

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

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.

Historical Context

Jews and Samaritans

Samaritans descended from one of the tribes of Israel. They held faithful to Mt Gerazim as the first place for the worship of God even when the prophet Elijah declared a new place for worship. In the 7th and 8th Centuries BCE, the Assyrians descended on the Northern and Southern Kingdoms of Israel. The Samaritans in the north assimilated with the Assyrians, whilst the Jews were taken into exile in Babylon. When the Jews returned from exile, the Samaritans offered to assist in the reconstruction of the Temple. This infuriated the Jews and led to centuries of distrust and animosity.

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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.

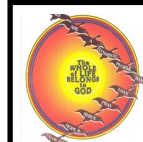
The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

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 (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

Prayer Line: 5339 2302

Email: 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.

12th March, 2023 - 3rd 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
Wednesday 9.30 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 1100 am (Kelaston)
Friday 10.00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

4th Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13
Ps 22 R. v.1
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41



with the water promised by this stranger who is also an enemy of her people. The choice is not an obvious one. A similar choice is placed before us. We know the demands of our culture and the circumstances of our lives. Are we able to acknowledge the sins of which we are guilty, recognise the grace that is being offered to us, and make the right choice?

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Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Muriel Langer (Pearce), Philip O'Brien

Anniversaries: We remember Marie Green, Margot Conaughton, Cyril Potthiyittel, Carmel Molloy, Sr Mary Lynch RSM, Bryan Deady, Sheila Prendergast.

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



Caritas Australia—Project Compassion

Priscilla lives in the Hwange district in Zimbabwe with her husband, Charles, and their two grandsons. Climate change continues to bring unprecedented challenges for people living in the most vulnerable and remote communities in Zimbabwe.

With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops to support her family during the current food crisis. Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. Priscilla used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. The poultry farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and her family during times of hardship, like the current drought.

While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis.

Donation envelopes in the church foyer should you wish to donate.

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



Pope's intention for March - For victims of abuse:

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church. May they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

St Columba's 19th March (next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR	Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Vicki Moroney
COMMUNION MINISTER	Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

Collections at St Columba's 26th Feb & 5th March. Thank you for your generous support
 Presbytery: \$608.55 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$2,033.45



OLHC Wendouree Choir Practice

The next practice for learning the new Mass Setting for the Easter Vigil is next Thursday 16th at 7.00 pm.

Vinnies (Victoria) Back to School Appeal

More than 1 million Victorian students headed back to – or started – school this year. For a rising number of their families, it's getting harder to find the funds to ensure that their children have everything they need in order to learn and grow. The Vinnies Education (Back-to-School) Appeal – which launched on February 1 – is needed now more than ever. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/back-to-school-appeal-vic-2023>

Palm Sunday Walk for Justice

This year's walk will call for Justice for Refugees: Permanent visas for all, fair processes and income support for people who are seeking recognition as refugees. While the change of government at the federal election last year has brought hope for more compassionate policies, thousands of refugees and people seeking asylum are still in limbo waiting for certainty about their future. Walk with us this Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 1.00pm for a group reflection and prayer led by Fr Andy Hamilton SJ, with the official Walk for Justice music and speeches starting around 1.30pm. Meet at the far right side of the State Library of Victoria (near the Joan of Arc statue and next to Little Lonsdale Street – you'll see a large 'CAPSA', 'Jesuit Social Services' or 'Xavier Social Justice Network' or 'CSSV' banner). If you have any questions, please get in touch with Maeve at CAPSA, email info@capsa.org.au.

Interfaith Friendship Walk - Sunday March 19th 2.00 pm – 5 pm

The Ballarat Interfaith Network together with Ballarat Regional Multicultural Centre invites you to join the friendship walk and learn about Islamic, Jewish and Orthodox Christian Beliefs. Beginning at the Islamic Mosque, 116 Elsworth St, East, Canadian walking to BRC Welcome Centre Hall, 25-39 Barkley St Bakery Hill, Ballarat East ending at St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 116 Humffray St. North, Ballarat East, Refreshments provided, All welcome.

Diocesan e-News

The latest edition of the diocesan e-News has been published with stories of news and events in the diocese <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.

Wendouree West Exodus Community

celebrated its 19th birthday with a BBQ at the Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre last Saturday in perfect weather, with about 50 people in attendance. Our thanks to Bishop Paul Bird and Bishop Peter Connors for sharing the day and supporting the community and to all who assisted with food and other preparation.

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 or ph. 5337 7159.

A special prayer initiative for the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' pontificate

Pope Francis will celebrate the 10th year of his pontificate on March 13, 2023. To highlight this milestone anniversary in a "viral" manner, the Digital Synod has launched a special online map featuring virtual lighted candles representing the prayers of the faithful worldwide for him. Anyone who wishes to join the initiative will find an invitation on the website to pray one or more Hail Mary's <https://www.decimus-annus.org/site/index>. The map with the 'little candles' which represent the Hail Mary's that are prayed for him will be sent to Pope Francis.

*Let us all pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis!
 O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,
 look favourably on your servant Francis,
 whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd;
 Grant, we pray, that by word and example
 he may be of service to those over whom he presides
 so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care,
 he may come to everlasting life.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the
 unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

OLHC 18th March, 2023 (next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG	Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Lyn Gray
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ena Bruty, Laureen Rhodes
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Tony Bruty, Bev Hayward
SACRISTAN	Geoff and Margaret McLean
Waubra Church cleaning	March: Kerryn and Lawrence Gallagher

Collections at OLHC 26th Feb & 5th March. We thank you for your generous support
 Presbytery: \$1,025.35 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$2,217.00