. www.catholic.sk/download.php?fname=SundayReadings.pdf

Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 840.25	
Easter Offerings (to date)	\$ 980.00	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1149.50	Average for this financial year \$ 2047.40
Week 46		

THIS WEEKEND	SATURDAY 20 MAY	SUNDAY 21 MAY	What's on this week:
WELCOMER	St Columba's students	Adele Carter	<p>Wednesday 24th 9:30am Mass in Foyer</p> <p>Thursday 25th 7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council in School Board room</p> <p>Upcoming:</p> <p>28th May: Confirmation Mass 10am</p> <p>1st June: Men's group 12 noon</p> <p>8th June: Bereavement 4pm</p> <p>9th June: St Columba's Feast Day Mass @ 11am with the School</p> <p>11th June: Confirmation Mass 10am</p>
COMMENTATOR	Ruth Marquand	Terry Grano	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Carmel McCormick	Kierce O'Loughlin	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Shirley Edgar	Anne Rossiter	
GIFTS	St Columba's students	Lorna Batty & Carmel King	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jennifer Adams, Kate Lawry, Peter Marquand	Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan Bourke	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

Planned Giving & Parish Data Base: The parish needs a responsible parishioner to take over the management of Planned Giving and the Database. Adequate training will be provided. If you are computer literate and interested in this rewarding activity please contact Chris Pearce ph: 0419 178 919

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.



Confirmation: Preparation for this Sacrament concludes this weekend. Please keep the candidates and their families in your prayers. Children have been dismissed from Mass for their preparation. Thank you to those parishioners who have supported the children on their sacramental journey. Confirmation will be held on Saturday May 27th at 6:00 pm and Sunday June 4th at 10:00 am.

BAPTISMS

Baptism: This week we welcome Nevaeh Alira Reid, Daughter on Rebecca & Matthew. May Nevaeh grow in the love and support of her family and our parish.



Parish Pastoral Council: This week's meeting was the final meeting of the present Council. Retiring members were thanked for their contribution: Peter Dwyer, Deanna Osman and Frank Hogan. Continuing members include Sue Calisto, Mario Cordioli, Ena Bruty and Marg McDonald. At the next meeting the PPC will welcome new members: Val Bourke, Corrie Harbour, Lia Yu and Clare Mullane. The PPC meets each month on the 3rd Wednesday.

Presbytery Renovation Project: The Parish Pastoral Council thanks all those who submitted suggestions as part of the consultation process around the future of the presbytery. These were assessed at this week's meeting and will continue to be considered. Any further thoughts people may have will be most welcome at any time. As a first stage, the PPC will continue to work towards the renovation of the southern wing of the building to provide an upgraded Parish Office or hub. Planning approval is already secured. Various options for the second stage renovation and future use of the remainder of the building will be considered in coming months.

Feast Day: The feast of Our Lady Help of Christians will be celebrated on Wed. 24th with Mass at 10:am

Collections:	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 627	Project compassion to date: \$3,721
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 769	
Loose Money	\$ 66	

NEXT WEEKEND	6pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Margaret White	Wed 24th OLHC Feast Day Thurs 25th School Mass at 12:30 pm Fri 26th Confirmation rehearsal at 3:45 pm. Sat. 26th Confirmation at 6 pm Next Week: Wed 31st St V.d.P. meeting at 11:30 am at Violet Grove Sun 4th Confirmation at 10 am
MINISTER of the WORD	Chris Pearce	Deanna Osman	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Mavis McNulty, Pauline Newman, Pat Dillon, Des Lloyd, Jo Rix	Pauline Howard, Sue Searls, Christine Richardson + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Marg & Geoff McLean	
COUNTERS		P Pora, C. Clifford, B. Ratcliffe	
CHURCH CLEANING	Beth Clark, Margaret McLean		
Rural Communities	This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend - Learmonth	
Minister of Word:		Bev Hayward	
Minister of Eucharist :	Kerryn Gallagher	Sharon Moran	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Anne Dalton	

BALLARAT NEWS

CENTRALISED 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.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship – applications now open The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offer scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Applications close 17 July 2017. Details and application: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

Notice Board: Marian Lecture; Family Matters (Ballarat June 24th); Timor –Leste petition; Hilton Deacon book




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