

### 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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### COVID Safe Plan

- ◆ If you are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough or sore throat) please do not attend Mass.
- ◆ Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- ◆ Whilst a face mask is not compulsory they are recommended.
- ◆ Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.

**We appreciate your assistance in helping stop the spread of the virus.**

## SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT Trusting God

The testing and temptation of Jesus echoes the plight of the people of Israel as they wandered in the desert for forty years. They relied on God to provide them with food and protection and ultimately lead them into the land that was promised to them. They had to trust that God would deliver these things in God's own time and way. Jesus is tempted to ignore God's time and ways by seizing for himself food, protection and ownership of the land. The temptations of Jesus and the people of Israel are all about trusting God.

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**Pope's intention for February** - We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

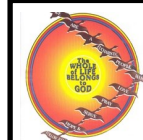
### The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

God of peace and justice,  
who change the hardened heart and  
break the power of violence,  
we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril;  
let them know not death but life,  
not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all;  
we are brothers and sisters.  
Give us the strength to live that truth in love,  
choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## 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](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) (select Parish)



**Office:** 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012

**Email:** [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**School Co-Principals:** Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

**School Phone:** 5332 4894

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

**Prayer Line:** 5339 2302

**Email:** [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**P O Box** 192, Wendouree

**School Principal:** Leigh Bradshaw **School Phone:** 5339 4726

*The Parishes acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.*

### 25th February, 2023 - 1st Sunday of Lent Time (A)

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Marcello Colasante

**Staffing**

**St Columba's**  
Office Hours: Wed—Friday  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Parish Co-ord: Lia Andanar Yu  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

**Our Lady Help of Christians**  
Parish Co-ordinator and  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache  
Office Hours: Wed-Fri 9–1pm

#### MASS TIMES (This week) St Columba's

Sunday 10:00 am  
No Mass the week

#### 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 6:00 pm  
No Mass this Week

#### Readings for Next Weekend:

##### 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen: 12:1-4  
Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22  
1 Tim 1:8-10  
Matt: 17:1-9

### Focus on the Scriptures

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent act as a kind of overture to the entire season. They enable us to engage in a double confession: a confession of sin and the repentance which follows; and a confession of praise for the mercy of God which is shown us in spite of our sin.

The very first reading reminds us of our fragility. We are made of the dust of the ground, the very stuff that represents death and decay. We were reminded of this when ashes were used to sign us on Ash Wednesday. At the beginning of Lent we are invited to acknowledge honestly and realistically our fundamental human weakness.

Despite our weaknesses, the situation within which we find ourselves is not hopeless. Somewhere deep within ourselves we know that we are not helpless prisoners of our limitations. God has not deserted us to our guilt. The form that God's compassion takes is outlined in the reading from Romans. It is in the death and resurrection of Jesus that we see the extent of this divine compassion. Its scope is first measured by the yardstick of human sinfulness, and then it outstrips those dimensions. God's gracious gift far exceeds the effects of human transgression

The gospel reading moves us from both the anthropological and the theological considerations to the crowning Christological reflections. As we look to Jesus, we see humanity at its best, tempted but not overcome. There will certainly always be human limitations, human weaknesses that will open the door to temptation. But Jesus shows us that we are not thereby doomed. Jesus is a model for our own journey to new life.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Sr. Irene Monagatti, Thomas Kirby

**Anniversaries: We remember** those who have anniversaries occur about this time:

**We pray: Those in need of our prayers:** for the people of Turkey, Syria and Ukraine.

**Project Compassion Sunday – February 25 & 26, 2023**



After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.



**Caritas Australia Turkey-Syria Earthquake Disaster Appeal**

The devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Turkey and Syria has left thousands of people dead with this number expected to rise dramatically. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance. We need to act now to help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate or visit [www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey](http://www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey)

**Mission: One Heart Many Voices Conference 2023**

The Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference, "Lead, Act, Now" will be held from May 3-5, 2023 in Sydney – face-to-face and online. Registration details, the program and more information is available at <https://2023.mohmv.com.au/>. Early bird full registration before February 28 is \$550.00. Full registration from March 1st is \$649.00. Concession rate \$539.00. Single day rate \$209.00.

**Diocesan e-News**

The latest edition of the diocesan e-News has been published with stories of news and events in the diocese. You can also subscribe to receive e-News directly to your inbox on this same page. <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>.

St Columba's 26th February	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Judy Brown
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Tom Keogh
COMMUNION MINISTER		Colleen Wakefield
DIGITAL PORJECTOR		Kathleen Keogh
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
<b>Collections at St Columba's</b>		<i>Thank you for your generous support</i>
Presbytery: \$342.80	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$ 2,295.00

**World Day of Prayer**

Invitation from the Ballarat Committee to attend a WDP prayer service. The focus country is Taiwan in 2003. Theme: "I Have Heard About Your Faith" based upon the letter to the Ephesians. Friday March 3rd

- 10.00 am The Salvation Army, Ballarat Community Church  
102 Eureka Street. Ballarat
- 2.00 pm The Salvation Army, Delacombe Corp  
104 Greenhalgs Road, Delacombe.
- 7.00 pm St Andrews Uniting Church, 130 Ballarat Road, Creswick



**Choir for Mass of the Oils 2023**

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 3, 2023.

Practice times are Sunday, March 19, Sunday, March 26 and Sunday, April 2 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest [julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7159.

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study**

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is an initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The next Cycle for 2023 begins February 27. There are 38 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

**Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass**

An invitation to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre. Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice. Flyer is on the Ouyen Parish webpage <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ouyen/>

**Pope's intention for February**

For parishes:  
We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



**EXODUS 19th Birthday**

An invitation is extended to all to join with Wendouree West Exodus community to their BBQ on **Saturday 4th March** at 12.00 to celebrate our 19th Birthday.

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**National consultation to explore sports and faith**

Australian Catholics will hear from the head of the Vatican's Church and Sport Office during an online, national consultation later this month exploring sports and faith <https://nce.catholic.org.au/the-bridge/the-bridge/national-consultation-to-explore-sports-and-faith>



**World Youth Day**

World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More information at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/youth-and-young-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

OLHC 4th March, 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Veronica Stott
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Pauline Newman, Kevin Murphy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Frank Hogan, Helen Feely
SACRISTAN		Kath Leonard, Anne Slattery
<b>Waubra Church cleaning</b>	<b>March:</b>	Kerryn and Lawrence Gallagher
<b>Collections at OLHC</b>		<i>We thank you for your generous support</i>
Presbytery: \$472.40	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$425.00