

Our Lady Help of Christians

## Contact information

Communities of Lexton, Miners Rest, Waubra,  
Learmonth, Wendouree

**Parish Office:** 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree

**Phone:** 5339 2302

**P O Box** 192, Wendouree

**Email:** wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Prayer Line:** 5339 2302

**School Principal:** Jaci Commons

**School Phone:** 5339 4726

**www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au**

**Email:** enquiries@olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.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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## Ministry District of Wendouree, Creswick & Daylesford



**Our Lady Help of  
Christians**  
480a Gillies Street,  
Wendouree



**St Augustine's**

117 Napier St,  
Creswick



**St Peter's**

13 Duke Street  
Daylesford

**Wendouree Office**

**Office Hours:** Wednesday—Friday  
9am—1pm  
wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Creswick/ Daylesford Office**

13 Duke St Daylesford P: 0448 220 685  
daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Office hours -**

Thursday 8:30am — 4:00 pm

Friday 8:30am — 4:00 pm

*Our parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which our Parish communities meet: the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung 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:**

Jackie Wigglesworth

**OLHC Parish Co-ord & Safeguarding**

**Officer:**

Maree Roache

### MASS TIMES (This week) Wendouree

Saturday: **6:00 pm** Vigil  
Wendouree

Sunday 9.00 am Creswick  
10.30am Daylesford

**Waubra**

1st Sun of the month 8:30 am

### Weekday Mass

Tue 10:00 am Creswick School Mass

Wed 9:30 am Daylesford School Mass

11.00 am Hepburn House

Thurs 11:00 am Kelaston

Fri 10:30 am Creswick

### Readings for Next Weekend:

**4th Sunday of Advent (A)**

1st Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14

Psalm 23: 1-6 R. see w 7.10

2nd Reading: Romans 1: 1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24



**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, come and save us.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lor is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia

**Recently Deceased:** Shirley Coulter

**Anniversaries: We remember:** John Chenery, Anne Gallagher,

**We pray:** peace in all in areas of conflict, war and natural disasters, and for all those in need of prayers.

### 3rd Sunday of Advent (A) 14th December 2025

#### Focus of Scripture

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. Those are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com





**Prayer for December – For Christians in areas of conflict:** *Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and love. Lord, hear us.*



Centralised Baptism Preparation Session Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. The next session is at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat. **Thursday, February 5th at either 10:00 am or 5:30 pm.**

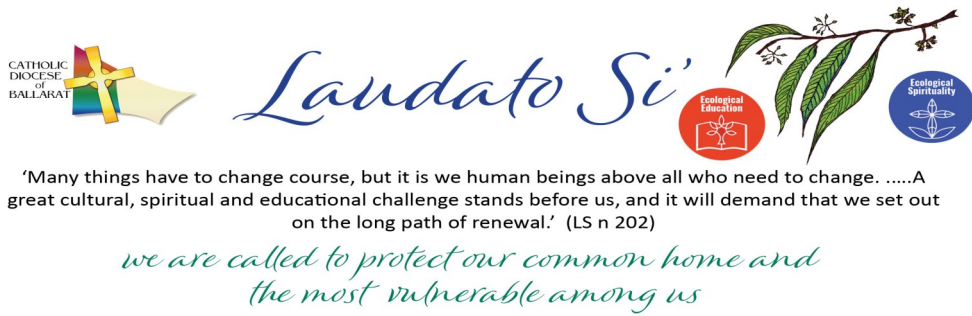


**Making a Scene at Christmas** at Bridge Mall in December. This is a display of more than 500 nativity scenes from over 60 countries around the world —some handcrafted and some commercial. An opportunity to touch relics from the time of Herod : the time of the birth of Jesus. A Gold Coin donation would be appreciated.

# Historical Context

## Least and Greatest

*Jesus declares that the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater even than John whom he has just finishing praising as greatest of all men. It is an indication that in the kingdom, things are not as they are on earth. The blind, lame, deaf, poor and lepers that Jesus named earlier would have been seen as the very lowest of society. Their afflictions were seen as punishments from God and so it was assumed that they, or their parents, had done something to deserve this punishment. Jesus rejects this interpretation and shows these people to be the most open to responding to his message.*



**Thought and banners for DECEMBER:** Pope Francis said in Laudato Si' 202 – “Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone. This basic awareness would enable the development of new convictions, attitudes and forms of life. A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal.”

**TOWARDS A NEW LIFESTYLE** – “Since the market tends to promote extreme consumerism in an effort to sell its products, people can easily get caught up in a whirlwind of needless buying and spending. Compulsive consumerism is one example of how the techno-economic paradigm affects individuals.” LS 203.

*Maybe this Christmas we can begin or continue to choose a different lifestyle*

- Christmas gifts:** When shopping for gifts, spend a few minutes researching ethical and sustainable sources, look for eco-friendly or second-hand products. Decide to cycle or walk instead of using a polluting vehicle. Finally, look for creative wrapping with materials you already have at home.
- Christmas dinner:** Christmas night is special because of the beautiful food we serve at the table. This Christmas, opt for more vegetarian dishes. Decide to shop at a sustainable store, with products straight from the garden, and with plastic-free packaging.
- Time with your loved ones:** The best part of the holiday season is the time spent with your family. Take time to share experiences with your closest family members, and also with those you don't frequent so often. Put aside differences and enjoy the family that God has given you. Organise special games for Christmas Eve, and a creative theme for gift opening. Remember those who may be lonely or without family.
- A gift for the Common Home:** Reducing your energy consumption can be the best gift to creation. Another option that will help you and will also look nice: light candles on the Christmas table to décor ate and also reduce electric light.

<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/four-steps-sustainable-christmas-en-news/>.

## Christmas Liturgies at OLHC

Tuesday Dec 16th	Reconciliation at 7:00 pm.
Wednesday Dec 17th	OLHC school Graduation 6:00 pm
Wednesday Dec 24th	OLHC Christmas Liturgy at 6:00 pm
	Daylesford at 8:30 pm
Thursday Dec 25th	Creswick 9:00 am
Thursday Jan 1st	OLHC at 10:00 am—New Year's Day



### OLHC Parish

OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers are hosting lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree from 12.00 noon – 2.00pm. Bookings are essential as seating is limited, ph. 0491 029 217.

Volunteers from OLHC parish are requested to assist Setting -up the Hall for the Christmas Lunch on 23rd December at 9:00 am

For general volunteer enquiries please phone 0467 683 504. The committee would be very grateful for assistance to clean-up and pack-up following the Christmas Lunch, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm on Christmas Day (25th).



For more information please contact Tony or Ena Bruty 0400 8150103



**OLHC Parish.** Our final gathering for this year will be a cuppa after Mass on Saturday 13th December. You are all welcome and may bring a small plate along to share. *Liturgy team*

20th December 2025	(next week)	Saturday 6.00 pm
LEADER OF SONG	Sue Searls	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Marueen McAloon & Laureen Rhodes	
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Pauline Newman & Val Bourke	
SACRISTAN	Anne Slattery	
Waubra Church cleaning	December: Kerryn & Lawrence Gallagher	
Collections:		Thank you for your contributions
Presbytery: \$ 413.35		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 645.00