



St Columba's Parish, Ballarat North

Parish Centre: 306 Gregory St, Nth. Ballarat

Ph: 5331 7131

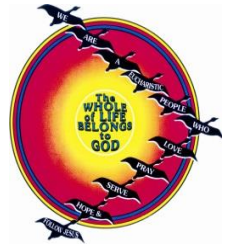
Email: office@stcolumbasparish.org

Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am - 4.00pm

We are Eucharistic People, who Love, Pray, Serve,

Hope and follow Jesus



Supervising Priest: Fr Peter Sherman

Pastoral Leader: Judith O'Sullivan

Priest in Residence: Fr. Barry Ryan

Parish Secretary: Genevieve Willmott

School Principal: Kim Butler

14th February, 2016

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9.30am

First Sunday of



DEATHS: Frank Godfrey, Brian Schreenan

PROJECT COMPASSION

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing



demonstration of faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, we could not do the vital work.

Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future.

There are envelopes on the church pews or in the church foyer as well as money boxes available if you are able to support such a worthy cause.

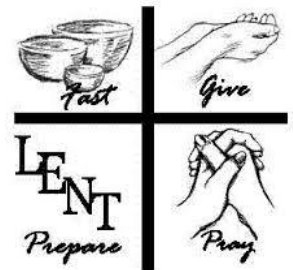
LENTEN BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

Lenten booklets are available to assist us in reflection. The cost is \$2 and they are available to purchase in the church foyer.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Praying the Stations of the Cross during Lent is a great exercise to align our hearts of the Passion of Christ. Join us in the church on Friday 19th and 26th February at 7pm and Friday, 4th and 18th March at 7pm.

Stations will be followed by a time of quiet prayer in the church.



ITEMS FOR THE NOTICESHEET

Please remember, if you have an anniversary or death notice, or any other item you wish placed on the noticesheet, I will need to receive it by 10am on Thursdays. Also, if there is a "milestone" occasion coming up i.e. 50th wedding anniversary or 90th birthday, we would love to acknowledge this on our noticesheet (with permission from the person). Thankyou, Genevieve

THANKYOU

COMMISSIONING OF JUDITH AND FR. PETER SHERMAN

A special thank you to all who were present, organized the Liturgy, music and choir, readers, special ministers, donations of morning tea, 'cup of tea/coffee ladies' and Hans for setting up/clearing away the Foyer. The spirit was certainly present at this ceremony led by Bishop Paul Bird.

Everyone's support was much appreciated as we begin the challenge of our journey as a lay managed Parish.

ST. COLUMBA'S SCHOOL BEGINNING OF THE YEAR MASS

This year our beginning of the year Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 17th February at 9.30am along with our parish community. This mass is a special celebration for us as we launch the 2016 school year and recognise the Pope's call for the Year of Mercy. At this mass the staff will be commissioned along with the leaders of our school including the School /Vice Captains, the House Captains and the Grade Six students. All are welcome.



PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF SENIOR RECONCILIATION

The Sacramental Preparation for Senior Reconciliation (Grade Five students) will be commencing with a Parent information session on Tuesday 23rd February in the church foyer. The children will be required to attend the a weekend mass on the following weekends-

- **Saturday 27th Feb at 6pm, Sunday 28th Feb at 10am**
- **Saturday 5th March at 6pm, Sunday 6th March at 10am**
- **Saturday 12th March at 6pm or Sunday 13th March at 10am**
 - **The celebration will be on Tuesday 15th March at St. Columba's Church at 6pm.**



The information and registration forms are available in the foyer.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word for children will commence this weekend on Sunday February 14th at the 10am Mass. Each Sunday of the school term members of our parish lead children in activities to develop a greater awareness of the readings, which is aimed at the children's level of understanding. We invite children from the age of four to Grade four to participate. The children meet the leader in the foyer of the church at the beginning of Mass. This is a great opportunity for the children to meet others from our parish. All are welcome.

Alison Thorpe, REC

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES 2016

Parishioners have been invited to attend a prayer service to celebrate World Day of Prayer. All are most welcome.

Venue: Scots Presbyterian Church
49 Lydiard St South, Ballarat

Date: Friday, 4th March

Time: 2pm

MERCY CAN OVERCOME EVEN THE ISLAMIC STATE by Rick Malloy (9/2/16)

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."... Romans 12:21

What If on September 12th, 2016, we had responded by saying, "We are largely a Christian nation. As a people, we want to respond to the atrocities of 9/11 with mercy and forgiveness. Jesus says, 'Love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). Yesterday those who desecrate the name of Allah murdered almost 3,000 innocent Americans. We will not retaliate in kind. We will not allow terrorists to turn us into revengeful people. We welcome and respect people of all religions that teach peace, mercy, forgiveness and love."

Such a response would have been truly revolutionary. Such a response would have made the ideologies of al-Qaeda and the Islamic State less attractive to young Muslims. Such a response would have held forth the possibility of peace. Such a response would have saved us upward of some \$3 trillion. And such a response would have saved the lives of thousands and thousands who have died since September 11, 2001.

It is not too late to change our ways. We can peer into our souls and see things afresh. In this Year of Mercy, we can look on the Islamic State militants with compassion and love instead of fear and hatred. The young people in the Islamic State need to be converted to the true meanings and values of Islam.

PARISH CALENDAR

Liturgy Team Meeting	16 February 7.30pm
School Opening/ Comissioning Mass	17 February 9.30am
Stations of the Cross	19 February 7pm
Leadership Team Meeting	25 February 7pm

CHURCH BOOKINGS

Week of: 15th – 21st February

MONDAY	---
TUESDAY	---
WEDNESDAY	Opening School Mass 9.30am
THURSDAY	---
FRIDAY	Stations of the Cross 7pm
SATURDAY	Mass 6pm
SUNDAY	Mass 10am

Thank you for your generous support

1 st Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$905.00
2 nd Collection (Envelopes)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish -Average given weekly for this financial year (week 31)	\$2363.50 \$2354.00
Sundry Change		\$132.15

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Colleen Wakefield, Alison Thorpe, Trish Simmons, Maureen Eddy, Kim Butler, Troy Severino, Jennifer Adams, Bruce Chapman, Judith O'Sullivan

**Reflection on the Gospel-1st Sunday of Lent Year C
(Luke 4:1-11)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Lent is a time for personal as well as group reflection, a time for entering into the “wilderness” or “desert place” and grappling with the mysteries of life. While deserts are often depicted as uninhabited or desolate regions, anyone who has spent time in such places knows that the desert supports a rich diversity of other-than-human life. Human retreat to the wilderness can be an opportunity to encounter God in the unfamiliar and self in relation to the other-than human. It can reveal to us our capacities for right relationship with God, with each other, and with the Earth. Right relationship resides in “power-with” rather than “power-over”.

In Israel’s story, the wilderness is the place of testing for God’s people: “Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart” (Deut 8:2). Jesus is “filled with the Holy Spirit” and, like so many human beings before and since, is “led by the Spirit” into the wilderness to be “tested” there. [“Tested” is a more accurate translation of the Greek *peirazein* than the usual “tempted”].

The three-fold testing of Jesus in the wilderness is about the proper exercise of power and about trust in a loving God. In refusing to turn the stones of the wilderness into bread in order to satisfy his own hunger, Jesus demonstrates that he is not prepared to exercise power over the other-than-human Earth, even if he had the capacity to work such magic. By refusing to accept the “glory of all the kingdoms of the world”, he shows that power over the human communities of the Earth is not “of God” and that worship belongs to God alone. Finally, in refusing to cast himself from the parapet of Israel’s holiest shrine, the Jerusalem Temple, he makes it clear that he is not prepared to test the power of God to rescue him from a self-inflicted death or to use God’s holy place to such ends. The Lukan Jesus passes the tests that the people Israel failed in the wilderness of Sinai.

Adelaide priest, Michael Trainor, in a wonderfully sensitive reading of Luke’s gospel, detects three ecological ethical principles in today’s gospel reading: 1) Earth is to be cared for and treated respectfully, not ravaged through greed; 2) All ecological and environmental engagement is grounded in and enhanced by one’s communion with God; and 3) Earth’s resources are to be respected by all and not usurped as a means of power and control by one over another (*About Earth’s Child* 2012, pp.107-109). These principles derive from the story as a whole with its three-fold testing and from Jesus’ three-fold response to these tests.

DATE: FEBRUARY 13 & 14

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Anne Caine	Helen Linane
COMMENTATOR	Ann Lacey	Bruce Chapman
PROCLAIMER 1	Tom Keogh Jnr	Sally Brennan
PROCLAIMER 2	Clare Keogh	Christopher Brennan
GIFTS	Lewis/Moloney Families	Mandy Carroll
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	B Clark, M Lacey, K Keogh	M Burke, M Kennedy, I Monigatti
LITURGY PREPARATION		Sr. Geraldine Mugavin
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN’S LITURGY		Clare Fuller
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	Linley Von Bibra
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger

DATE: FEBRUARY 20 & 21

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Margaret Schreenan	Bernadette Beseler
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Kierce O’Loughlin
PROCLAIMER 1	Kate Lawrey	Kim Butler
PROCLAIMER 2	Jim Kierce	Anthea Hinchey
GIFTS	Simmons Family	Sharon De Beer
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	J Van de Laar, A Lacey, T Simmons	I Monigatti, K Bennetts, J Brown
LITURGY PREPARATION		Kathleen & Tom Keogh
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN’S LITURGY		Megan Bourke
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan Bourke
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger

Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to fulfil your role

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Natasha McLachlan
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Invermay Park, 3350
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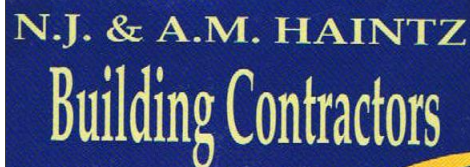
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