

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:** 0417 168 716

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 & Fri 9-2pm, Thurs 9—1pm.

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

Wednesday: 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

New Year's Day Mass—Jan 1st:

9:00 am at OLHC

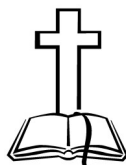
Readings for next weekend:

Gen 15: 1-6, 21:1-3

Ps 104: 1-6, 8-9

Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Lk 2:22-40



24th December, 2017 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Focus on the Scriptures



St Luke's account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: 'There was darkness over the deep and God's Spirit hovered over the water. God said: "Let there be light", and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary's womb.

A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God's Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether now is the time for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'

© Fr Michael Tate

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Anniversaries: We remember: Kathleen Myers . James Watson, Les Jackson., Maisie Lamb, Colin Storey. Georgie Grano, Brian Andersen, Stephen Haintz, Kerin Graham, Douglas Marquand, Patrick Curran, Stephen Head,

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School) , Margaret Holmes, Michael Fitzpatrick, Peter Huxtable (brother of Linley von Bibra), Fr Frank Smith C SSR, and for all those for whom Christmas is a time of sadness or loneliness.

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS



*We wish you all a very blessed
and holy Christmas,
and all God's richest blessings
for 2018*

The office will be closed from Thursday 21st December at 1pm until 9am Wednesday 25 January. For any urgent matters please call Fr Marcello Phone 5332 4324.

Thank you We would like to thank all the co-ordinators and leaders of groups in the Parish. Without you, a lot of what happens in the Parish just would not happen. So often you serve behind the scenes or without a thought of thanks. But, please be assured we appreciate all that you do.

Notice sheets & rosters Over January please be aware of any vacancies to rostered ministries. If you are there and can help, please do so. It would be greatly appreciated. There will be notice sheets and Living Word reflections in the foyer for each weekend over the holiday period. They will contain the current weekend roster. Rosters also on notice board

Wednesday Masses at 9.30am will continue through the holiday period. Many thanks to Fr Dan for your ministry in the Parish.

Advertisers We take this opportunity to thank our advertisers for their ongoing support of St Columba's Parish. We encourage you to use their products and/or services during the year.

Bishops Christmas Appeal There will be an opportunity to contribute to the Bishops Christmas Appeal after Communion during the Christmas Masses, otherwise money for this appeal can be placed in an envelope clearly marked "Bishops Appeal" can be left on the collection plate. Thank you in advance.

Thank you—We extend a warm and heart filled thank you to long serving parishioner Helen McBrearty who has recently stepped down from her involvement on the Parish Finance Committee after many years of service. We are very grateful for all that Helen has done for our parish over many years and are pleased that she will continue to co-ordinates the Counting of a weekend and also the Parish Lawn Mowing Roster.

Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	891.00
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$	1439.50 Average for this financial year \$2029.94

THIS WEEKEND

DATE: 23 & 24 DECEMBER 2017

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Margaret & Mary Sullivan	Alison Thorpe
COMMENTATOR	Trish Simmons	Kim Butler
PROCLAIMER 1	Ruth Marquand	Pat Kenna
PROCLAIMER 2	Peter Dalton	Richard Francis
GIFTS	Scanlon Family	Maureen and Hans van der Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Peter Marquand, Ann Lacey, Jennifer Adams	Eleanor Kennedy, Mary Kennedy, Kierce O'Loughlin
LITURGY PREPARATION		Judith O'Sullivan
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Sharon de Beer
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Christmas Flowers Margaret & Bernadette	



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH



*from Fr Marcello, Judith, Ruth & Maree and the
Parish Pastoral Councils of
Ballarat North & Wendouree*

The Giving Tree: Thank you to those parishioners who have contributed to the Giving Tree. Vinnies appreciate your support and generosity.

OLHC Cleaning Rosters for January—May 2018 are now available. Thank you to those who assist.

Christmas Message from Bishop Paul. Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve –24th	6:00 pm St Columba's	7:00 pm OLHC	8:00 pm St Columba's
Christmas Day—25th	9:00 am Waubra	9:00 am OLHC	9:00 am St Columba's

Thank You to the many parishioners who have supported through the work of this parish over the last year. Your faithful service has been welcomed and appreciated.

New year's Day Mass will be celebrated at OLHC at 9:00 am on January 1st.

The Parish Office will be closed from Friday December 22nd at 12:30 pm until 9:00 am on Wednesday January 25th. For any urgent matters please contact Fr Marcello on 5339 2302. NB: The message bank will be checked regularly.

Collections:	We thank you for your generous support		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$	687	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$	1,111	Loose Money \$ 194



*Glory to God
in the highest,
and on earth Peace,
Good Will toward men.
Luke 2:14*

NEXT WEEKEND		6 pm	10:00 am
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour		Margaret White
MINISTER of the WORD	Sue Calistro		Bill Hill
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Lia Yu, Des Lloyd, Joyce Jackson + 2 volunteers		Christine Richardson, Peter Briody, Helen Rieniets + 2 volunteers
SACRISTAN			Robyn Clark
COUNTERS			Trish Pora, Catherine Clifford, Brian Ratcliffe
CHURCH CLEANING	Helen Rieniets		
Rural Communities 8:30am This Weekend — Learmonth Next Weekend— Lexton			
Minister of Word:	Fon Ryan		
Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward		Clare Mullane
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward		

BALLARAT NEWS

A Plenary Council - The Catholic Church in Australia has commenced preparations for a Plenary Council to be held in 2020. The Plenary Council is a journey, as well as an event, with the focus being on the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. Such a journey has change associated with it, requiring us to have the courage to let some things go and imagine new ways, allowing ourselves to be led by a God who dislocates. "The journey of the Plenary Council will be under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it must be an act of faith" says Archbishop Mark Coleridge, the chairperson of the organizing committee. Two catalysts for this Plenary Council of the Church in Australia (the first since 1937) are the pontificate of Pope Francis and the Royal Commission into Institutional responses to child sexual abuse. The emphasis by Pope Francis on the cooperative nature that should mark the whole Church and the Royal Commission's recognition that the Church has not been the Church that it is supposed to be can both be accepted as grace. In the latter part of 2018 and into 2019, there will be gatherings at the local and regional levels of the Diocese that will give opportunities for dialogue.



Peter Tobin
FUNERALS

www.petertobinfunerals.com.au

Address: 1251 Doveton Street North, Ballarat, 3350

Phone: (03) 5333 3101

John Thomas Electrical
4 Dawson Street North
Ballarat Vic 3350
Ph: 5331 3099

We can help you with all your repairs and installation of:


- * Televisions
- * Television Antennas
- * CCTV Systems
- * Household appliances
- * Home theatres & Projectors
- * DVDs and Audio equipment
- * Public Address Systems



priceline pharmacy

OPEN EVERY DAY
8.00AM TO 9.00PM

1010 STURT STREET BALLARAT



IN STEP
PODIATRY

1/520 Mair St
Ballarat 3350
0459546980



Ed Browne
Busy Bookkeeping
Phone 5364 2922

ADVERTISE
HERE

Open Direct to the Public
Ballarat Meat Co.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
11 Neerim Crescent, Wendouree,



KEYPLAY
FINANCIAL SERVICES

P. 03 5333 5519 keyplay.com.au

Pre / Post Retirement, Centrelink and Aged Care Specialists

Ballarat HOLDEN

Proudly supporting
St Columba's Parish

211 Gillies Street, Ballarat, VIC, 3350
Phone: (03) 5339 9333
Email: info@ballaratholden.com.au

www.ballaratholden.com.au

N.J. & A.M. HAINTZ
Building Contractors

Phone: (03) 5332 3069
Mobile: 0418 504 254



WB PLUMBING
Pty Ltd
LIC 18824

139 Bogong Ave
Phone: 5331 4510
Mobile: 0418 501 606

BALLARAT TROPHIES & GIFTS

Address: Shop 2, 1103
Howitt Street, Wendouree
Phone: (03) 5339 1166

R&J MAYNE
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

Phone: (03) 5332 3547
Mobile: 0418 503 694
Email: rjmayne@ncable.net.au


G.GAY & CO
EST. 1918

MIGHTY HELPFUL MITRE 10

801 HOWITT ST WENDOUREE PH: 5339 5033
127 GILLIES ST 6TH BALLARAT PH: 5334 270
55 ALBERT ST SEBASTOPOL PH: 5335 9023

SERVICE CENTRE CAR REPAIRS

SUN-BAR P/L
Sunset Strip Service Centre
1017 Lydiard St. Nth
BALLARAT 3350
Ph: (03) 5331 2200



Professionals
ballarat

Address: 612 Sturt Street, Ballarat
Phone: (03) 5333 2040
www.professionalsballarat.com.au
Email: michael@professionalsballarat.com.au

HORTICAREBALLARAT



JAMES FRANCIS
0416 896 113
Garden clean ups, Mowing, Maintenance
Tree/rose/hedge pruning




PPT
PROWSE PERRIN & TWOMEY

Address: 20 Lydiard Street South, Ballarat Phone: (03) 5331 3711
www.ppt.com.au



Pat Cashin Funerals
Ballarat
A.B.N. 28 007 228 757

Address: 1114 Doveton Street North, Ballarat, 3350
Phone: (03) 5333 3911
All hours. Moderate cost.



CDF FUNERAL FUND
Catholic Development Fund

Prepaid funerals
Eliminate family stress
Details: Ph. 5337 7111