

Supervising Priest: Fr Peter Sherman

Parish Secretary: Genevieve Willmott

Priest in Residence: Fr. Barry Ryan

Pastoral Leader: Judith O'Sullivan

School Principal: Kim Butler

St Columba's Parish, Ballarat North

Parish Centre: 306 Gregory St, Nth. Ballarat Ph: 5331 7131

Email: office@stcolumbasparish.org or pastoral@stcolumbasparish.org

Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am - 4.00pm

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

Hope and follow Jesus

27th March, 2016



Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm Sunday: 10am Wednesday: 9.30am



Deaths: Max Gilbert, Patricia Pearce, Audrey

Lorkin

Anniversaries: Michael Maher, Basil Clark, Nell

Molloy, Peter Molloy, Annie Sullivan

HAPPY EASTER

Today we gather together with immense joy because, like those first disciples, we have come to believe that Jesus Christ has conquered death and restored us to life. Jesus' resurrection turned spectators, doubters and cynics into believers. However, Christ invites each of us to move from a safe and static state of believing to a life-changing daily decision to be disciples and followers of Jesus. As we celebrate the central event of the Christian faith may it be a time of joy and renewal for you. For us Christians it is more than chocolate eggs and fluffy bunnies. As Pope John Paul II quoted "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are an Easter people and Hallelujah is our song". We walk in the sure and certain hope that just as Jesus rose from the dead to sit at the Father's right hand, we too have Jesus' promise that all who believe in him will have everlasting life. response to this promise—this gift—is to worship God with praise and thanks for what God has already done for us through Jesus Christ.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

Envelopes are still available on church seats if you wish to give to the Holy Land Appeal. You can place the envelope on the second collection.

CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend, during the Easter Vigil, we celebrate Louisa Godbold's full reception into the Catholic Church. Through the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist, Louisa will 'become Catholic'.

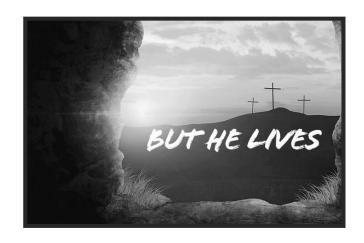
This has been a long and committed faith journey. To help celebrate this, there will be a supper after the Vigil, we welcome you to join in this celebration of Louisa's faith journey.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Could you please return your Project Compassion Box/Envelopes as soon



as possible. A box has been provided in the foyer near the collection boxes or you can add your envelope/box to the second collection. Thank you for your generous contribution.



Words of Wisdom

We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining – They just shine

.....Dwight L. Moody



THE EASTER CANDLE

The Easter Candle At the Easter Vigil, the Church represents the mystery of the light of Christ in the sign of the Paschal candle, whose flame is both light and heat. The symbolism of light is connected with that of fire: radiance

and heat, radiance and the transforming energy contained in the fire – truth and love go together. The Paschal candle burns, and is thereby consumed: Cross and resurrection are inseparable. From the Cross, from the Son's self-giving, light is born, true radiance comes into the world. From the Paschal candle we all light our own candles, especially the newly baptized, for whom the light of Christ enters deeply into their hearts in this Sacrament.

DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS

Diocesan Website: The new diocesan website was launched late last year www.ballarat.catholic.org.au. The website contains information on the diocese and parishes and also has a section for members to access resources relevant to diocesan ministries.

e-News: e-News is available to all members of the diocese and those associated with and with an interest in the life of the diocese. It is published every two weeks and distributed via email. You can subscribe to receive e-News on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or you welcome to submit items for publication News to enews@ballarat.catholic.org.au. items submitted should have relevance to the life and activity of the parishes and schools of the diocese and include photos where possible.

Our Diocesan Community: ODC is published three times per year and delivered to parishes for distribution to those in the diocese. This magazine contains the good news stories of events and people in the diocese. You are welcome to submit items for publication to odc@ballarat.catholic.org.au and again, news items submitted should have relevance to the life and activity of the parishes and schools of the diocese and include photos where possible.

JUNIOR RECONCILIATION

Junior Reconciliation Preparation for Grade three students will begin next term. There will be a Parent Information session on Tuesday, 19th April at 7pm at the St. Columba's School in LG6. For more information please contact Judith at the St. Columba's Parish Office on ph: 5331 7131.



Holy Hour & Adoration		Friday 8 April 7-8pm		
Sew & So		Thursday 14 April 1pm		
Finance Meeting		Tuesday 19 April 6.30pm		
Liturgy Team Meeting		Tuesday 19 April 7.30pm		
Leadership Team Meeting		Thursday 28 April 7pm		
CHURCH BOOKINGS				
Week of: 28 th March – 3 rd April				
MONDAY				
TUESDAY				
WEDNESDAY	Mass 9.30am			
THURSDAY				
FRIDAY				
SATURDAY	Mass 6pm			
SUNDAY	Mass 10am			
Thank you for your generous support				
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Bruce Chapman, Judith O'Sullivan

Reflection on the Gospel -Easter 5C (John 13:31-35)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The literary context for today's gospel reading is Jesus' final meal with his disciples. Jesus has washed the feet of his foot-weary table companions, and has thus provided an example of what it means to love. What he has done for them, they are to do for one another. In other words, no form of service is too menial for a Christian disciple, and privileged exemption from service of others has no place in gospel living or in gospel leadership. Pope Francis has witnessed powerfully to this from the beginning of his papacy and in diverse ways over the past three years.

Jesus is troubled in spirit (v. 21) at this meal. There is a sense of foreboding in this statement. He knows that membership of the group is no guarantee of fidelity or of sustained goodness. All are capable of betrayal and Judas, who has been one of his closest companions, is about to hand him over to the authorities and ultimately to death. Another, Simon Peter, after protesting undying loyalty will proceed to deny him three times (vv. 37-38). Though troubled and no doubt disappointed by the failure of his friends and the dire consequences for himself, Jesus continues to teach the way of discipleship.

The betrayer's departure from the meal, Jesus informs them, signals the imminent arrival of the moment of glorification. Events have been set in train that will culminate in God's victory over evil and death. But this is not the end of their association with him. He will leave them very soon and they are to continue on the way of discipleship. His legacy to them is "a new commandment" – to love one another just as he has loved them. If they do that, everyone will know they are his disciples. To love as Jesus loved, however, is no small thing: it is to be willing to give one's life for the sake of "the other".

This new commandment to love one another is also Jesus' legacy to us, the successors of those early disciples. Loving care of the broken-hearted, of the war-ravaged and displaced, of the sick and the weary; providing shelter for the homeless; attentiveness to those grieving the loss of loved ones or of livelihood; a restorative gesture or word; a change in lifestyle or a tree planted in the interests of planetary survival - these are some of the ways of love and of discipleship. In our times, we have come to realise that "the other" embraces the more-than-human and that love of all God's creation is part of the new commandment.

DATE: MARCH 26 & 27				
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY		
WELCOMER				
COMMENTATOR				
PROCLAIMER 1	SEE ROSTER IN CHURCH FOYER			
PROCLAIMER 2				
GIFTS				
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST				
LITURGY PREPARATION		Sr. Geraldine Mugavin		
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta		
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please		
CHILDREN'S LITURGY				
SACRISTAN	Maree Phelan	Maureen van der Ploeg		
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Helen O'Shea	Helen O'Shea		
DATE: APRIL 2 & 3				
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY		
WELCOMER	John Madigan Family	Dan & Mern Coutts		
COMMENTATOR	Kate Lawry	Terry Grano		
PROCLAIMER 1	Ann Lacey	Kierce O'Loughlin		
PROCLAIMER 2	Jan Mullaly	Anne Rossiter		
GIFTS	David & Catherine Fara	Sharon De Beer		
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	R Fithall, T Keogh Jnr, M Lacey	R Pitman, M Burke, M Kennedy		
LITURGY PREPARATION		Kaye & Tony Beggs		
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta		
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please		
CHILDREN'S LITURGY				
SACRISTAN	Trish Simmons	Josie Crowe		
ALTAR & FLOWERS	C Walters & S De Beer	C Walters & S De Beer		
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