



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

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 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

Safeguarding Officers:

St Columba's: Peter Marquand

OLHC: Maree Roache

Mass times: St Columba's

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Tuesday: 11.00 am (Hailey House)

Wednesday: 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Wednesday: 10:00 am

Thursday: 11:00am Kelaston

Friday: 10:00am

Readings for next weekend:

Is 55: 6 -9

Phil 1: 20 - 24, 27

Matthew 20: 1 - 6



17th September 2017. 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Focus on the Scriptures



A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentfulness, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

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Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you, Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Ryan Myers, Noeleen Low, Paul Smith,

Anniversaries: We remember: Keith Seear, Bill Armstrong, Jack & Muriel Mugavin,

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School), Steve Molloy & Andrea Olver (Schreenan)

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

First Eucharist We thank all those involved in the preparation of first Eucharist for our children which was celebrated over the last two weekends.

Pastoral Letter: Marriage according to Pope Francis Please find on the table at the back of the church a pastoral letter from Bishop Paul Bird which offers some reflections about marriage, drawing on the writings of Pope Francis.

30th Anniversary of Ordination of Fr Gary Jones The Parish of St Peter's Daylesford will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Fr Gary's Ordination at 10.30am Mass on Sunday, October 15, 2017 followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre. RSVP to daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au to assist with catering. All welcome.

Lawn Mowing at Church Thank you to the volunteers who have been helping to look after the church grounds over the past 12 months. A new roster is being prepared in the coming week so if there is anyone else who would like to volunteer on this roster please contact Helen McBrearty on 0409501926. Likewise if it has become difficult for you to continue on this roster please let Helen know.



Damascus College Enrolment Information Evening & Open Mornings Damascus College warmly invites all families to attend our upcoming Information Evening and Open Mornings. The Information Evening will include a tour of the College, activities for students and an information session for parents. Open Mornings are guided tours by Damascus students during school hours.

INFORMATION EVENING: Thursday 26th October at 6.30pm. Please arrive at 6.15pm for registration

OPEN MORNINGS: Thursday 2nd & 9th November, 9am – 10.30am

Students of all ages are welcome to attend. Please register your attendance through the Damascus website. www.damascus.vic.edu.au

SVdP Bread Run A follow-up call out for anyone who may be able to occasionally help out with weekly St Vincent de Paul bread run. School holidays and VCE exams are fast approaching, some of our regular volunteers will not be able to make it to all of their usual shifts. If you are available on a Sunday evening from 7.15 for about an hour and are happy to cover the occasional shift please let the Parish Office know. We will team you up with other volunteers and support you through the process. This is a wonderful opportunity to volunteer a little of your time, to help those in need – and we would appreciate any support you can give.

Thanksgiving

We thank you for your generous support

1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 863.10	Ballarat Clergy Support Fund \$984 to date
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2012.00	Average for this financial year \$2173.63

<u>NEXT WEEKEND</u>	SATURDAY 23rd Sept	SUNDAY 24th Sept	What's on this week and next:- Finance Committee —Tues 19th Sept at 6:00pm in Parish Office Meeting Room. Parish Pastoral Committee —Thurs 21st Sept in Parish Office Meeting Room. Caring Committee —Tues 26th Sept at 2:00pm in the Parish Office—All welcome. Men's Group —next gathering will be at Bodega Café—around the corner from the Church in Howitt Street on Thurs 28th Sept at 2pm. All men most welcome.
WELCOMER	Kate Lawry	Geraldine Mugavin	
COMMENTATOR	Kathleen Keogh	Clare Fuller	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Rosemary Fithall	Terry Ranger	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Jim Waight	Kierce O'Loughlin	
GIFTS	David & Catherine Fara	Sharon DeBeer	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	John van de Laar, Shirley Edgar, Ann Lacey	Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens	
OVERHEADS	Emma & Kathleen	Sharon DeBeer	
SACRISTAN	Maree Phelan	Maureen van der Ploeg	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

OLHC Parish Luncheon Get-together on Wednesday 20th September at the Park Hotel Bistro at 12 noon. "All Welcome". For booking purposes please add your name to the list in the church foyer.



ROSTERS: Please indicate any alterations to the current Ministry Roster timetable for the coming three months. Please notify the co-ordinator, or email or phone the parish office with inclusions or deletions.

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Paul Bird— "Marriage according to Pope Francis". In this letter Bishop Paul offers some reflections on marriage, drawing on the writings of Pope Francis. Copies of this letter are available in the church foyer.

Fr Gary Jones — 30th anniversary of his ordination at St Peter's Daylesford on October 15th at the 10:30 am Mass., followed by morning tea. All welcome. Please RSVP to daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au to assist with catering.



Baptism: we welcome Indi Belle Nestor, daughter of Jessica and Daniel. May Indi grow in the love of God, her family and our parish community.

Catholic Mission—"Include a Charity a Week" campaign. For more information on how to include a gift to Catholic Mission in your will, you can visit www.catholicmission.org.au/bequests or phone 1800 257 296

Season of Creation: On September 1st, Christian Churches (Major Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, Uniting and Protestant) around the world came together to celebrate **World day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** and the start of the **Season of Creation** between Sept. 1st to Oct. 4th the feast of St Francis of Assisi. An ecumenical service to complete the **Season of Creation 2017** will be held at OLHC Church on Sunday October 1st at 2.30pm. Afternoon tea to follow. All welcome



FIRST COMMUNION: OLHC First Communion will be held this Sunday, and next Saturday night. 26 children from OLHC parish have completed their preparation and are now able to fully participate in the life of the church through the sacrament of First Eucharist. Blessings to the candidates and their families.

Collections:	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 520	Credit Card	\$
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 581	Direct Debit	\$
Loose Money	\$ 127	Year to date	\$

NEXT WEEKEND	6 pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Vin Dillon	Corrie Harbour	Sun 17th First Communion 10 am
MINISTER of the WORD	John Bourke	Mario Cordioli	Wed 20th Parish Get-together Luncheon
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Joyce Jackson, Mavis McNulty, John Bourke, Maxine Rousch + 1 volunteer	Sue Searls, Peter Briody, Judith Potter + 2 volunteers	Thurs 21st Mass at Kelaston at 11 am
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Joyce Jackson	Next Week: Wed 27th St VdP meeting at 11:30 am - Violet Grove
COUNTERS		Bill Loader & Kevin Murlphy	
CHURCH CLEANING	Tony & Ena Bruty		
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Waubra	Next Weekend— Learmonth	
Minister of Word:	Phyllis Bourke	Fon Ryan	
Minister of Eucharist :	Sharon Moran	Tony McDonald	
Church Cleaning:	Trish & Steve Coleman	Bev Hayward	

BALLARAT NEWS

Damascus College Enrolment Information Evening & Open Mornings. Damascus College warmly invites all families to attend our upcoming Information Evening and Open Mornings. The Information Evening will include a tour of the College, activities for students and an information session for parents. Open Mornings are guided tours by Damascus students during school hours. Please see flyer for details.

INFORMATION EVENING: Thursday 26th October at 6.30pm Please arrive at 6.15pm for registration

OPEN MORNINGS: Thursday 2nd & 9th November, 9am – 10.30am

STUDENTS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE THROUGH THE DAMASCUS WEBSITE
www.damascus.vic.edu.au



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