

BALLARAT NEWS

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Proposals In April this year, the bishops of Victoria published a pastoral letter in response to proposals to introduce legislation allowing euthanasia and assisted suicide. As a follow-up to that letter, a group of lay people has prepared a flyer encouraging people to write to parliamentarians and express their opposition to such legislation. Copies of the flyer have been made available for your consideration. You are invited to write to parliamentarians as suggested.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BALLARAT FOUNDATION In June the foundation held its 31st Annual General Meeting, so it is timely to remind parishioners of the purpose of the Foundation and to update the diocese on the activities of the Foundation during 2016.

The Foundation was established in 1986 to raise funds to assist the Bishop fund the pastoral needs of the Diocese of Ballarat. Over the last twenty years in particular there has been a shift in the demographics of our diocese with declining population in many rural areas, population growth in regional towns, and a continuing decrease in mass attendance. Our diocese comprises 51 Parishes with 109 church communities within those Parishes. We are faced therefore with an increasing challenge to provide services to people within our Diocese. The Foundation is in its 32nd year of assisting the Bishop in providing these services.

The objectives of the Foundation are:

to financially assist the Diocese in its mission to grow Christ's kingdom here on earth; to financially assist the charitable works of the Diocese; and to provide for relief, support and comfort of those suffering from disadvantage within the Diocese, inter alia from unemployment, low income, age, physical or mental disability, language difficulties or social or economic isolation.



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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

13th August, 2017. 19h Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

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 9- 1.30pm, 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: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC



Readings for next weekend:

Is 56: 1, 6-7

Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32

Matthew 15: 21-28

Focus on the Scripture:

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God.

As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.



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Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation,

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Fran Morris

Anniversaries: We remember: Giuseppi (Joe) Keogh, John (Joe) Groten, Josephine Bird, Bernie Hynes, Gwen Sowter, Michael Yaworowicz, Steven King, Connie Angelo, Dorothy White

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School), Lesley Bigarelli

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Fr Marcello and Fr Barry are on Annual Leave. We welcome as our celebrants this weekend, Bishop Peter Connors who will celebrate Mass for us on Saturday night and Bishop Paul Bird who will be our celebrant at Mass on Sunday. We thank them for making themselves available to be with us.



First Eucharist This weekend is the second week of Dismissals for First Eucharist preparation. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

Wednesday Masses—no Wednesday morning Masses throughout August.

Liturgy Help We have now subscribed to Liturgy Help website for resources for Liturgy Preparation, Music, Readers etc. If you wish to access this website you need a username and password. To obtain one of these please contact Judith in the Office 5331 7131.

Readers please note that the readings from the Lectionary read at Mass are now available on the website. If you have difficulty finding them or would prefer a hard copy, please contact Judith.



Feast of the Assumption of Mary—Holy Day of Obligation— will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Tuesday 15 August with masses held at 7:30am, 10:00am, 12:05pm, 5:30pm.

Catholic Womens League—Cathedral Branch—Social Afternoon This will be held on Wednesday 6th September in the Mary Glowrey Room in the O'Collins Hall. Speaker, Diane Colbert will present "Our Children and the Media". Stall and competition. Afternoon tea is provided. All welcome. Free entry, Inquiries—Carmel Kavanagh, Mobile: 0401 175 045

Father Robert McCulloch at Nazareth House will be held on Monday 28th August, with 6pm Mass and 7pm Presentation 'Can Christianity survive in Pakistan'. All welcome.

Thanksgiving	We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 599.65	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1015.00	Average for this financial year \$2244.97

THIS WEEKEND	SATURDAY 12th August	SUNDAY 13th August	What's on this week:
WELCOMER	Mary & Margaret Sullivan	Pat Kenna	
COMMENTATOR	Ann Lacey	Kim Butler	
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tom Keogh Snr	Jim Kierce	
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tom Keogh Jnr	Derek Streulens	
GIFTS	Tom & Greta Kelly	Colleen Wakefield, Judith O'Sullivan	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Shirley Edgar, Jennifer Adams, Peter Marquand	Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens, Bruce Chapman	
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Harry Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Sullivan sisters	Anne Rossiter	

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

Catholic Women League - Cathedral Branch - Social Afternoon. This will be held on Wednesday September 6th in the Mary Glowrey Room in the O'Collin's Hall. Speaker, Diane Colbert will present "Our children and the Media". Stall and competition. Afternoon tea provided. All welcome. Free entry. Inquiries - Carmel 0401175045

Father Robert McCulloch at Nazareth House. Monday, August 28th. 6pm Mass and 7pm Presentation "Can Christianity survive in Pakistan" All welcome. Inquiries 0401175045

First Communion preparation for parishioners of OLHC parishes will commence with a parent information evening on **Wednesday, August 16th at 7:00 pm** in the Parish Meeting Room. OLHC First Communion dates are set for Saturday, September 17th at 6:00 pm and Sunday September 23rd at 10:00 am. Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also occur during this time. There will be two preparation Workshops—on Wednesday August 30th and September 6th, with the Reconciliation ceremony on Wednesday, September 13th. Please keep these children in your prayers.



Fr Marcello is on Annual Leave. This week we welcome Bishops Paul Bird and Peter Connors

Exodus Community: There is a basket for donations of canned, dried or packaged food stuffs to be collected by the members of the Exodus community. This basket is available in the church

Stewardship Update: Receipts for 2016-2017 are now available. Please collect from the foyer of OLHC Church. Any enquiries: Chris ph. 0419 178 919

Collections:	We thank you for your generous support		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 461		
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 429	Total for July, 2017	\$ 8090
	Direct Debit	\$ 55	(NB: \$1100 down from this time last year)
	Credit Card	\$ 1325	

NEXT WEEKEND	6pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Veronica Stott	
MINISTER of the WORD	Chris Pearce	Helen & Colin Feely	
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Bev Hayward, Maxine Rousch, Pauline Newman, Mavis McNulty, + 1 volunteer	Helen Rieniets, Margaret White, Elly Green + 2 volunteers	
SACRISTAN	Pauline Howard	Joyce Jackson	
COUNTERS		Kath Leonard, Kaye Stringer	
CHURCH CLEANING	Glenda Muir, Melva Muir		
Rural Communities 8:30 am This Weekend - Learmonth Next Weekend— Waubra			
Minister of Word:	Fon Ryan	Margaret McDonald	
Minister of Eucharist :	Bev Hayward	Sharon Moran	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Phyllis & Pat Bourke	