



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

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 8.30– 12.30, 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

Monday: 2:00 pm Funeral

Wednesday: 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Wednesday: 10:00 am

Thursday: 11:00 am Kelaston

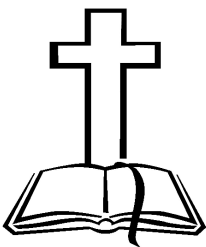
Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for Next weekend:

Act 8: 5-8, 14-17

1 Pt 3: 15-18

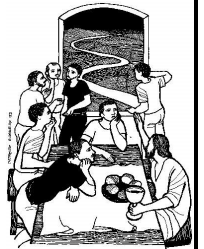
Jn 14: 15—21



14h May 2017, 5th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Focus on the Scripture

Freedom from anxiety is the constant message of the gospels. "Do not let your hearts be troubled" is Jesus' word to his friends in John's gospel. The verb, here in passive mood ("be troubled"), is used of Jesus' spirit when he finds his friend Mary and her companions weeping over the death of Lazarus (11:33). It means literally to shake or to stir up. Jesus is really shaken by grief in that situation. As he faces his own death, he does not want his friends to be troubled of heart or spirit. He speaks here from his own experience.



Jesus points out the path to an untroubled heart: "Believe in God, believe also in me." The faith of the disciples is to be grounded in his care for them both in the present and into the future: "I go to prepare a place for you... I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also". In this context, Jesus makes three claims: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." The prologue to the gospel, which functions as an overture to the whole work, has introduced the notion of the glorified Jesus as "full of grace and truth" and the bringer of "grace and truth" (1:14, 17). He is the *life* that is the light of all (1:4). As the gospel unfolds, we learn that he is the bread of *life*, even the resurrection and the *life*. His claim to be "the way" is foreshadowed in the parable of the door or the gate: "I am the gate of the sheepfold."

If the disciples know Jesus, then they also know the way to God whom Jesus images in tender parental terms as "Father". He speaks of their mutual indwelling. If Philip, his persistent questioner, does not believe this, then maybe he can believe on account of the "works" of Jesus, works that are also the works of God. Those who believe have the power to do these and even greater works. This seems extraordinary, but is really just a matter of believing with untroubled hearts that the power comes from God - as next Sunday's gospel will tell us.

@ Veronica Lawson RSM

Deaths: Bryan Keighrey,

Anniversaries: Mae Armstrong, Sidney Morgan, John Francis Deady

We pray: for the sick of our Parishes especially Anthony Cushing and Blake Dridan (pupil at St Columba's School).

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

Mothers' Day—Mothers, Grandmothers, Spiritual mothers—we honour you today! Thank you for the time, the effort, the energy, the patience, the love you poured into us day in and day out! We know that God rewards diligence and we pray that He will reward your diligence as a mother today! Motherhood is indeed a high calling and one that should be treasured as such! HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY and may God bless you all!



Catholics for Renewal Open Letter to Bishops —for those who wish to view this letter and sign the petition, please visit the website: www.catholicsforrenewal.org/open-letter

Baptisms– This weekend we welcome into our faith community Alexander Cannane son of Joshua and Emma and Audrey and Owen Van Der Ploeg, daughter and son of Shaun and Kate Van Der Ploeg, who will be baptized during the 10am Mass on Sunday.



Men's Group– Next gathering will be on Thursday 1st June at midday (note change of date) Soup and roll lunch. Venue to be advised. Please contact the office for further details or if you require transport.

Commentators-please extinguish lectern candles after reading the Prayer of the Faithful. Thank you

Mass Count—Please be advised that the annual Mass Count will be conducted over the weekends in May. Collectors can you please count the number of people in the congregation at each Mass.

Confirmation—The celebration of the Sacrament will be on Sunday 28th May and Sunday 11th June during the 10am Mass. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.



Readings—the link below provides the appropriate readings that are used for the weekend mass. We are in Year A. Scroll down to find the appropriate reading. Once we move into our new premises we will be able to scan and email. www.catholic.sk/download.php?fname=SundayReadings.pdf

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| Thanksgiving | We thank you for your generous support | |
| 1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) | \$ 932.50 | Project Compassion (to date) \$4388.60 |
| Easter Offerings (to date) | \$ 930.00 | |
| 2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish) | \$ 2172.00 | Average for this financial year \$ 2059.58 |
| Week 45 | | |

| THIS WEEKEND | SATURDAY 13 MAY | SUNDAY 14 MAY | What's on this week: |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
| WELCOMER | Ruth Marquand/Tim Fithall | Helen Linane | Monday 15th 2:00pm Funeral of Bryan Keighrey |
| COMMENTATOR | Trish Simmons | Kim Butler | Tuesday 16th 6:00pm Finance Meeting Board Room in new Parish Office |
| FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD | Maureen Mooney | Richard Francis | Wednesday 17th 9:30am Mass in Foyer |
| SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD | Kathleen Keogh | Terry Ranger | Tuesday 16th 7.30pm Liturgy Meeting School Board Room |
| GIFTS | Tom & Greta Kelly | Volunteers please | Saturday 20th 6:00pm Mass the School Grade 3's will lead us in song and participate. |
| MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST | Maureen Eddy, Peter Marquand, Shirley Edgar | Kay Merbach, Brenda Ryan, Colleen Wakefield | <u>Next week:</u> |
| OVERHEADS | Volunteer please | Bruce Chapman | Thursday 25th 7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council |
| SACRISTAN | Norah Moloney | Anne Rossiter | |

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

Mother's Day Loving God, we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end. May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them. We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience. We ask you to bless them with your own special love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother. Amen.



Planned Giving & Parish Data Base: The parish needs a responsible parishioner to take over the management of Planned Giving and the Database. Adequate training will be provided. If you are computer literate and interested in this rewarding activity please contact Chris Pearce 0419 178 919



Thank you from Fr George A lovely thank-you card has arrived at the Parish from Fr George Hogarty. You will all recall Fr George ministered for us between the departure of Fr Peter and the arrival of Fr Marcello. He thanked us for our kindness to him during his stay and for his farewell gift. We all remain in his prayers.

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 foyer. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

Parish Website Development: We are preparing to launch in the near future a parish website detailing the various activities of OLHC Parish. We are seeking the assistance of anyone who has an interest and ability in website design, and who has time to volunteer their assistance. Please contact the parish office: Ph 5339 2302

Confirmation: Preparation for this Sacrament commences this weekend. Please keep the candidates and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks. Children will be dismissed from Mass for their preparation over the next four weekends. Confirmation will be held on Saturday May 27th at 6:00 pm and Sunday June 4th at 10:00 am.



| Collections: | <i>We thank you for your generous support</i> | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|--|
| 1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese) | \$ 773 | | | Project compassion to date: \$3,721 |
| 2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish) | \$ 586 | | | |
| | Credit Cards | \$2025 | | |
| | Direct Debit | \$ 70 | Loose | \$ 141 |

| NEXT WEEKEND | 6pm | 10:00 am | What's on this week |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|
| LEADER of SONG | Vin Dillon | Corrie Harbour | Sun 14th Mother's Day Wed 17th Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 7:00 pm. Thurs 18th Mass at Kelaston. Next Week: Wed 24th St V.d.P. meeting at 11:30 am at Violet Grove |
| MINISTER of the WORD | Pauline Newman | Harry Kennedy | |
| MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST | Joyce Jackson, Lia Yu, Bev Hayward, Val & John Bourke | Margaret White, Elly Green, Tony Bruty + 2 volunteers | |
| SACRISTAN | John & Sue Calisto | Helen & Mick Rieniets | |
| COUNTERS | | P Pora, C. Clifford, B. Ratcliffe | |
| CHURCH CLEANING | Beth Clark, Margaret McLean | | |
| Rural Communities | This Weekend - Learmonth | Next Weekend - Waubra | |
| Minister of Word: | Fon Ryan | Bev Hayward | |
| Minister of Eucharist : | Tony McDonald | Kerryn Gallagher | |
| Church Cleaning: | Anne Dalton | Bev Hayward | |

BALLARAT NEWS

Bishop Peter Connors 30th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination Mass will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome. Flyer in the foyer.

Mass Count: The annual count of mass attendance will occur over the next few weeks.

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – new study opportunities The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. Registration for the May study cycle closes on May 22, 2017 - or you can start in July or later in the year. See the details on the diocesan website (link is on lower part of front page), then contact Amanda, ph: 5337 7125 or email amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship – applications now open: The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offer scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Applications close 17 July 2017. Details and application: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>



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