

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.



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 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
Thursday 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

Feast of Christ the King

1st Reading: Ezekial 34: 11-12, 15-17

Psalms 22: 1-3, 5-6. R. see v.1

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28

Gospel: Mt 25: 31-46



33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) - 19th November 2023

Focus on the Scripture

It is not enough that we wait patiently. We are expected to be industrious as we await the advent of the reign of God. We have all been entrusted with talents that really belong to God, and we must use these talents to the best of our ability in the interim between the Lord's departure and his final return. The ideal wisdom figure in the first reading is a model of such industriousness.

Fidelity to the reign of God requires that we be willing to take risks. We do not know the time of the Lord's coming, and so there will have to be a kind of tentativeness to all of our plans. We will never be able to be certain that they will be brought to fruition. We must spend and be spent without the assurance that we will be able to reap the rewards of our investment. To refuse to risk is to refuse to trust.

If we have been wise and have industriously employed the Lord's talents, which were entrusted to us, we will be richly rewarded. However, if we have not realised the potential that is possessed by our talents, and if we have not employed them as they were meant to be employed, we will be punished. The foolish man in the gospel knew that the householder was exacting. He had some idea of what to expect. He made his choice and he had to accept the consequences of that choice.

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Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God Gerard Willis. Jean Dumaresq

Anniversaries: We remember Margaret Briody, Molly Bruty, Bernard O'Callaghan, Connor Prunty, Desmond Burke, Barry Mitchell, Pat Hogan, Barry James, Kevin Duggan, Mary Gercovich, Sr. Kate McGrath RSM, Sr. Connie Walsh RSM, Kevin Glenane,

We pray: for all in areas of conflict, war and natural disasters, for the sick and all in need of our prayers.

Different View

'To everyone who has will be given more.'

The parable of the talents is sometimes misused to validate an overemphasis on material wealth in many Western societies. There can be an attitude that says 'more is better'; that possessions are a sign of success. Such advocates point to the favour bestowed on the servants who doubled their money and the punishment dealt to the lazy servant who simply returned to his master what he was given. Proponents of the increasingly popular 'gospel of prosperity' hold that God wants Christians to be materially and financially rich and that their wealth is proof of God's love. This stands in stark contrast to Jesus' vision of the Kingdom.



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 Day of the Poor, November 19, 2023 The call to serve the poor has been greatly emphasised under the papacy of Pope Francis, who established the World Day of the Poor in 2017. The Holy Father's message for 2023 is "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor" (Tob 4:7). The Church is encouraged to "go forth", beyond its own walls, to encounter poverty "in the multiple meanings in which it manifests itself in today's world." Read the Pope's message on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

An Urgent Prayer for Peace

God of compassion, we turn to you with heavy hearts as we consider the needs of your family.

Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people, each of us loved by You and called to live in peace and justice.

We lament the dreadful loss of life, destruction of property and loss of human dignity.

We are pained by so much suffering. We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place. Help your people find a way forward.

Enable everyone to look each other in the eye, and embrace each other as sisters and brothers, as they find your image in every face.

We ask that courage and grace will help create a wiser and more gentle future, where everyone has a home.

God of wisdom, come to our aid. Amen.
By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia

St Columba's 26th Nov 23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR		Colleen Wakefield
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Vicki Moroney
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe
Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 368.35	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$ 2,100.60



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,

Ordination to the Diaconate Seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. All welcome to attend.



Accommodation needed: OLHC has a young parishioner who is in urgent need of renting a one or two bed room unit. If anyone knows or sees of such a place available could you please call and leave a message with Sandra Dillon 0438 448 942.

St John's Catholic Community Waubra.

Luncheon on Sunday 19th November, 12:30 pm at Springs Hotel, Waubra. Contact Anne 0438 3877 385 to book a seat.



YCW 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.



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.



Appointment of Vicar General – Diocese of Ballarat

Hello Everyone,

In a message on October 30, I advised that, because of health concerns, Fr Kevin Maloney would be retiring from the responsibilities of Vicar General. I renew my thanks to Fr Kevin for his service in this role.

I am now pleased to announce that I have appointed **Fr Marcello Colasante** to be the new Vicar General of our Diocese.

Fr Marcello will continue in his service as Parish Priest of Ballarat North and Wendouree. He will begin in the role of Vicar General on November 20.

I am very grateful to Fr Marcello for his generosity in accepting this additional role.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Congratulations to Fr Marcello on his new appointment.

"Making a Scene at Christmas" Over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries will be displayed at the Bridge Mall Ballarat and at the Catholic Diocesan Archives from Tuesday, December 5 – Friday, December 22, 2023. You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh; see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; see hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America and Europe (and one that went to Antarctica); nativities that prize social justice and the environment. Schools can book for an educational experience. For more information on the Ballarat Bridge Mall display, please contact Fiona Tonkin Fiona.tonkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au. Every one welcome. Entry is a gold coin donation.

OLHC Christmas Lunch—December 25th in OLHC Parish Hall. 12– 12:30pm. Bookings are now open. Please phone 0419 975 914.

OLHC 25th Nov 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Elly Green
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Sue Calistro & Pauline Newman
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Harry Kennedy & Tony Bruty
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray & Michael Rieniets
Waubra Church cleaning	December	Trish & Steve Coleman
Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 261.35	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$ 1,305.00