

St Columba's Parish - Ballarat North

306 Gregory St, Ballarat North Phone: 5331 7131 or after hours emergency: 0417 168716

Office Hours: Wednesday/Thursday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or pastoral@stcolumbasparish.org

Parish Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au School Web: scballarat.catholic.edu.au



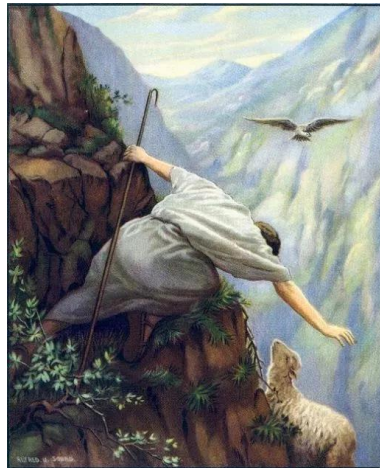
Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9.30am

Supervising Priest: Fr Peter Sherman
Priest in Residence: Fr. Barry Ryan
Pastoral Leader: Judith O'Sullivan
Parish Secretary: Genevieve Willmott
Leadership Chair: Colleen Wakefield
School Principal: Kim Butler



24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 11th September, 2016

Deaths: Bernadette McHenry, Margaret Anderson, Fr Bob Markey

Anniversaries: May O'Donnell

ADULT EDUCATION SESSIONS

A reminder that the next Adult Education session conducted by Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson will be held on Thursday, 15th September at the Mercy Centre, Ballarat East. Times are 1-3pm and 7-9pm.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL PIETY STALL

A range of First Eucharist cards and gifts, sympathy cards and other piety goods on sale in foyer.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL BREAD RUN

We are looking for helpers for our bread run on Sunday evenings. Helpers to be rostered once every 4 weeks. Contact Max Hughes on: 5338 8382.

BEREAVEMENT TEAM MEETING

There is a Bereavement Team Meeting on 22nd September at 4pm in the Church Foyer, all welcome.

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests



It's not too late to place your donation on the plate. Credit card facilities are available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. Envelopes are available in the church foyer and may be returned via the collection this weekend.

IT IS FIRST COMMUNION WEEKEND

We congratulate the following children who will receive their First Communion this weekend: Saturday: Lilliana Allan, Samuel Barnett, Abby Blee, Brodie Bull, Samuel Byrne, Georgina Carthew, Stephanie Clark, Daisy Darbin, Charlotte Doherty, Blake Dridan, Olivia Kennedy, Joe McManus, Rose Murnane, Thomas Palmer, Rhys Pollock, Enna Rinaldi, Noah Stott, Ashton Trainor and Sunday: Darcy Callanan, Mathilda Carli, Samuel Carter, Zac Greene, Meg Ikstrums, Zara Jones, Eliza Joyce, Alexander Pitman, Mitchell Pitman, Jacob Rae and Eliza Wray.



Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

FAMILY GROUPS.

Family Groups were established in this parish 28 years ago and currently we have 7 groups involving 87 households.

It is usual for groups to meet on a monthly basis for social events such as meals, picnics, local entertainment. This has enabled people to bond and support each other in good times and sad, thus reflecting the basic ideals of a Christian community. Becoming involved in a group can be very helpful for new parishioners and those whose life situations have changed. Everyone is welcome. Following our 2 Masses next weekend members of our Family Groups will be hosting a cuppa which will give parishioners a chance to meet and chat with those involved with these groups.

Anyone interested in joining a group can contact Denis and Shirley Edgar on 53344550.

We are Eucharistic people, who love, pray, serve, hope and follow Jesus

RESIGNATION

It is with great sadness that we advise that Genevieve has tendered her resignation from the position as Parish Secretary. She has a wonderful opportunity ahead of her as she takes up the position as Administration Officer at the newly formed Siena Catholic Primary School, Lucas. Genevieve will leave the position in the middle of November.

CREATION DAY PRAYER

*All-powerful God,
You are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace,
that we may live as brothers and sisters,
harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this
earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love
and peace.
Amen.*

*Prayer... Pope Francis, "A Prayer for our Earth" from
Laudato Si"*

BRINGING LAUDATO SI' TO LIFE: FROM VISION TO ACTION

Columban Fr Sean McDonagh SSC, Irish Eco-theologian and Columban Missionary, will speak at a variety of events in Melbourne on November 15-18. The purpose of this tour is to contribute to bringing the vision of Laudato Si' to life and action in the churches and the wider community, in dialogue with other faiths and with environmentalists. "This is potentially an extraordinary moment for the church," Fr McDonagh said of Laudato Si'. For more information go to:

<https://www.columban.org.au/assets/files/pdfs/Events/advanced-notice.pdf>.

SAVE THE DATE !!

Due to the great success of our last Seniors Winter Lunch recently, the team has decided to hold a Christmas Lunch at the Ballarat Specialist School in Norman Street on Wednesday, 16th November at 12 noon. More details will follow.... Stay tuned!



FREE E-CONFERENCE ON MERCY: A WAY OF BEING IN THE WORLD

This eConference will commemorate the Jubilee Year of Mercy and take up Pope Francis' invitation to explore this central element of our faith. Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat smaller hall, cuppa from 9.30am, eConference from 10.30am – 2.45pm. BYO lunch. Please register with Jacinta at the Cathedral Office, ph. 5331 2933 or email:

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Speakers -Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane and Member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, Sr Veronica Lawson RSM, Scripture scholar and author of the highly praised book, "The Blessing of Mercy", Mr Phil Glendenning, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre and President of the Refugee Council of Australia.

ANIMA EDUCATION, "MARY IN THE BIBLE"

The Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga Inc. and Anima Women's Network will sponsor an Anima Education course, "Mary in the Bible" on the weekend of September 23-25, 2016 in Ballarat. For more information please see the flyer in the church foyer.

PARISH CALENDAR

Mass	Wednesday Sept 14 @ 9.30am
Liturgy Team Meeting	Tuesday Sept 20 @ 7.30pm
Finance C'tee Meeting	Tuesday Sept 20 @ 6pm
Bereavement Team Meet	Thursday Sept 22 @ 4pm
Leadership Team Meeting	Thursday Sept 22 @ 7pm
Men's Group	Thursday Sept 29 @ 1.30pm

Thank you for your generous support

1 st Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$723.60
2 nd Collection (Envelopes)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish	\$912.00
	-Average given weekly for this financial year (week 11)	\$1985.39
Sundry Change		\$54.50
Special Collect	Ballarat Clergy Support Fund	\$1224.00

**Reflection on the Gospel-24th Sunday in Ordinary Time C
(Luke 15:1-32)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Those who take the gospel seriously sometimes forget that joy is a gospel value, a value repeatedly affirmed in the Gospel of Luke. While all three parables in today's gospel reading invite us into the experience of loss, loss of a valued creature, loss of a woman's means of survival, loss of an adult child's respect and presence, they likewise invite us into an encounter with God who seeks and "saves" the lost and who rejoices big time when the lost are found.

The parables are prefaced by an account of the criticism Jesus endured for hosting "the lost" of the human community, namely the toll collectors and those who were categorised as "sinners". The critics in the story are those who consider themselves "righteous". They have no room in their hearts for compassion or forgiveness on the one hand, and no capacity on the other to accept the goodness of a prophet who acts in ways that cut across their expectations.

"What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it?" asks Jesus of his critics, who incidentally would not care to be identified with shepherds whom they despised as unclean. As the story unfolds, the lost sheep is sought and found and ultimately embraced by the community. The celebration that ensues is likened to the heavenly banquet of God's reign where there is more joy over one who repents than over those who have no need of repentance. Repent/repentance may seem a strange choice of words since all the action is taken by the shepherd. The lost sheep simply responds to the initiative of the shepherd who goes after it and returns it to the fold.

"Or what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it?" is Jesus' second question to his critics. The pattern is repeated. The drachma, representing a day's wages, is lost, sought and found, and the community rejoices. Now and then in the biblical tradition, as here, God is imaged as a woman. God is not only the good male shepherd as in the first parable or the good male parent as in the third parable. God is also the diligent female householder who seeks and saves what is lost. No single image can contain the compassionate, loving God presented in these parables. The invitation to the believing community is to find ways of opening our hearts and the hearts of the unforgiving in our world to God's action of seeking and saving the lost-here and now, not simply in the afterlife.

DATE: 10 & 11 SEPTEMBER		
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Margaret Schreenan	Pat & Bernie Kenna
COMMENTATOR	John van de Laar	Irene Monigatti
PROCLAIMER 1	Jim Waight	Terry Grano
PROCLAIMER 2	Frank Sheehan	Richard Francis
GIFTS	Glenane Family	Maureen & Hans van der Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	T Waight, M Eddy, K Keogh	B Ryan, C Wakefield, K Butler
LITURGY PREPARATION		Margaret & Leo Schreenan
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	Anne Rossiter
ALTAR & FLOWERS	C Walters & S De Beer	C Walters & S De Beer
DATE: 17 & 18 SEPTEMBER		
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Greta Kelly	Alison Thorpe
COMMENTATOR	Eileen van de Laar	Clare Fuller
PROCLAIMER 1	John McGlashan	Irene Monigatti
PROCLAIMER 2	Tony Beggs	Terry Ranger
GIFTS	Lewis/Moloney Families	Pat & Bernie Kenna
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	S Edgar, J Adams, K Lawry	G Hinchey, K Streulens, A Thorpe
LITURGY PREPARATION		Kaye & Tony Beggs
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan Bourke
ALTAR & FLOWERS	K Merbach, G Skinner, J Crowe	K Merbach, G Skinner, J Crowe

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

We are Eucharistic people, who love, pray, serve, hope and follow Jesus

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0459546980



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Invermay Park, 3350
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Mobile: 0418 501 606



Address: Shop 2, 1103 Howitt Street,
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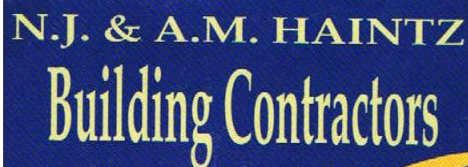
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