

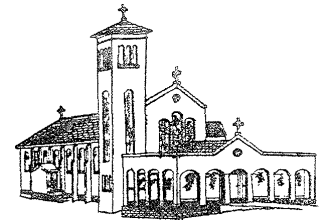
# St Columba's Parish - Ballarat North

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School Web: [scballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://scballarat.catholic.edu.au)



**Weekend of**  
**11th-12th**  
**March, 2017**

## Mass times:

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

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Pastoral Associate: Judith O'Sullivan

Parish Secretary: Ruth Marquand

Leadership Chair: Bruce Chapman

School Principal: Kim Butler

Visiting Priest: Fr Barry Ryan

## *Readings for next weekend:*

*Exodus 17: 3-7*

*Psalms: 94: 1-2, 6-9*

*Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*

*John 4:5-42*



## **WHAT'S ON this week:**

Wednesday 15th March @ 9:30am with Fr Marcello Colasante Mass in the church foyer

Thursday 16th March @ 4.30pm

Bereavement Team in the Church foyer

Friday 17th March @ 12.30 Lunch at the Ballarat Golf Club

Friday 17th March @ 6:30pm Stations of the Cross in the Church



## **Reflection on the Gospel-Second Sunday of Lent Year A**

**(Matthew 17:1-9)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Last week's gospel invited us into a confronting habitat, namely the wilderness. This week, we follow Jesus and three of his companions to a mountain and eventually a cloud-covered mountain. Both wilderness and mountain link Matthew's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites of old. Wilderness and mountain also remind us that God's creation is the locus of wonder and mystery. The world we inhabit has an integrity of its own that has not always been acknowledged in our tradition. It is, in a very real sense, God's dwelling place. It is, in addition, the place of human-divine encounter and the place of human encounter with the other-than-human material world. Attention to habitat can lead us to a clearer understanding of our own place in the scheme of things and to ever deeper understandings of our relationship with God.

The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he comes to terms with the fate he is likely to meet: if he confronts the forces of oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. Jesus struggles with that realisation in the wilderness at the outset of his ministry. On the mountain top, he comes to terms with what that involves. The disciples see Moses and Elijah, the key prophetic figures of Israel, speaking with Jesus, God's new and definitive prophet. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to a mission that elicits hostility. That is not, however, the way of discipleship. Rather, Peter and his companions are called to "listen" to Jesus, the beloved of God, as are all who follow in the way of discipleship.

Matthew's account of the "transfiguration" is followed by a reminder that Jesus is soon to meet a violent death (17:23). Jesus' companions get a glimpse of God's glory shining on his face and penetrating even his clothing, a hint that God's grace is more life-giving than the forces of violence that oppose God's reign. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We need the good sense to listen and to follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we experience from the most unexpected quarters. If we are to sustain the struggle for a healthy, safe, and peace-filled world, we have to resist the temptation to hold on to the moments of glory, and come to terms with the personal cost of being faithful to the gospel mission of justice and compassion with all its painful demands.



**Deaths:** Fr Tom Sheeran, Rupert McKenna and Olive Hewitt

**Anniversaries:** Sr Mary Lynch, Bryan Deady, Jack Lynch

**We pray:** for the sick of our Parish and especially we pray for our RCIA & RCIC Candidates and Catechumen and all preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

## MORE PARISH NEWS

**Social gathering**—Our next Parish social gathering will be lunch on 17 March at the Ballarat Golf club starting at 12.30pm. We invite you to wear the green. There will be a prize for the best dressed. Please leave your name on the clip board in the foyer. RSVP 13 March . If you require transport please do not hesitate to contact Ruth or Judith in the Parish Office to see what can be arranged.



**Project Compassion**—Boxes and envelopes are available for collection in the church foyer. Please feel free to take one and return at Easter time.

**Minnie Vinnies Commissioning Mass—Sunday 26 March @10am** Celebrating our St Vincent De Paul organisation in our parish.

**Godly Play throughout Lent**—*What:* Godly Play is a method of telling Bible stories, using parables, sacred stories and liturgical lessons about religious traditions using simple 2D and 3D materials; *Where:* In the Church foyer *When:* Sundays 12th, 19th, 26 March and Sundays 2nd and 9th April. All School aged children are most welcome!

**Easter Liturgies**—Clipboards are available in the foyer for you to complete if you would like to contribute as a Special Minister, Reader, Commentator, Offertory Gifts, Narrators, etc. for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.



### DATE: MARCH 11 & 12

WELCOMER	Mary & Margaret Sullivan	Geraldine Mugavin
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Kierce O'Loughlin
MINISTER OF THE WORD 1	Tom Keogh Jnr	Terry Ranger
MINISTER OF THE WORD 2	Tom Keogh Snr	Anne Rossiter
GIFTS	Tom & Greta Kelly	Maureen & Hans van de Ploeg
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Kate Lawry, Shirley Edgar, Jan Mullaly	Kaye Merbach, Brenda Ryan, Colleen Wakefield
LITURGY PREPARATION		Pat & Bernie Kenna
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Sharon DeBeer
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney	Anne
ALTAR & FLOWERS	As Arranged	As Arranged

### DATE: MARCH 18 & 19

WELCOMER	Helen O'Loughlin	Judith O'Sullivan
COMMENTATOR	Rosemary Fithall	Pat Kenna
MINISTER OF THE WORD 1	Tom Keogh Snr	Anne Rossiter
MINISTER OF THE WORD 2	Clare Keogh	Bruce Chapman
GIFTS	Glenane Family	Mandy Carroll
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	Rosemary Fithall, Annette Madigan, John Van de Laar	Kim Butler, Georgina Hinchey, Derek Streulens
LITURGY PREPARATION		Margaret & Leo Schreenan
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Judith O'Sullivan
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan
ALTAR & FLOWERS	As Arranged	As Arranged

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

## MORE PARISH NEWS CONT:

**Lenten Stations of the Cross** will be held in the Church on Fridays evenings from 6.30pm. Contact Judith 5331 7131 if you would like further information.

**Rosters** We will be preparing the next roster in the next few weeks. Apologies to anyone who was left off the last one. If there are any changes to be made or you would like to join another ministry please contact Ruth in the office. There is the roster for Easter in the foyer to be completed. If you be will around for Easter please fill in the sheet where you are able to assist.

**Liturgy Committee Notices** If you or someone you know needs prayers and are happy to have their name published on the notice sheet please let Ruth know in the office. Names will remain on the sheet for 3 weeks, if you require the name for longer let us know.

**Can you help?** Each ministry is always looking out for new people to join their team. At the moment we desperately need flower arrangers and brass cleaners. These are rostered so the time investment need not be too taxing. Maybe this could be your Lenten sacrifice. Contact the Parish office to sign up.



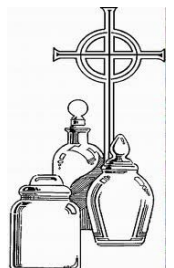
**Mass of the Oils** We would like one more person from our Parish to collect the Oils from the Cathedral on Monday 10 April during the Mass of the Oils. If you are available to do this, please contact Judith at the office: tel 5331 7131.

**Upcoming dates** *Senior Reconciliation* Tuesday 21st March and Wednesday 22nd March 6pm; *Anointing Mass* 5th April 11am followed by a light lunch; *Reconciliation 2nd Rite* 11th April 7pm

	<b>State of the Nation</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$847.10
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection (Envelopes & Loose Monies)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish -Average given weekly for this financial year (week 36)	\$886.05  \$2028.12
		<b>Thankyou for your generous support</b>

## OTHER NEWS

**MASS OF THE OILS—MONDAY 10 APRIL 2017**-The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6:30pm on Monday April 10. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2017, the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All members of the Diocese are invited to this celebration, which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church.



**Bush Dance at Donegan's Farm, Gordon**—Ballarat Friends of Ainaro Health Group are holding a Bush Dance at Donegan's Farm to raise funds for the Health Student Scholarship Fund to tertiary train Timorese health-workers so they can work in their local community. Fun, music, dance, auction, Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 6.30pm to 11.00pm, \$25.00 each or \$60.00 a family. Part of Harmony Fest – Cultural Diversity Week Ballarat.

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/ONIR](http://www.trybooking.com/ONIR) enquiries 0409 458 053

**St Joseph's College Kilmore Reunion** All former students of St Joseph's College Kilmore are invited to attend this reunion luncheon on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 12.00noon at the Kilmore Trackside Bistro, Kilmore Racing Club, East Street, Kilmore. The Racing Club Bistro menu is quite extensive and for those who would like to look at the menu beforehand, it can be accessed online. Cost: A la carte. Drinks at bar prices. Details and RSVP: Mary-Ann Zeven, ph. 0409148536 or [ma.carnaffan@gmail.com](mailto:ma.carnaffan@gmail.com)

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