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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

Our Diocesan Community Please feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

Within the chapel of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Thornbury, in Melbourne's inner north, a set of Indigenous Stations of the Cross are on display, which were created by artist 'John Dunn', a member of the Stolen Generations. These Stations are an exploration of his own journey and they illustrate beautifully how Aboriginal people resonate with the sufferings of Jesus. 10cm x 16cm resource sets are available for parishes, churches and school communities at \$15.00 each. For more information go to <https://art.catholic.org.au/2021/07/13/aboriginal-stations-of-the-cross/>

COVID Safe Plan

Checking-in is no longer a requirement. Face Masks are no longer required to be worn in most indoor settings but are recommended, particularly if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. They are also recommended for people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and are in settings where keeping a safe physical distance from other people is not possible.

- **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 awaiting results of a COVID test, please stay home.**
- **Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.**
- **Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.**



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

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

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

P O Box 192, Wendouree

School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw

School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

School Phone: 5332 4894

School Phone: 5339 4726

Staffing

Parish Priest:
Fr Marcello Colasante

Finance Officer:
Bernadette Prestwood

St Columba's
Parish Co-Ordinator:
Lia Andanar Yu
Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

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
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(Vigil) 6.00 pm
Thursday 11.00 am Kelaston
Friday 10.00 am

Readings for Next Weekend

Ex 19:2-6
Ps 99:2-3, 5. R. v.3
Rom 5:6-11
Mt 9: 36-10:8



11th June 2023 ~ The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Yr A

Focus on the Scriptures

As I watch the birds foraging for food in my front yard, I am transported back to the poetry of Gerard Manly Hopkins who began his famous work, *The Wreck of the Deutschland*, with the prayer: "Thou mastering me God! giver of breath and bread." Every creature needs bread and every creature need breath. "I can't breathe", that cry of African American George Floyd has echoed across the globe for over three years now, making of both Pentecost and Trinity strange reminders of the right of all to the breath of life. It will haunt us until we effect the conversion of heart that eliminates white supremacy and every form of violence.

As we celebrate Corpus Christi, we remember the two billion or more across the globe who yearn for "bread" in order to remain physically alive. We cannot appreciate this feast and what it signifies unless we have some appreciation and some satisfying experience of the material reality that underpins the symbolism of bread and wine. At the most basic level, this Feast is about bread broken and shared. It calls us to share our daily bread.

Today's gospel passage belongs within a section of John's gospel generally called the Bread of Life Discourse. Some scholars suggest that the discourse as a whole is cast in the form of a synagogue homily. In this view, it is a rabbinic type exposition of Exodus 16:4 and Psalm 78:4-5 on the manna/bread that God rains from heaven. In John 6:51-58, there are allusions to Eucharist as both meal and sacrifice. Jesus is the manna or bread from heaven. Life comes from eating his flesh/body. It also comes from drinking his blood. For the ancient Israelites, the life was in the blood. Blood poured out is life poured out. To drink the wine/blood is to participate in the life of Christ poured out.

An analogy from my own context might help us to grasp something of the mystery that we call Eucharist. My home town, Ballarat, is the site of the Eureka rebellion. The Eureka flag is housed in a place of honour in the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka. At one level, this flag is fabric and thread. At another, it far transcends the materials from which it is crafted. These materials were transformed, possibly by women from our own parish, into a symbol of freedom for the Eureka rebels. In the process, they changed their purpose and meaning; so too with the bread and wine of our Eucharistic celebrations. They have become, in a very real though mysterious sense, the body and blood of Christ. While we reflect on this mystery, we ground our faith in action designed to address the issue of global hunger and the circumstances that inhibit access to "bread" for all. The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ invites us to careful consumption of the world's resources so that all God's people and all God's creatures may have life.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Arthur Sowter

Anniversaries: We remember: Jack Caine, Scott Smeaton, Helen Foy, Maureen Costigan, Teresa Scholten, Loreto Bourke, Betty Rodgers

We pray: for those in need, all who are sick, and for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

NATSICC launches new website on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has launched a new website called "One Journey, Together" for Catholics to learn about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The website hosts stories and anecdotes from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations, Catholic figures and Catholic organisations.

Refugee Week 2023 - Finding Freedom Luncheon The House of Welcome Ballarat which assist Refugees, Asylum Seekers, students and those in need are holding a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on Wednesday 21st June from 1.30pm at the Uniting Church Hall, 107 Lydiard St Sth., Ballarat. There will be stalls, competitions and great company. Cost: \$25pp. To book, please text your name to 0401 175 045 or email annekav1234@gmail.com. Donations can be made to **House of Welcome Ballarat**, Bendigo Bank BSB: 633-000 Account No: 1440 44963.

ACU Centre for Liturgy launches Australian-first liturgy podcast which has an exciting array of local and international experts who explore a wide range of liturgy-related topics. The podcasts feature thought-provoking discussions on Catholic liturgy, liturgical music, art, architecture, liturgy in Catholic schools, preaching and more. Listen at <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/the-liturgy-channel>

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal The annual Vinnies Winter Appeal will focus on the number of older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Vinnies are also experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal> on 13 18 12 and at all Vinnies Shops. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre (MMHC) Accommodation@MMHC: When in Melbourne book your next stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre - accommodation in the heart of Melbourne. Contact Kate, ph. 9926 9300.

St Columba's 18th June	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Maree Phelan
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Terry Ranger
COMMUNION MINISTER		Peter Marquand
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 689.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 715.00

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Parishes of St. Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

Common Prayer for the 8th Anniversary of Laudato Si'

Loving God,
 Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
 You created us in your own image
 and made us stewards of all your creation.
 You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land
 so that all might be nourished.
 Open our minds and touch our hearts,
 so that we may attend to your gift of creation.
 Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us,
 but to all of your creatures and to all future generations,
 and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.
 May we help each person secure the food
 and resources that they need.
 Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the
 poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.
 Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so
 that we may experience a true conversion of heart.
 Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of
 this global pandemic.
 Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed
 in search of the common good.
 Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected
 and interdependent.
 Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth
 and the cry of the poor.
 May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal
 and sustainable world.
 Under the loving gaze of Mary, Help of Christians,
 we make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Praying with Pope Francis The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. **Pope's intention for June - For the abolition of torture:** We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families. Lord, hear us.

Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria's Archbishop's Dinner – Save the date The annual Archbishop's Dinner in support of Corpus Christ Seminary, will be held on Friday, September 1, 2023 at Moonee Valley Racecourse at 7.00pm. Guest speaker is Corpus Christi College Seminary Rector, Fr Cameron Forbes.

Next Centralised Baptism Preparation Sessions Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next sessions are at the MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms, St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Thursday, 6th of July 2023**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. For more information and application forms, please visit : pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship Closing Date: 4 August 2023.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is a new 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 begins 10 July. There are 39 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 you may call ph.5337 7121 or email at djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

CTC Teaching Meditation and Prayer Catholic Theological College is running the online unit Teaching Meditation and Prayer over two Saturdays in June and two Saturdays in October. This unit offers an ideal opportunity to develop skills to teach meditation and prayer in a variety of contexts. The emphasis will be on silent meditation and establishing places of silence in a contemporary context. It can be undertaken as part of an undergraduate or postgraduate award (including the Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation), as a single unit, or for personal enrichment (no assessment/credit) <https://ctc.edu.au/study/timetable/gctm-timetable/>

OLHC 17th June	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Colin & Helen Feely
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Rieniets & Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN		John & Sue Calistro

Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 520.85 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,760.00