

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: office@stcolumbasparish.org 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

Deaths: Max Gilbert, Patricia Pearce, Audrey Lorkin

Anniversaries: Jack Lynch

MINISTRY ROSTERS

If you are currently on the Ministry Roster and wish to be removed, it is important you let the Parish Office know otherwise you will continue to be rostered on.

If you are currently not named on any rosters but would like to be, please contact the Parish Office or add your name to the clipboard in the church foyer.

COMMUNION

If you are unable to process up to communion but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand towards the end and a special minister will come to you.



PROJECT COMPASSION

Could you please return your Project Compassion Box/Envelopes urgently. 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.



Baptisms

Congratulations to **Wilhelmina Van Dyk** daughter of Laura and Joseph and **Samuel McClelland**, son of Anna and Todd. Our newest members to join St. Columba's Parish Community will be baptised this Sunday morning.

We congratulate Wilhelmina and Samuel on becoming members of God's family.

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

There will be a Mass celebrated in the Church foyer Monday 4th April at 9am. This year the Feast of the Annunciation fell on Good Friday, therefore it has been transferred to Monday.

MORNING PRAYER

Commencing Monday 4 April following Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation. We will gather to pray the Morning prayer of the Church. This is the "Divine Office" which priests and religious pray each day, but it is not just for them. Pope John Paul II encouraged the lay to join in on these beautiful prayers. Please feel free to join in with us, they take about 20 minutes to pray and we conclude with a time to pray for our own needs. We will gather Monday and Friday each week, you are not obliged to attend every time but come to enrich your prayer life. For further information please speak with Judith.

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

THANK YOU

A big thank you to those who assisted over Holy Week - from those who helped "Spring clean" the church, to musicians and singers, the liturgy preparation teams, sacristans, proclaimers, special ministers and all who helped with the supper and morning tea. Your hard work and attention to detail helped make this a very meaningful Triduum. God bless you all.

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, 14th April at the Mercy Centre, Ballarat East. Times are 1-3pm and 7-9pm.

FAMILY GROUPS

Our family groups here at St. Columba's Parish have been active for just on 28 years. Each group has maybe 20 or so members who meet socially, usually once a month, that could be for a lovely Sunday luncheon, a trip to the theatre, a car trial, football day, coffee, walk around the lake, or a myriad of other activities. The groups have proven to be a wonderful support to the Parish, and individual members, in good and not so good times and are a very important part in making, and keeping, St. Columba's a great parish. If you are new to the Parish, or have been here for quite a while and haven't got around to joining, you are most well to enquire about joining a group, you would be made most welcome. Phone Shirley or Denis Edgar on 53344550.

Words of Wisdom

*Why do you say yes
to things you know you shouldn't?
Ask God to empower you
to say yes when you mean yes,
and no when you mean no.*

FOUND!

A Gift Voucher was left in the church last weekend. If you would like it back, it can be collected from the parish office.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. It was given this title by Pope John Paul II, following the canonisation of St Faustina on 30 April 2000. In the Church Calendar, the Sunday



following Easter has always been the Feast of Mercy, it has special significance this year in the Holy Year of Mercy. In the Ballarat Diocese there will be Mass at 2pm preceded by the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 1pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. All welcome to attend.



HOLY HOUR & ADORATION

Holy Hour and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is on Friday, 8th April between 7pm and 8pm in the church. All most welcome.

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 71

PARISH CALENDAR

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

Thank you for your generous support

1 st Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$1545.65
2 nd Collection (Envelopes)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish -Average given weekly for this financial year (week 38)	\$1543.00 \$2341.86
Sundry Change		\$267.35
Special Collections	Project Compassion Holy Land Appeal Easter Offerings	\$2862.30 \$1029.60 \$764.00

**Reflection on the Gospel-Easter 2C
(John 20:19-31)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Some of you may remember when we spoke of the Sundays “after Easter”. The terminology has changed and we now speak of the Sundays “of Easter”. In other words, we now recognise that the liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into a different movement of the one great symphony of resurrection faith.

The first scene in today’s gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors “for fear” of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his “Father”. They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit.

The story invites us as believers to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves, and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in our pursuit of justice and peace. It also invites us to ponder the consequences of forgiving on the one hand and of not forgiving on the other. To forgive another is to release that person from the burden of guilt and shame. Forgiveness opens up the possibility of healing for all concerned. To refuse forgiveness or to “retain” the sins of another is to leave that person unforgiven and so unhealed. We might also consider the consequences of refusing to open ourselves to forgiveness. More often than not, those who refuse to forgive others have failed to forgive themselves for their own failures.

The second and third scenes in today’s gospel focus on Thomas who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas is not exactly the trusting type. He seems to trust only his own first hand experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. Then they make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else has known for a while. If we think, however, that those who hear from the outset are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days later! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled their fears. Even those who do believe and trust may need a bit of time to take the gospel message on board.

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

DATE: APRIL 9 & 10

DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Margaret Ranger	Judith O’Sullivan
COMMENTATOR	Jennifer Adams	Anne Rossiter
PROCLAIMER 1	Maree Phelan	Bruce Chapman
PROCLAIMER 2	Barry Phelan	Sr Geraldine Mugavin
GIFTS	Kath Scanlon & Family	Maureen & Hans van der Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	P Marquand, R Marquand, A Marquand	C Haintz, I Monigatti, K O’Loughlin
LITURGY PREPARATION		Fr. Barry Ryan
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN’S LITURGY		
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	Josie Crowe
ALTAR & FLOWERS	C Walters & S De Beer	C Walters & S De Beer

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

JOHN THOMAS ELECTRICAL
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A.B.N. 63 927 625 970

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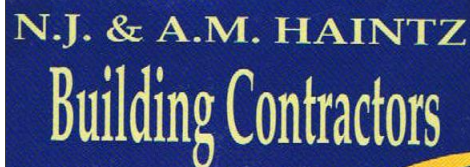
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