



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– 12.30pm,

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: 6:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am

Monday: 2:00 pm Funeral

Tuesday 9:00 am ANZAC

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for Next weekend:

Acts 1: 14, 22-23

1 Pt 1: 17—21

Lk 24: 13—35



23rd April 2017, 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday (Year A)

Focus on the Scripture

MY LORD and My GOD



Thomas was granted the gift of seeing the Risen Lord bearing the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was invited to touch them. Responding, he simply cries out: 'My Lord and my God.'

Thomas does not declare his belief in the Resurrection as such. That was all too apparent. Rather, he declares his faith in the *identity* of the risen Jesus Christ: 'My Lord and my God.'

Pope Francis says we can *only* join Thomas in this faith by touching the wounds of Christ. Those wounds are to be found in the body of someone wounded. This can be in a myriad of ways.

We have to bend down and touch those wounds in whatever means of healing is available to us. Otherwise we simply engage in philanthropy at a distance. We end up believing in a semblance of God, but not God embodied in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ always bearing his wounds.

Sometimes we struggle with our faith – after all, it is an astounding claim that Jesus of Nazareth is God embodied for us. You, or any other person intrigued by Jesus, are invited to touch the wounds of Christ and let the patience of God take care of the timing of the response of faith.

We could pause for a moment, praying to be counted amongst those who receive the Blessing promised to those who have not seen the Risen Lord as such, but who touch his wounds and proclaim, 'My Lord and my God.'

© Fr Michael Tate

Deaths: Veronica Lacap Chan (sister of Cora Hains—Philippines), Maria Duka, Fr Frank Madden,

Anniversaries: Garry Madigan, Rosemary O'Loughlin, Mary Smerdon

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Gerard McCormick, Anthony Cushing and Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School).

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

ANZAC DAY MASS Will be held at 9am in the Church.

CONFIRMATION A parent information session will be held on Tuesday 2nd May at 7pm in the School Senior Learning area (entrance off Howard Street). Enrolment forms and program outline will be available on that night. For further information please contact Judith at the Parish Office 5331 7131.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th April at 7pm in the School Board room.

MENS GROUP will meet on Thursday 27th April at 2pm at the Bodega Café in 306 Howitt Street for coffee and a chat. All men welcome.

EASTER WATER Please feel free to bring your own container and help yourself to the water of new life in the Easter font, which maybe used to bless people, homes, vehicles, machinery, farming land prior to sowing seed for the forthcoming season etc etc. It's free!

FR FRANK MADDEN RIP a senior priest of the Diocese died early on Thursday morning. Frank was ordained in Ballarat on July 27th 1963 and turned 90 late last year. He had spent his last years of retirement in Koroit. Throughout his ministry as a priest of the Diocese, in addition to his parish ministry Frank made an outstanding contribution in many areas and was a wise mentor to many and a source of sound advice. His legacy includes a clergy remuneration scheme in the Diocese that is equitable and just and the parish Church of Ss Michael and John in Horsham which was built in the mid 1980's while Frank was Parish Priest. His appointments included Parish Priest of Peshurst and Horsham, Administrator of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat, St Aloysius Redan and Vicar General of the Diocese. Funeral arrangement for Fr Madden are yet to be finalised but likely to be in Koroit on Wednesday or Thursday of next week. *Fr Justin Driscoll, Vicar General.*

Thursday 27th April—1-3pm or 7-9pm 'Faith Seeking Understanding in the Contemporary World'; with Sr Veronica Lawson & Fr Barry Ryan at the Mercy Gathering Room, Gent Street Ballarat East


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)	\$ 1378.30	Project Compassion (to date) \$2678.40
(Easter Offerings)	\$ 710.00	Holy Places \$ 637.15
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 2623.35	Average for this financial year \$ 2047.69
Week 42		

THIS WEEKEND	Saturday 22nd April	Sunday 23rd April
WELCOMER	Jan Mullaly	Alison Thorpe
COMMENTATOR	Jennifer Adams	Irene Monigatti
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Leo Schreenan	Brian Kennedy
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Bernadette Clark	Carmel King
GIFTS	Volunteer please	Maureen & Hans Van der Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	P & R Marquand, J Mullaly	E KM Burke, M Kennedy, C Haintz
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	S De Beer
SACRISTAN	Maree Phelan	Maureen Van der Ploeg

Baptisms this weekend

We welcome Edward Basil Corden and Billy Judd Clark into our Parish Community. Edward, the son of Ebony (nee Clark) and Luke Corden and Billy, the son of Rachel (nee Matheson) and Paul Clark will be baptized during the 10am Mass.



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS



Confirmation: Preparation for this Sacrament commences shortly. The information meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th April. Enrolment forms and program outline will be available on that night. The program commences on the weekend of April 29/30th. For further information please contact Maree at the Parish Office 5339 2302.

Suggestions for Presbytery: A reminder that over the coming two weekends there will be a suggestion box in the OLHC church gathering area for the deposit of any suggestions you may have for the future use of the priest's accommodation in the presbytery building.

Mini Market Night – Friday April 28th The Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School Community Team is holding a Mini Market Night on April 28th from 6pm-9pm. Stalls will be \$30 each and approximately 3 metres wide. We invite school and parish families who would like to have a stall to get in contact with Tanya Kinnane on 0438 362 553 or purplefoxdesigns@outlook.com before we open up opportunities further.

Car Park: There has been a new speed-hump installed at the Exit Gate. Please be aware of this, and approach very slowly. This has been installed for the safety of the children.



EXODUS Community— Mass this Wednesday 26th April at 5:30 pm. All Welcome. Supper to follow.

Parish Pastoral Council. At a successful Discernment Evening last Wednesday the new membership of your Parish Pastoral Council began to take shape. The full make-up of the new council will be confirmed and announced in coming weeks. Its first meeting will be in June, with the final meeting of the present PPC set for May. Thanks to all those who have participated in this important transition process.

Collections:		<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 762	Project compassion to date:	\$3,333
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 993	Holy Places:	\$ 425
Loose	\$ 365	Easter Dues: (to date)	\$ 900

NEXT WEEKEND	6pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Laureen Rhodes	Margaret White	25th ANZAC Day Mass at St. Columba's 26th Liturgy Meeting at 10:30 am 26th St V. P meeting at Violet Grove at 11:30 am 26th Parent meeting for Parish Celebration of Confirmation in the Parish Meeting room at 7:00 pm.
MINISTER of the WORD	Margot Mulcahy	Eileen Franklin	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Jo Rix, John Kirby, Bev Hayward, Trish Pearce, Joyce Jackson	Tony Bruty, Sue Searls, Pauline Howard + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Robyn Clark	
COUNTERS		K Leonard, K. Stringer	
CHURCH CLEANING	Tony & Ena Bruty		
Rural Communities This Weekend - Learmonth Next Weekend - Lexton Minister of Word: Bill Keating Kerry Mullane Minister of Eucharist : Clare Mullane Sharon Moran Church Cleaning: Bev Hayward			

BALLARAT NEWS

“Our Diocesan Community” magazine — is out now. Please take a copy from the back of the Church.

Diocesan Resource Centre- The Diocesan Resource Centre is a service for the total faith formation of parishes and schools. Books, Videos, DVDs & CDs are available for borrowing. Items can be borrowed and returned through the post if required. Online www.ballarat.catholic.org.au | Services & Agencies | Resource Centre

Divine Mercy Sunday (23 April) St Patrick's Cathedral 1.30pm—2.30pm Reconciliation 2.15pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 2.15pm and Mass at 2.30pm, Celebrant: Fr Francis Denton . All welcome.

Project Compassion: Thank you to those who have so generously contributed to Project Compassion during this Lenten season. Please finalise your payments for Project Compassion as soon as possible.




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