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Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Child Safe Church The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office. You can download our Code of Conduct and Child Safety Policy from the Parish website or on the foyer notice board. If you have any concerns whatsoever—please contact the Parish Office, Fr. Marcello or one of the Safe Guarding Officers at wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Our Diocesan Community Please feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

Within the chapel of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Thornbury, in Melbourne's inner north, a set of Indigenous Stations of the Cross are on display, which were created by artist 'John Dunn', a member of the Stolen Generations. These Stations are an exploration of his own journey and they illustrate beautifully how Aboriginal people resonate with the sufferings of Jesus. 10cm x 16cm resource sets are available for parishes, churches and school communities at \$15.00 each. For more information go to <https://art.catholic.org.au/2021/07/13/aboriginal-stations-of-the-cross/>

COVID Safe Plan

Checking-in is no longer a requirement. Face Masks are no longer required to be worn in most indoor settings but are recommended, particularly if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. They are also recommended for people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and are in settings where keeping a safe physical distance from other people is not possible.

- **If you are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough or sore throat) please do not attend Mass.**
- **If you are awaiting results of a COVID test, please stay home.**
- **Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.**
- **Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.**



Parishes of St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians

Communities of Ballarat North, Lexton, Miners Rest, Waubra, Wendouree

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (select Parish)



Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth Phone: 5331 1012
Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree Phone: 5339 2302

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

P O Box 192, Wendouree

School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw

School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

School Phone: 5332 4894

School Phone: 5339 4726

Staffing

Parish Priest:
Fr Marcello Colasante

Finance Officer:
Bernadette Prestwood

St Columba's
Parish Co-Ordinator:
Lia Andanar Yu
Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

Safeguarding Officer:
Peter Marquand

Our Lady Help of Christians
Parish Co-ordinator and
Safeguarding Officer:
Maree Roache

Wed-Friday 9:00am -1:00pm

MASS TIMES (This week)

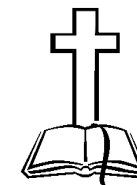
St Columba's
Sunday 10.00 am
Wednesday 10.00 am

Our Lady Help of Christians
Waubra 1st & 3rd Sunday 8.30 am
Beaufort 2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am
Lexton 5th Sunday 8.30 am

Wendouree
Saturday(Vigil) 6.00 pm
Thursday No Mass
Friday 10.00 am

Readings for Next Weekend

Zec 9: 9-10
Ps 144: 1-2, 8-11, 13-14 R. v.1
Rom 8:9, 11-13
Mt 11:25-30



2nd July 2023 ~ 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Focus on the Scriptures

Today's gospel reading concludes the so-called missionary discourse in which Jesus instructs his disciples on what it means to be a disciple. While some of the nuances of those instructions are lost in translation, Jesus' words to the disciples in first century Galilee can still speak to us as contemporary disciples. Discipleship today is about creating a just, equitable and healthy planetary community and about recognising the source of our power to do so. Discipleship requires us to examine our loyalties, to recognise that our first loyalty is to the one who calls us to discipleship and shows us the way to bring life.

Our planet is experiencing a climate crisis, dramatic species loss and mindless warfare. It is recovering from a pandemic that claimed the lives of some 6.8 million people (statista.com). There is growing consciousness of the discrimination and violence experienced by people of colour. What price are we prepared to pay to change the way we live so that the lives of those hitherto discounted might matter to everyone without exception? What price are we prepared to pay that we might have peace and meet the needs of all within the means of the planet? We have the witness of countless health workers who died from Covid-19 contracted from their patients. We have the witness of parents who have one meagre meal per day so that their children might be sheltered and nourished. We have the witness of courageous people across the globe taking up their respective "crosses" and laying down their lives for suffering others.

In following the way of Jesus and living the gospel of truth and justice and compassion, we can be faced with excruciating choices. We cannot always satisfy family if we want to be true to what we believe or if we want to expose injustice: there is often a deeper commitment that transcends the bonds of family relationship. We may even be called to relinquish, for the sake of a greater good, work that we love or income on which we depend. In other words, there is deep suffering in the way of discipleship, suffering that comes from being true to a mission that brings life to others despite the cost to ourselves.

Taking up the cross is a powerful metaphor for being willing to endure whatever hardships are involved in realising the vision of God's empire as opposed to the brutal empire of "Rome". God's empire finds expression in our times in every attempt to enshrine just policies and practices in law. It finds expression in every attempt to free the most marginalised from the impact of unjust policies and practices. Words are not enough: we are to live out in our lives the pattern of Jesus' life, a life characterised by hospitality and attention to the vulnerable. A cup of cold water for "the little ones" becomes the emblem of discipleship and in our post-industrial times the little ones include all God's thirsty creatures, human and other-than-human.
Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Brian O'Connor

Anniversaries: We remember: Dan Coutts, Fr. Graham Reynolds, Pauline Howard, Peter McCartney, Gina Ryan, Molly Reilly

We pray: for those in need, all who are sick, and for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers 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. For more information and application forms, please visit : pallottine.org.au/sypsponsorship Closing Date: 4 August 2023.

In the footsteps of Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage: October 17-28, 2023

This unique Australian Pilgrimage will take you on a journey to places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. The pilgrimage is operated by the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place. It will be led by Sr Anne Bondrsj, a Sister from the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and Mr Garry McLean, the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre. The pilgrimage will begin in East Melbourne on October 17 and conclude at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on October 28. Along the way pilgrims will visit historic sites and towns including Portland, Penola, Robe and the Mary MacKillop Chapel in North Sydney. To register, please visit: <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/>

Annual Collection for the Pope will take place on the weekends of 2nd and 9th of July. The annual collection for the Holy Father is taken up throughout the world on the weekends near the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul. Bishop Paul commends the 2023 appeal:

"... I am aware of the many demands made on the people of our diocese through the year by way of appeals for financial support. However, this particular appeal requires special attention. Through this collection we have the opportunity to support the Pope's pastoral care for people around the world..."

- Paul Bird CSsR
Bishop of the Diocese of Ballarat

St Columba's 9th July	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Colleen Wakefield
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Anthea Hinchey
COMMUNION MINISTER		Judy Brown
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
Presbytery: \$ 333.35 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 680.00

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Parishes of St. Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, July 2, 2023 "A new life in Christ...." Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church. Resources available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2023-atsi-sunday.html>

Catholic Social Services Webinar Series - Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) and Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) are pleased to invite you to a series of webinars to discuss the upcoming referendum on Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the Voice to Parliament on Thursdays June 29 and July 27 from 4.00pm - 5.00pm (AEST) via zoom. Cost is \$12.00 per session or \$30.00 for all 3 Sessions. CSSV and CSSA members free of charge. Please register: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1052799?eid=1052799&>. Enquiries to Kate Stilwell. Email office@css.org.au

NATSICC launches new website on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has launched a new website called "One Journey, Together" for Catholics to learn about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The website hosts stories and anecdotes from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations, Catholic figures and Catholic organisations.

Praying with Pope Francis The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. **Pope's intention for July – For a Eucharistic Life:** We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and be opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters. Lord, hear us.

Catholic Mission Timor-Leste Adult Immersion Catholic Mission invites you to learn more about the grassroots projects supported by Catholic Mission in Timor-Leste from November 4-12, 2023. This immersion will give you the opportunity to see the world through a different lens, you will witness the life-changing work taking place at the St Maria Mazzarello vocational School and the Maria Auxiliadora Medical Clinic in Venilale. Be prepared to come home changed and challenged. Cost is \$3990.00 per person (ex. Darwin to Dili, Timor-Leste). Register your interest at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/immersions>

Next Centralised Baptism Preparation Session Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next sessions are at the MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms, St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Thursday, 6th of July 2023**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Sunday, July 23, 2023 "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk. 1:50) is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The Day is marked near the Feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Parishes, schools, agencies, aged care facilities and other ministries are encouraged to find creative ways to celebrate the contribution of older people to their families and communities. Resources to celebrate this day are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly-sunday-july-23-2023/>

St Patrick's Cathedral Choral and Organ Scholarships St Patrick's Cathedral is establishing Choral and Organ Scholarships. The program will provide an opportunity for children with an aptitude and interest in music to sing regularly at Cathedral Masses. The children will receive annual scholarship payments towards their general education in return for their participation in the Cathedral Choir. They will benefit from vocal and musical tuition, and develop skills in teamwork, time-management, professionalism and discipline. Children in Grades 3-6 are welcome to audition for the choir, which will have a gender balance. The safety of the children will be of the highest priority, following the *Safeguarding Children, Young People and at Risk Adults* policies - <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/professional-standards-2-professional-standards/professional-standards/>.

St Patrick's Cathedral Choral Scholarships Information Session An information session will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 3rd of August in the MacKillop/Glowrey room at Saint Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat. Copies of the Choir Handbook, Audition Form or further information can be obtained by contacting the Choir Director, Mr Vincent Sully, on 0407 310 115 or vincenzo101923@gmail.com.

OLHC 8th July	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Elly Green
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Kevin Murphy & Sue Calistro
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Harry Kennedy & Pauline Newman
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray & Michael Rienets

Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions
Presbytery: \$ 243.00 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 390.00