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127 Gillies Street Sth BALLARAT
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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



Mon-Fri 8.30 am - 6.00 pm
Saturdays 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
2 Bridge Mall Ballarat Vic 3350
Ph: 5331 4900

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.
- If you are waiting results of a COVID test stay home
- You need to preregister for Masses. Please ensure you arrive 10 minutes before Mass to register your attendance.
- Contact tracing is required for all Masses. Please use the QR code as you enter the foyer
- Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- A face mask is compulsory whilst visiting the Church (you should carry it with you as per State Government guidelines)
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.
- Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.
- Once Mass has concluded, please leave the Church immediately afterwards to allow for cleaning of all surfaces.

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



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 or
ballaratnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au
School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr
School Phone: 5332 4894

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302
Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au
P O Box 192, Wendouree
School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw
School Phone: 5339 4726

Parish Priest:

Fr Marcello Colasante

Staffing

St Columba's

Pastoral Associate:
Judith O'Sullivan
Wed-Friday 9:00am –1:00pm

Our 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

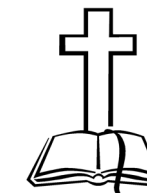
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am

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
Sunday 10:00 am
Monday 2.00 pm (Funeral)
Thursday 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

Gen. 2: 18-24
Ps. 127 r.v.5
Heb 2: 9-11
Mk.10: 2-16



26th September 2021 ~ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Focus on the Scriptures

The question of legitimacy of ministry is not a new one. There is a certain amount of tension between the institutional and the charismatic aspects of the church. To say that one is Spirit-driven and the other is not is to misunderstand Jesus' promise to remain with the church until the end of time. God normally calls ministers through the structures of the community. The authorities of the church are usually the ones who make the ultimate decisions about the needs of the church, how these needs are to be met, and who is to meet them. That is one of the responsibilities of their office.

However, God calls in other ways as well. A solid biblical tradition maintains that the Spirit is not confined to human structure or custom. We see this in the judges, the prophets, and even the early kings. The Pentecost story describes the coming of the Spirit upon all people – sons and daughters, young and old, slaves and free. When God calls it is up to us to recognise that call and to test its spirit. Perhaps the primary criterion we have for judging is the biblical measure: By their fruits you shall know them.

Today we also see that those who benefit from exploitation of the vulnerable will reap the fruits of their sin. This warning stems from the belief in the justice of God. Just as we believe that God will not allow the righteous to go unrewarded, so we are confident that neither will the wicked escape punishment.

© Dianne Bergant



Responsorial Psalm: (R.) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word, O Lord, it truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Frances Kosinski, Leslie Dickinson

Anniversaries: We remember: Sr Agnes Connellan, Beni Duka, Sasskiah Gallagher

We pray: Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes, especially Dan Coutts, Jan Mullaly, Pat Hogan and Frank McNulty. Children preparing for Sacraments. For an end of the pandemic.

Season of Creation – September 1 – October 4, 2021 The Season of Creation is the time of year when the world's 2.2 billion Christians are invited to pray and care for creation. This prayerful season runs annually from September 1 through to October 4 – the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. The Season of Creation is dedicated to prayer, reflection and celebration of God as Creator. It also celebrates and reflects prayerfully on the gifts of creation and the mission given to us by God to care for creation and respond to its needs and crises today. This year our theme is 'A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God' (one of the meanings for the ancient Greek word oikos is home.) Oikos is a home for all but our common home, the Earth, is now in danger because of people's greed, exploitation, disrespect, disconnection and systematic degradation. Resources to assist celebrate the Season of Creation are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2021/>

Commission Climate Change Forum – Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission On November 6, 2021 the Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission will host a Climate Change Forum in Ballarat. Through this forum, we celebrate the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement 2021-2022 Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor. We are inviting you to share what you have for ecological justice. Do you market a product that is about sustainable practices and clean living? Maybe you know a thing or two about how to reduce carbon emissions. Do you have a particular skill in embracing nature and celebrating all things in the natural environment? We want to show the community what people are doing and this is an opportunity for you to share! It could be anything from how to make bees wax wraps, how to compost food scraps to how to recycle and make your own paper. Perhaps you have a wealth of gardening skills and can set up a stall to showcase them. Maybe you have information about how to save power and water. Get in touch with us and let us know what you've got! We would love to hear from you. Email social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Treasuring Our Later Years' (Reflection series via ZOOM), 6 x Wednesdays, 22 September to 27 October 2021, 12.45pm-3pm.

Facilitated by Nicole Rotaru rsm, this series offers participants the opportunity to explore new possibilities that ageing offers daily. It will include input, conversation and the opportunity to depth and integrate reflections and learnings through personal reflection and creative expressions. Topics covered include: ageing; spirituality; relationships; meaning; gratitude; death. Cost \$180 for the series, or \$30 per session. Bookings and payment via Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation website at www.heartoflife.melbourne For more information, contact email: secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or tel: (03) 9890 1101.

Pastoral Associate Position at St Columba's Judith has accepted a position in the Christchurch North Parish and it is her desire to return to New Zealand and to commence in that role as soon as possible. With the current difficulty in finalizing travel arrangements, she is unsure when she will be able to fly. She may not get a lot of notice before she will need to leave so we would appreciate your understanding during this time. Please keep Judith and her family in your prayers. We will advertise her position in due course.

Migrant & Refugee Sunday 2021 – September 26 Pope Francis has chosen the theme, Towards An Ever Wider "We", for the 107th World Day of Migrant and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on Sunday, September 26, 2021. Download the 2021 kit from the Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office <https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-kit/booklet>

Collections at St Columba's We thank you for your generous support

Presbytery: \$ Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 845.00

Mass times: The impact of COVID-19 has resulted in reduced numbers of worshippers attending Mass in each parish. The number of people who have returned can be accommodated by the provision of one Mass in each Parish. On 10th March a combined gathering of parishioners from both parishes was held meeting to discuss Mass times. On 9th June representatives of each Parish Council met to share their thoughts.

Both gatherings were candid, cordial and respectful recognising that whatever decision is made not everyone will be pleased with the outcome. Embracing change is difficult.

Consensus was reached that neither parish seemed particularly concerned about whether they had the vigil Mass or the morning Mass; but for it to be the same time each week to give people a degree of certainty and predictability in organising their own personal routines. Across the 6 Ballarat Parishes, 4 Vigil Masses are celebrated, some in close proximity to each other. It seems reasonable that a vigil Mass be celebrated in Wendouree to cater for people who live in the North Western side of Greater Ballarat. And beyond.

With effect from the weekend of **9th/10th October 2021** the following Mass Times will apply:

Wendouree Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

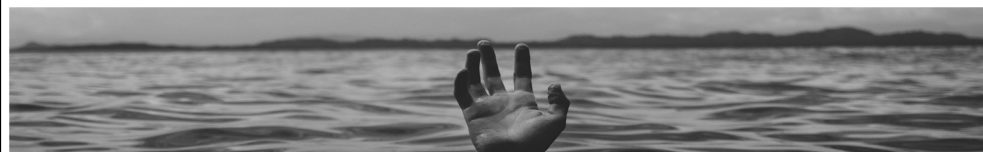
Ballarat North Sunday 10.00 am

OLHC—Preparation for Vigil Mass Parishioners are invited to offer their service in preparing the Church for Saturday Mass. Please consider joining the group of Sacristans who provide this vital service for our community. Contact Maree at the Parish Office (ph. 5339 2302)

St Columba's 10am Mass Rosters to assist with planning as we move toward the regular Parish Mass being at 10am Sunday mornings, I would like to hear from anyone who would like to assist at Mass as a reader, Sacristan etc.

Catholic Mission Month Catholic Mission Australia has launched its annual World Mission Month Appeal, focusing on the work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand supporting children from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds through the Kindergarten Centre. For more information go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/catholic-mission-launches-world-mission-month-appeal>

Diocesan Director of Caritas After many years of generous service, Sue Searls is retiring from the role of Diocesan Director of Caritas. Bishop Paul would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking up this role. The position will be funded by Caritas as a part-time role, averaging one day a week, although most of the work is concentrated in the months of February to May in relation to Project Compassion. There is a role description available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>. If you would like to be considered for this position or if you would like more information, please contact Bishop Paul at bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au by Thursday, October 7. Please include your contact details and some notes about your interest in this position and the experience you could bring to this role.



Prayer for Migrant & Refugee Sunday: 26 September

Holy, beloved Father,
your Son Jesus taught us
that there is great rejoicing in heaven
whenever someone lost is found,
whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded
is gathered into our "we",
which thus becomes ever wider.
We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus,
and all people of good will,
the grace to do your will on earth.
Bless each act of welcome and outreach
that draws those in exile
into the "we" of community and of the Church,
so that our earth may truly become
what you yourself created it to be:
the common home of all our brothers and sisters.
Amen

Diocesan e-News For recent news of events and celebrations, see the latest Diocesan e-News at this link – <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>. You can also subscribe to receive e-News directly to your inbox on this same page

Are You Called to be a Spiritual Director? A Pastoral Supervisor? Or a compassionate listener to others? We invite you to a Taster Session (via Zoom), on Saturday 2 October 2021 at 9.30am-11am AEST to explore whether one of these ministries may be for you. Come and experience in a facilitated group via Zoom: a) the Siloam Program for the Formation of Spiritual Directors, b) the Emmaus Supervision Program, or c) Let the Heart Listen. Each of these courses is available in 2022 in-person (Covid-permitting) or via Zoom. To register for the free Taster event, please click the link on our home page at www.heartoflife.melbourne, or contact us at secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101.



OLHC School 60th Celebrations The planned celebrations for the 60th anniversary of OLHC school have been amended several times, in line with the prevailing Restrictions.

Events: Concert – available on the school Facebook page – October 15th <https://www.facebook.com/olhcwendoureevictoria>

Open Day for past students, families, staff and community – in compliance with Restrictions

Video Messages can be forwarded to principal@olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your contribution to our school community, it is a privilege to be part of the Our Lady Help of Christians School story.

Leigh Bradshaw ~ Principal

Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support
Presbytery: \$ Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 339.00