



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.

Parish Priest:

Fr Marcello Colasante

Staffing

St Columba's

Parish Co-ordinator :

Lia Andanar Yu

Our Safeguarding Officer:

Peter Marquand

Our Lady Help of Christians

Parish Co-ordinator and

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

Tuesday 2.00 pm (Funeral)

Thursday 10:00 am

Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

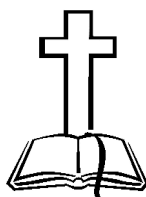
Is 60: 1-6

Ps 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

R. see v 11

Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6

Mt 2: 1-12



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God ~ 1st January 2023

Focus on the Scriptures

It is fitting that on New Year's Day we celebrate the calendar-shattering event in human history: the extraordinary role that a young woman in Galilee played in God's plan for the human race.

In the Western Church, the young woman is titled 'Mother of God'. This signifies a relationship, a loving, nurturing relationship. We know that it encompassed a mother's horror of seeing her son tortured and done to death on the Cross.

Yes, she was a mother, but Mother of God.

How can this be portrayed for our minds to grasp? In the Book of Genesis, the creative act which began all reckoning of the passage of time and seasons was signalled by the Divine Wind hovering over the formless void.

When that Holy Gust hovered over Mary, and she responded: 'Be it done unto me according to thy Word', the human existence of Our Lord Jesus Christ began, the fulcrum of history from which our calendar begins.

We could pause for a moment to pray that at the end of all history, at the end of all calendars, we may share in Divine life with Mary of Galilee, Mother of God.

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Responsorial Psalm: (R.) May God bless us in his mercy

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: John Bourke, Alison Johns

Anniversaries: We remember: Roma Hills

We pray: Those in need of our prayers;

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 Open Direct to the Public
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

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
- Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- Whilst not compulsory a face mask is recommended
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.
- Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.

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

Presbytery: \$ 1,304.35 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 718.00
 Christmas Appeal: \$ 727.00

Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support

Presbytery: \$ 970.60 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 605.00
 Christmas Appeal: \$ 520.00

St Columba's 8th Jan	(next week)	Sunday 10am
COMMENTATOR	Vicki Moroney	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Min Myers	
COMMUNION MINISTER	Volunteer please	
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Volunteer please	

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