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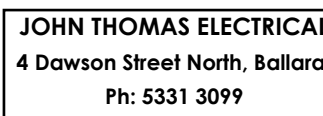
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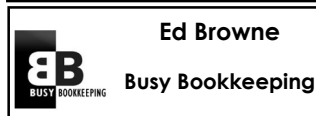
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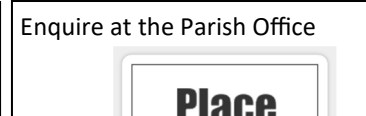
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### Child Safe Church

Here at the Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Learmonth, Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office. Our Safe Guarding Officers are Peter Marquand (SC) and Maree Roache (OLHC) and 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

Other notices: **Help Palms Achieve a World Free of Poverty** Share your skills with a community organisation in Asia or the Pacific to contribute to sustainable solutions to poverty. Our community partners have requested teachers, nurses, tradies and more to work alongside a local counterpart in 2020. We welcome all those who envision volunteering their skills overseas in the next few years to join our next training course, starting in Sydney on July 6th. Visit palms.org.au or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333 for more details



**"Listen with the Soul" Retreat** This six day retreat will be led by Fr Kevin Dance and Sr Jill Dance from September 16-23, 2019 at St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong, NSW – A Redemptorist Ministry. For bookings and/or more information email info@stclement.com.au.



## 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 1012

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

### 2 June 2019 ~ Ascension Sunday (C)

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Visiting Priests: Fr Gary Jones

Fr Sajan Mathew

Fr Vincent Pham CSsR

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

Friday: 12:15 pm

Mass times: OLHC

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Thursday: 10:00 am

Readings for next weekend:

Acts 2:1-11

Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

Jn 20:19-23



### Focus on the Scriptures

Loss is part of the human condition, and the physical death of a loved one is among the most painful experiences of loss. Today's Feast of the Ascension invites us to face the experience of loss in a transformative way. In Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus. Over the period of Lent and Easter, we have been remembering his death and resurrection. As we approach the end of the Easter season, the liturgy draws us into another aspect of the Mystery, that of the presence and absence of Jesus who has been raised.

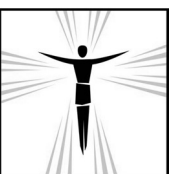
The Lukan Ascension stories as found in the gospel and in today's first reading (Acts 1:1-11) presuppose a pre-scientific, three-tiered understanding of the structure of the world. In this ancient view, God is in the heavens above and the prophet Jesus, like the prophet Elijah of old, is caught up into God's realm from whence the Holy Spirit will "descend" upon God's people. This vertical (up and down) movement is balanced by a horizontal movement.

In Acts, Jesus' family and friends who grieve the loss of their loved one are told not to keep looking up to the heavens. They have work to do: they must return to Jerusalem for the present and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the prophetic ministry of Jesus ("clothed with power from on high"), to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. They have to face the fact that the physical loss of Jesus means a new and different sort of presence and that they have a role to play in making him present in their world. Like us, the early Christians needed time to grasp each dimension of the one great mystery of God's presence among them.

In the gospel account, the disciples gathered in Jerusalem are to be witnesses to the death and resurrection of Jesus. They are to proclaim a gospel of "repentance and forgiveness". In the gospel (Luke 24:47) their audience is "all peoples", while in Acts 1:8, they are commissioned to be witnesses to Jesus "in all Jerusalem, in Judaea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". In other words, the good news is not only for the earth's human inhabitants but for the earth itself. Pope Francis, in calling us to be attentive to the cry of the poor, insists that the earth itself is "among the most maltreated and abandoned of our poor" (Laudato Si' 2).

Joy, peace, prayer and blessing have the final word in Luke's gospel. They have permeated Luke's story from the outset. As we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we might pray that the spirit of joy that animated the earliest Christians might fill our hearts so that the entire planetary community might know the blessing of God.

Veronica Lawson RSM



**Responsorial Psalm:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Lang Dean, Maxwell Franklin

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Bridie Davies, Joyce Keynton, Eileen Dean, John Kirby, Frank Reilly

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parishes especially Sasskiah Gallagher, Blake Dridan & Pat Hogan. We also pray for the children preparing for Baptism (RCIC) and for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**Congratulations** to the 59 children of St Columba's Parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend: Harry, Benny, Eden, Evie, Eamon, Evalena, Oscar, Patricia, Brianna, Riley, Eloise, Scarlett, Isabella, Logan, Pippa, Noah, Liam, Aiden, Evie, Olivia, Liam, Georgia, Gracie, Leni, Ryan, Harrison, Oliver, Jaida and Edward (Saturday) and Londyn, Jack, Theodore, Emily-Maie, Mac, Skyla, Lily, Elsa, William, Zachary, Lilia, Alan, Henry, Lily, Brooke, Mimi, Quinn, Sadie, Bea, Manning, Noah, Jack, Rose, Poppy, Matilda, Ben, Lachlan, Xavier, Grace and Riley (Sunday)



**Save the date** Diocesan RCIA Conference "It takes a village" will be held on Friday 15 Nov 5.30pm—9pm and Saturday 16th November 9.30am—4.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Ballarat. Flyer on noticeboard—more information to follow.

**Asylum Seeker Fundraiser** Wednesday June 19th Refugee Week Soup and Sandwich Luncheon at Nazareth House Hall, Mill Street, Ballarat. Entry \$20. Speakers and Entertainment. Stall and Competition. Inquiries 0401175045 - annkav1234@gmail.com

**Life in the Spirit Prayer Group** You are invited to join 'The Life in the Spirit Prayer Group' for a Catholic Bible seminar beginning on Tuesday June 25th. This will be held over a period of 5 weeks on Tuesday nights from 7pm till 9pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. To indicate your interest phone Maree on 0429 965999.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** This year the theme is "Justice and only justice, you shall pursue" (cf. Deuteronomy 16:18-20) All are welcome to join us in Christian Unity for 5.30pm Evening Prayer on the following days:

**Monday, June 3rd** St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Wendouree; **Tuesday, June 4th** Ballarat Central Uniting Church, Lydiard St Sth; **Wednesday, June 5th** St. Patrick's Cathedral, Lyons St Sth; **Thursday, June 6th** Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ the King, Lydiard St Sth



**Justice and only justice you shall pursue.**  
*(Deuteronomy 16:18-20)*

**Sponsorship opportunity for the APMN Conference "Listen to the Spirit and Sing"** The Ballarat Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering sponsorship for six people from across the diocese to attend the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network, Inc (APMN) Conference Listen to the Spirit and Sing to be held in Melbourne from October 1 – 3, 2019 at the Catholic Leadership Centre. APMN promotes the art of Religious Music in the service of the Church in Australia through education, support, networking and advocacy, with a special focus on supporting the use of Australian compositions. The APMN aims to actively assist parishes, schools and other Church agencies to have educated, skilled musicians and composers available for the vital ministry of providing suitable quality music for worship, church life and religious education. The conference intends to provide the knowledge, resources, encouragement and motivation for lay people to be ministers of music in their parishes. It is an opportunity to broaden networks and meet people who are also trying to make their parishes vibrant places of worship through the appropriate use of Liturgical, Catechetical and Religious music. From the six people selected, we would anticipate that two from each zone would attend. Contact the Parish office for application forms.

**CAPSA National Week of Prayer and Action, 16-23 June 2019** A National Week of Prayer and Action for the Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA) will be held from June 16 – 23, 2019. During this week, the CAPSA network (schools, parishes and organisations) will join together across the country to pray, advocate and raise awareness for people seeking asylum in our communities. Activities are focussed on the recent cuts to basic material and case management support for people seeking asylum. For more information go to <https://capsa.org.au/>

**St Columba's Feast Day Mass** will be held on Friday 7th June (Feast day 9th) at 12.15pm in the Church. All welcome.



**Mass to celebrate the Jubilees of Ordination to the Priesthood** of Frs Sajan Mathew (25 years), Rupert Bowd, John Pothiyittel, Alex Lim, Brian McDermott (40 years) and Adrian McInerney (50 years), will be celebrated on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

**Knitting program update** A huge volume of knitting for East Timor has been collected and regularly sent to Maubisse. What you have added is greatly appreciated. Because of increased knitting patterns and with the constant support of The Bendigo Sandhurst Rotary Club members, the knitted articles will now be sent to 6 other clinics within Timor-Leste. We emphasize that the basic set of jumper, socks (ribbed) and beanies are our core purpose as are bunny rugs and knitted or crocheted rugs (75 – 85 cm square). Donation of small cotton singlets (from Op shops – size 00000 to Size 1, (no larger) and bundles of face washes are most acceptable. All can be left in the foyer at St Columba's Church or contact Irene 5331 2828 or irenemon@mercy.org.au to arrange delivery or pick up.



**Baptism at OLHC** Hunter Rushton—son of Alana and Aaron, and Max Gallagher, son of Kerri and Brendan. We pray that they will grow in faith with the love and support of their parents, family and our Parish Community.

**OLHC Rosters for July-November** will be compiling the new rosters shortly, if you wish to amend your availability please contact your team leader. Anyone wishing to join a ministry please contact Maree in the office (ph: 5339 2302) Thank you

**OLHC Parish Pastoral Council** Following the discernment process led by Sr Karon Donnellon, The PPC welcomes Connie Greenhalgh and Carla Kelly who will serve this community for the next two years.

**2019 Australian Catholic Youth Festival** The next Australian Catholic Youth Festival will be in Perth from December 8-10, 2019! The Ballarat Diocese is partnering with the Melbourne Office for Youth to offer all-inclusive packages to the festival which will cover transport, accommodation, registration to the festival and meals. The event is for those in Year 9 up to 30 years old and is a great way to partake in celebrating the vitality of the Catholic Church in Australia. Interested parishioners can find more information on the Youth & Young Adult Ministry page of the diocesan website or contact Patrick, ph. 5337 7160.

**Collection for OLHC school** Safeway (Howitt Street) have a sticker collection for the school — or collect and deposit to the school office.

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For the support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 823.90		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1,698.90	Average for this financial year	\$ 1,706.50

Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 574	Loose money (2nd collection)	\$ 128
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 510	Weekly Average this Financial Year	\$ 1,483

SC 8/9 June	Sat 6pm	Sunday 10am	What's on:	OLHC 8/9th June	Sat 6 pm	Sun 10:00 am	What's coming up
<b>WELCOMER</b>	Margaret Ranger	Catherine Fara	PPC Meeting Thursday 6th June 7pm Feast Day Mass Friday 7th June 12.15pm	<b>LEADER of SONG</b>	Veronica Stott	Paul Hogan	Third weekend of Dismissals for Confirmation candidates.  Next Week:
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	Kate Lawry	Irene Monigatti		<b>MINISTER of the WORD</b>	Ena Bruty	Deanna Osman	
<b>FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Jim Kierce	Min Myers	<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Pauline Newman, Lia Yu, John Bourke + 2 volunteers	Christine Richardson, Maxine Rousch, Peter Briody, + 2 volunteers		
<b>SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD</b>	Frank Sheehan	Jo-Anne van der Voort	<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Pauline Howard	Mick and Helen Rieniets		
<b>GIFTS</b>	John Madigan Family	Colleen Wakefield	<b>Counters</b>	Des Lloyd and John Calistro			
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b>	Annette Madigan, Peter Marquand, Ruth Marquand	Derek Streulens, Bruce Chapman, Alison Thorpe	<b>Rural Communities 8:30 am</b>	<b>Waubra</b>	<b>Learmonth</b>		
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	Norah & Stephen	Judith O'Sullivan	<b>Minister of Word:</b>	Kerri Mullane	Bev Hayward		
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Norah	Anne	<b>Minister of Eucharist :</b>	Margaret McDonald	Clare Mullane		
			<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Phyllis & Pat Bourke	Bev Hayward		