

### 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.**

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\*Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the [CDF website](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au).



**Have you thought?**  
 Those who have not seen Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we - Blessed are we - who have not seen and yet still believe!

**Parishes of St Columba 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  
**School Co-Principals:** Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr  
**School Phone:** 5332 4894

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

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which our Parish communities meet, the Wadawurrung people. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation of first peoples.*

**Staffing**  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Marcello Colasante  
**Finance Officer:** Bernadette Prestwood  
**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**  
**Office Hours:** Wed-Fri 9–1pm  
**Parish Co-ord & Safeguarding Officer:** Maree Roache  
**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: 6:00 pm  
 Thursday 10:00 am  
 Friday 10:00 am  
**Readings for Next Weekend:**  
**3rd Sunday of Easter (B)**  
**Acts of the Apostles** 3: 13-15, 17-19  
**Psalm:** 4: 2. 4. 7. 9. R.v.7  
**2nd Reading:** 1 John 2: 1-5  
**Gospel:** Luke 24: 32

### 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy (B) - 7th April 2024

**Focus on the Scripture**  
Today we consider the presence of the Risen Lord. Where is he found? Each of the readings offers an answer to this question. The Risen Christ is found in the community of believers who follow the example of Jesus. Even non-believers recognised something marvellously different about the Christian community, and they exclaimed: These Christians, see how they love one another.

The Risen Christ is found in those who accept the truth of the resurrection on the word of others. The word of God preached by others has often brought us out of darkness into light, from the stranglehold of death to the birth of new life. The preaching of the disciples has been not only instructive, it has also been transformative.

The Risen Christ is found in the forgiveness of sin. Jesus made the frightened disciples ministers of divine forgiveness. The Spirit reconciles sinners with God and, thereby, with the rest of the believing community. Forgiveness is a tangible sign of Christ's mystical presence.

The Risen Christ is found in the physical manifestation of Christ's own wounds, the wounds that he offered to be touched. Since the community is the body of Christ, we touch the wounds of Christ when we touch the wounds of the community, when we go out to the sick and infirm, the dispossessed and the violated. As shocking as these wounds may appear, they are really glorious, because the Risen Lord has identified with them and has made them his own.



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**Responsorial Psalm:** Give thanks to the Lord for his is good, his love is everlasting  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God Maureen Darbin

**Anniversaries:** We remember Marion Goss, Inez Sullivan, sr Maureen Connelly rsm

**We pray:** for all in areas of conflict, war and natural disasters, for the sick and all in need of our prayers.





**Praying with Pope Francis:  
intention for April-  
For the Role of Women**

This month's prayer intention is "that the dignity and richness of women be recognised in all cultures and for the end to the discrimination they suffer in various parts of the world."

*Catholic Diocese of Ballarat*

*Community Remember Revitalise Hope*

**150 years**

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer*  
*Romans 12:12*

Planning by 150th Anniversary Committee

Ash Wednesday 'Repent and believe the good news' February 14, 2024

Anniversary Liturgy in Cathedral Mass of the Oils March 25, 2024

Anniversary Liturgies in Parishes Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

Pentecost Sunday Commissioning for ministry in parishes May 19, 2024

Diocesan Assembly November 15 - 16, 2024

2023

2023

Feb 2024

Feb - Mar 2024

Mar 2024

Mar 2024

April 2024

Apr - May 2024

May 2024

Mid 2024

Nov 2024

Parishes develop Parish Leadership Teams

Lent 'Repent and believe the good news' February 14 - March 24, 2024

150th Anniversary Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

Anniversary Week Catholic Education Week April 29 - May 3, 2024

Formation in Parishes from Mid 2024



**OLHC Sacramental Program** for the Sacrament of Confirmation commences in Term 2, on Tuesday May 7th at 6:00 pm in the school Library. Further information is available in a brochure in the church foyer, or by contacting the parish co-ordinator (5339 2302 or email wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Save the Date:** "Walsh Clans of Horsham" reunion — for the descendants of William & Bridget (nee Shea) Walsh, and Edward & Julia (nee Ryan) Walsh. 10th—12th October 2025 in Horsham. Enquiries: walshreunion2025@gmail.com



**Holy Week**

Fr Marcello and all who volunteered for the Easter liturgies - Décor, Sacristans, Readers, Prayers of the Faithful, Communion Ministers, Paschal Candle bearer, collections - candles and donations, choir and liturgy planning teams. Without your support our liturgies would not run so prayerfully and so smoothly.

**Liturgy Team Meeting**

The next meeting is Tuesday April 9th commencing at 4pm. Agenda: Holy week debrief and forward planning.



**Divine Mercy Saturday & Sunday 6-7 April - St. Patrick's Cathedral**

Prayers for Peace and God's Merciful Love for the World, the Holy Land, and the Church. Saturday 6.30pm after Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass. The Novena includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Readings from St Faustina's Diary and Sacred Music. Sunday (Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confessions will be available) 1.15 pm Rosary 1.45 pm Mass 2.45 pm Hour of Mercy- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 3.30 pm Benediction 3.45 pm Blessing with Relics and Conclusion 8 first class relics will be exposed for prayers and viewing, of Saints who are well known for their holiness and their intercession for people in need (Pope St. John Paul II, St Jadwiga Queen, St Faustina Kowalska, St Maximilian Kolbe, St Stanislaw Papczynski, St Maria of Jesus Crucified from Bethlehem, Blessed Michał Sopoćko and Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko).

**Diocesan History Timeline & Parish History**

As part of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, a timeline of significant dates and events over the past 150 years has been published on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/>



**Thank You!**



THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) and donate online. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. 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 and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



**Convocation Webinar Invitation: What we can hope for and expect from the Synod?**

The Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform and Garratt Publishing present a webinar, "Synod on Synodality: What we can hope for and expect from the Synod?" on Thursday April 18, 2024 at 7.00pm AEST. Bishop Vincent Long, who held a Diocesan Synod in the Parramatta Diocese in 2023 and Dr Sandie Cornish, who attended the first Synod Assembly in October 2023 as an Expert Adviser and Facilitator and will return to Rome for the second Assembly in October this year, will share and explore their lived experience of a Diocesan Synod and a Universal Synod. For more information and to register go to [https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/w9t19ey0a57xai/?ct=t\[allcatholics-ACCCR-18april-Convoc-3april2024\]&mc\\_cid=f57a6ca61e&mc\\_eid=986abfa3fb](https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/w9t19ey0a57xai/?ct=t[allcatholics-ACCCR-18april-Convoc-3april2024]&mc_cid=f57a6ca61e&mc_eid=986abfa3fb). The convocation will be recorded and made available the week following the event. You must be registered to receive the link to the video.

**Centralised Baptism Preparation Session**

Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session is on **May 2nd 2024 at either 10:00 am or 5:30 pm** at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat,

St Columba's 14th April '24 (next week) Sunday 10:00 am	
LEADER of SONG	Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR	Maree Phelan
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Bruce Chapman
COMMUNION MINISTER	Gina Hinchey
DIGITAL PORJECTOR	Vicki Moroney
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe
<b>Collections Last Weekend St Columba's</b> Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 675.85 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 659.00	

OLHC 13th April 2024 (next week) Saturday 6:00 pm	
LEADER OF SONG	Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Volunteer please
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Darryl Clark & Ena Bruty
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Pat Dillon & Pauline Newman
SACRISTAN	Anne Slattery
Waubra Church cleaning	April Trish & Steve Coleman
<b>Collections Last Weekend</b> Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 565.35 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,233.80	
Holy Places (Good Friday) \$ 568.70	