

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.

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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.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Contrasts

Jesus' description of the Pharisees' behaviour offers a stark contrast to his own way of bringing about the Kingdom of God. By their actions, the Pharisees place burdens on the shoulders of others – burdens of guilt, shame, duty and punishment. Throughout his ministry, Jesus acted to lift such burdens from the shoulders of the downtrodden and marginalised. Jesus accuses the Pharisees of being motivated by drawing attention to themselves – the way they dress, the way they like to be addressed, even where they sit in the synagogues. In contrast, Jesus' ministry was typified by his humility and focus on others.



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

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
Wed No Mass

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 No Mass
Friday No Mass

Readings for Next Weekend:

32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wisdom 6: 12-16

Psalm 62: 2-8. R.v 2

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4: 3-18

Gospel: Mt 25: 1-13

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) - 5th November 2023

Focus on the Scripture

Since Vatican II the responsibilities of leadership have been spread throughout the community. This has not happened simply because there are fewer priests and religious. It has occurred primarily because the Council itself insisted that by virtue of their baptism all Christians are called to discipleship, which includes active participation in the mission of the church. While those who are ordained continue in specialised forms of leadership, other people have stepped forward to assume their newly recognised responsibilities. Sometimes they have more influence in the church than do the ordained.

We derive the connection between pharisaical and hypocritical from Jesus' description of the Pharisees found in today's reading. His condemnation, along with the condemnation of the priests in the first reading, should be a warning to all who in any way exercise leadership. We must always be on our guard lest the trappings of leadership ensnare us and we fail in our responsibilities toward God and the community we serve.

There is a mode of leadership that reflects the very meaning of authority. This way of leadership authors life. It is characterised by the striking image of a nursing mother who both gives and sustains life. Those who exercise leadership in this way create a community where life is fostered, not stifled, where talents serve all of the members, and the talents of all of the members are invited to serve. Such a community not only nurtures its members, it is itself the author of life in the world.

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Responsorial Psalm: In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. You have one Father, your Father in heaven; You have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God Mary Cullinan, Rod Stott,

Anniversaries: We remember Patrick Green, Kevin Duggan, Mary Anne Roberts, Phillip Auer, Nelson Long, Damien Rowan, Barry Flood, Kathleen Kenna, Des Heenan, Margaret Haintz, William O'Loughlin, Raymond Jackson, James Walters, Patrick Green

We pray: Those in need of our prayers: for the people Ukraine and the Middle East, and those who live in the earthquake, fire and flooded areas of the world. For the sick in our parish and those in need of our prayers.



Centralised Baptism Preparation Session

Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session is on Holy Thursday at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat,

Thursday, December 7th 2023 at 10.00 am & 5:30 pm.

World Mission Month ~ Thank you for your donation!

We would like to thank you again for your generosity, whether it be a one-off gift or through your commitment as a Mission Partner, through the recent Catholic Mission Appeal.

Your generosity and prayers are supporting life-changing mission programs like the Maria Auxiliadora Clinic in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where they are addressing critical health issues such as tuberculosis, malnutrition and maternal mortality.

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign-up for our regular newsletter.

If you missed your opportunity to learn about this vital mission program, or want to give a gift in support, please go to catholicmission.org.au/timor today.

Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health and psychosocial needs. "This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict." Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia. With your support, there will be aid to help partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal - scan or click the QR code.



Love Natural Resources"

Did you know ? Animal, plants, water and soil...these are some of the things we use from the earth. We must take good care of them so that the planet stays as we found it.



OLHC Parish community welcomes Mila Alice Jones, daughter of Alan and Ruby. May Mila continue to flourish in the love and care of her families and our parish community.

"The Church gives faith to your children through baptism and you have the task to make it grow..." Pope Francis.

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR has informed the Diocese that Fr Kevin Maloney will conclude his responsibilities as Vicar General, and has sincerely expressed his appreciation for Fr Kevin's dedicated service in this position over the past five years. A new appointment to this position will be announced shortly.



St Brendan's Dunnstown All are invited to celebrate the 'End of an Era' at St Brendan's Primary School, Dunnstown from 2:00 pm on Saturday, 25 November. Please feel free to pass this invitation on to anyone that you think may be interested. More information is available from this website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pnews/celebrating-the-end-of-an-era-at-st-brendans-primary-school-dunnstown/



Australian Catholics 23/24 Summer edition is available in the church foyer. This issue explores Music and the Church,

Parish of Bungaree Cemetery Mass All are welcome to Mass at the Pootilla Cemetery on Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 9.30am.

Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for November - For the Pope



We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Nazareth House Auxiliary Monster Garage Sale Will be held on Saturday, November 18, at 218 Mill Street, Ballarat at 10.00am. Furniture, books, prints, cake and gift stall, morning tea. Cash only. Contact Margaret, ph. 0419003415.

Y C W Cricket Club All former players, supporters and families are invited to a get together and lunch at Robin Hood Hotel on Sunday 3rd of December at 12 Noon. Numbers are needed by Sunday 26th of November. For further enquiries or to book please call Terry on 0401 730 670 or John 0409 864 080.



SEW and SO..... Thursday 9th November 2023 at 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Foyer. Come and have an enjoyable afternoon with us. Enquiries Margaret 53314032



... to the members of the **Sew and So** group from OLHC & St Columba's parishes, who have presented 295 'Baby Packs'. These packs will be delivered to Timor, and will be greatly appreciated by the members of that community. '

Liturgical Formation The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is hosting a Liturgy Formation Session at St Brigid's Church Ballan Gathering Space on Sunday, 5 November. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will celebrate Mass at 10:30 AM with the formation program beginning at 12:00 noon on the topics of Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion and scripture reflection. All are welcome to attend. The program for the day and registration information is available from the diocesan website. www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/servicesagencies-2/pastoral/liturgysacraments/liturgy-formation/. Liturgy Formation at Ballan - Sunday, November 5. Register by clicking or scanning the QR code.



St Columba's 12th Nov 23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Geraldine Mugavin
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PORJECTOR		Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
Collections 15-29th October	Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 940.65	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 2,955.00	

OLHC 11th Nov 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Trish Lawson & Kevin Murphy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Christine Richardson & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Tony & Pauline Newman
Waubra Church cleaning	November: Trish & Steve Coleman	
Collections 14-28th October	Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 781.85	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,950.00	