

BALLARAT NEWS

Spiritual Care Program :

A second program for parishioners engaged in pastoral ministry in its many expressions in our parishes is being offered soon. Bethany Pennington will facilitate this program comprising five sessions on the following dates – September 20th, October 4th and 25th, November 8th and 22nd. Each of these sessions will be held in the MacKillop and Glowry rooms in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Parishioners engaged in Funeral ministry, Visiting, Communion to those at home or in care are welcome to participate. Please register with Jacinta in the Cathedral Parish Office 5331 2933, by Friday September 15th.

Benefit concert to aid the homeless in Ballarat.

The Melbourne Singers of Gospel capture the energy, excitement, rhythm and harmonies of the mass gospel choirs of the USA. Sunday 27th August, 3.00pm at Ballarat Central Uniting Church, cnr Lydiard & Dana Sts. Ballarat. www.trybooking.com/OYMT Inquiries 53331361. Tickets available at the door.

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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

27th August, 2017. 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

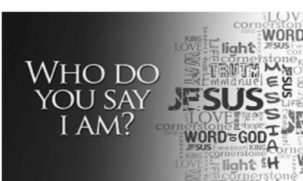
Focus on the Scripture:

The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

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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

Safeguarding Officer: Peter Marquand

Staff at Wendouree

Parish Co-ordinator: Maree Roache
Wed-Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

Safeguarding Officer: Maree Roache

Exodus Community: 5338 2118

Mass times: St Columba's

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am

Wednesday: 9:30 am

Mass times: Wendouree

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am Rural

10:00 am OLHC

Tuesday: 5.00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am Funeral

Thursday: 10:00 am

Friday: 10:00 am

Readings for next week-end:

Jer 20: 7-9

Romans 12: 1-2

Matthew 16: 21-27



Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Lesley Bigarelli, Dave Griffiths, Ben Northey, Doreen Ryan, Rita Madden

Anniversaries: We remember: Jack Brusaschi, Ella Anderson, Michael Ferguson, Patrick Flynn, Andrew Loader

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

ST COLUMBA'S PARISH NEWS

First Eucharist This weekend is the final week of Dismissals for First Eucharist preparation. Sacraments will be on Saturday 2nd September at 6pm and Sunday 10th September at 10am. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.



Catholic Women's League—Cathedral Branch—Social Afternoon This will be held on Wed 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

Congratulations to Fr Marcello on the 16th Anniversary of Ordination (31st August). We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide you in all do and say.

St Vincent de Paul – an invitation to help out Every Sunday evening members and friends of the Saint Vincent de Paul team delivers donated bread to a number of families around Ballarat North. Upon collection of the bread, we re-bag and deliver it in pairs to designated houses – the job is usually complete within the hour. We have a number of committed people who support this program but would love to hear from anyone who is interested in helping out on a casual basis. This is a wonderful opportunity to volunteer a little of your time, every so often, to help out those in need – and we would appreciate any support you can give. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the Parish Office or speak to the person on the Piety Stall before/ after Mass. Also, if you are interested in finding out more about our St Vincent de Paul Conference, we would warmly welcome any enquiries or new members – just enquire at the office or Piety Stall.

Happy Birthday the Parish sends Birthday blessings to Dan Coutts who turns 90 years today. Congratulations on reaching this wonderful milestone.



"Can Christianity survive in Pakistan" Nazareth House Monday 28th August. Father Robert McCulloch will celebrate Mass at 6 pm and give a presentation at 7 pm in the Hall at Nazareth House. Entry by donation. All welcome. Supper provided.

Thanksgiving	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>	
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 763.10	
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up keep of Parish)	\$ 1549.00	Average for this financial year 2164.85

THIS WEEKEND	SATURDAY 26th August	SUNDAY 27th August
WELCOMER	Catherine Fara	Alison Thorpe
COMMENTATOR	Rosemary Fithall	Anne Rossiter
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD	Trish Simmons	Min Myers
SECOND MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ruth Marquand	Brian Kennedy
GIFTS	Edgar Family	Pat & Bernie Kenna
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Annette Madigan, Peter Marquand, Jan Mulally	Carole Barr, Judith O'Sullivan, Mary Kennedy
OVERHEADS	Volunteer	Volunteer
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	Maureen van der Ploeg

What's on this week:

Ministry Rosters

Please note—Ministry rosters—there is now a copy of these rosters on the notice board, please check these as you enter the Church for Mass. If you are not available on the weekend you are rostered, please arrange a replacement. Thank you.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH NEWS

OLHC BOOK WEEK : REACH OUT As part of our Book Week celebrations at OLHC the students would like to share the love of books with children who do not have books in their homes.

We are collecting used children's books in good condition and will be donating them to our local St. Vincent De Paul Society. If you have books you would like to donate please place them in the basket in the foyer of the OLHC Church OR drop them to the OLHC school office. We thank you for supporting this good cause.

Final collection date: Friday September 1st. Happy Reading!

First Communion OLHC First Communion dates are set for Sunday, September 17th at 10:00 am, and Saturday September 23rd at 6:00 pm. Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also occur during this time. The first Reconciliation meeting for parents and children will be on Wednesday 30th at 7:00 pm in the parish Meeting Room. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.



"Deësis: Prayer and Image" Exhibition. This exhibition is dedicated to the role of icons as agents of intercession. Art Gallery of Ballarat until Sunday, September 10, 2017.

Building update: Work on the new storeroom has commenced. The building site is on the south side of the church, with entry to the site from the carpark via the south east corner of the existing building. Repair work on the entrance portico is underway.

Parish Pastoral Council meeting has been postponed until Wednesday 30th August. This meeting is to be held in the Presbytery.

Rosters for Volunteers: New rosters for volunteers in the parish will be compiled over the coming week. Please notify the co-ordinator of each Ministry, or the parish office re: any additions or alterations to previous schedules.

Notice Board: Damascus College celebrates 50 years of Mercy education - Saturday October 28th.



Collections:	<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>		
1st Collection (For support of the Clergy in the Diocese)	\$ 615	Credit Card	\$ 80
2nd Collection (Last weeks giving for up-keep of Parish)	\$ 504	Loose Money	\$ 142
	Direct Debit	\$ 104	Total to date, 2017
			\$ 10,694

NEXT WEEKEND	6pm	10:00 am	What's on this week
LEADER of SONG	Corrie Harbour	Sue Searls	Wed 30th St V.d.P. meeting at 11:30 am—Violet Grove.
MINISTER of the WORD	Trish Pora	Bill Hill	Wed 30th Reconciliation meeting parents & candidates 7pm
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Joyce Jackson, Des Lloyd, Mavis McNulty, John Bourke, + 1 volunteer	Peter Briody, Pat Dillon, Christine Richardson, Judith Potter, + 1 volunteer	Next Week:
SACRISTAN	Pauline & Tony Newman	Michael & Helen Rienets	Sun 3rd - cuppa after mass— "Time out" Family Group
COUNTERS		Peter & Deanna Osman	Wed 6th Reconciliation meeting parents & candidates 7pm
CHURCH CLEANING	Beth Clark, Margaret Clark		Thurs 7th Baptism Formation— Cathedral- 10am & 7pm
Rural Communities 8:30 am	This Weekend - Learmonth	Next Weekend—Waubra	
Minister of Word:	Bev Hayward	Anne Dalton	
Minister of Eucharist :	Margaret McDonald	Kerryn Gallagher	
Church Cleaning:	Bev Hayward	Trish & Steve Coleman	