

## 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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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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\*Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the [CDF website](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au).



## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

## Our Lady Help of Christians Parish ~ Wendouree

Communities of Lexton, Miners Rest, Waubra, Learmonth, Wendouree

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) (select Parish)

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree

Phone: 5339 2302

P O Box 192, Wendouree

Prayer Line: 5339 2302

Email: [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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

Office Hours: Wed-Fri 9-1pm

Parish Co-ord & Safeguarding  
Officer: Maree Roache

### MASS TIMES (This week) Wendouree

Saturday: 6:00 pm Vigil Wendouree

Sunday 9.00am Creswick  
10.30am Daylesford

### Waubra

1st Sun of the month 8:30 am

### Weekday Mass

Wednesday Daylesford 10:30 am  
Thursday Wendouree 10:00 am  
Friday Creswick 10:30 am

### Readings for Next Weekend:

#### 6th Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts - Apostles 10: 25-26. 24-25. 44-48

Psalm: 97: 1-4. R.v. 22

2nd Reading: 1 John 4: 7-10

Gospel: John 15: 9-17



### 5th Sunday of Easter (B) - 28th April 2024

### Focus on the Scripture

We are too familiar with today's gospel. Christ is the vine and we are the branches, sometimes in need of a good pruning. But God's purpose is not to produce a perfect vineyard. It is to produce a full-bodied wine at the end of history.

There is a foretaste of this at every Mass. The wine we offer – 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' – becomes the spiritual drink which best serves the purpose of our Heavenly Father. How does this happen?

For the Jewish people observing an animal whose throat is cut, it is obvious that the life drains out with the blood. 'Life' and 'blood' became synonyms. So, when the Jewish Jesus says of the wine in the chalice at the Last Supper: 'This is my blood', amongst other things he is saying: 'This is my life force, this is my very life given unreservedly for you.'

So, when we drink from the chalice at Holy Communion, the life of the Risen Lord courses through our bodies just as the sap of the vine courses through its branches. We share the same ultimate vitality so that our bodily existence builds into the Body of Christ. He becomes truly 'full-bodied' as the Divine Vignerone desires.

We could take a moment to pray that we respond to the pruning and the tending and the pressing by our Heavenly Father so as to contribute our distinctive character to the vintage at the end of history, the spiritual drink of the Kingdom of Heaven.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

**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** Rachael Murnane

**Anniversaries: We remember** Jenny Jackson, Edna Patrie, Gerard Dobson, Catherine Anderson, Jarrod Linahan, Owen Duncan, Tony Goode,

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





**Praying with Pope Francis:  
intention for April-  
For the Role of Women**


This month's prayer intention is "that the dignity and richness of women be recognised in all cultures and for the end to the discrimination they suffer in various parts of the world"

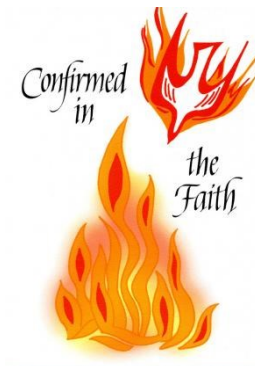
**Parish Administration ~ New arrangements:**

From April 10th, Bishop Paul has appointed Fr Marcello Colasante to the parishes of Creswick, Daylesford and Wendouree forming a Ministry District across our three parishes and the five local Church and School communities of Creswick, Daylesford, Lexton, Waubra, Wendouree. I will work with Leonie Keynes in the Daylesford Parish Office and Maree Roache and Bernadette Prestwood in the Wendouree Parish Office as well as the Principals of our Catholic Schools - Michael Heenan (St Augustine's Creswick), Tim Hogan (St Peter's Daylesford), Leigh Bradshaw (Our Lady Help of Christian's Wendouree).

In the Diocese of Ballarat, a **Ministry District** is the term used in our pastoral planning document Looking Forward, to describe the sharing of resources between parishes, with the aim of working in collaboration to further the mission of Christ that has been entrusted to the Church. Our emphasis and focus is on mission, looking forward, outward, with the joy of the Gospel.

Pope Francis, in The Joy of the Gospel, dreams "of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation" (#27). He recognises that we need to be in a "permanent state of mission" (25), going out, being always engaged in involving others and being constantly focused on reaching out. The vision of Pope Francis is an outward one and "mission" is at the centre of it. In this next chapter, our new Ministry district provides us all with an opportunity to exercise genuine synodality, that is, walking together in faith, building a culture of encounter and accompaniment, discerning the way forward by genuine dialogue, listening to each other with prayerful openness to the Holy Spirit. I look forward to walking with you as a pilgrim in faith, together as servants of the Gospel, joyful missionary disciples.

 **St Vincent de Paul Society – "The Record" Magazine** Scan or click the qr code to read the Autumn edition of "The Record" from the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia.



**OLHC Sacramental Program** for the Sacrament of Confirmation commences in Term 2, on Tuesday May 7th at 6:00 pm in the school Library. Further information is available in a brochure in the church foyer, or by contacting the parish co-ordinator (5339 2302 or email: [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)) Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday 18th May at 6:00 pm

**150th Diocese of Ballarat** Bishop Paul is commemorating the anniversary year with a personal visit to each parish and looks forward to celebrating with as many local communities as possible throughout the year. Bishop Paul has invited parishes to acknowledge the 150th anniversary at Masses on the weekend of **April 27-28, 2024**



*Anniversary Prayer*

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have received all the gifts we enjoy.

As we mark the 150th anniversary of our Diocese of Ballarat, we give thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us.

We recognise the communities who have lived on this land from ancient times. We honour the Aboriginal peoples, here for tens of thousands of years. We honour those who came from overseas and settled here before our diocese began. Yet our anniversary shines a special light on our years as the Diocese of Ballarat, a community of communities from the Murray to the sea.

We remember those who have gone before us, those who laid the foundations of our parish and school communities and our social services and health care.

We acknowledge the strengths and weaknesses of our history. We celebrate the achievements and we ask pardon for the failures to live our Christian faith to the full.

May this anniversary year be a season of renewal for our diocese. Inspired by the Gospel and nourished by the Eucharist, may we follow the example of Jesus and the guidance of your Holy Spirit.

May we reach out in humble service, welcoming all and caring for all creation. May we grow in love day by day. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help. Pray for us. Saint Patrick. Pray for us. Saint Mary MacKillop. Pray for us.



**Centralised Baptism Preparation Session** Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session is at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Next session: Thursday May 2nd 2024 at either 10:00 am or 5:30 pm.**

**Fr Paddy Mugavin Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood Mass**

All are welcome to Mass to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood for Fr. Paddy Mugavin on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 10.30am at St Mary's Church, Hamilton. Morning tea / light lunch provided.



**Are you interested in becoming a Mercy Associate?**

This group seeks to "Preserve, Nurture and Reimagine the Mercy charism", established by Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy. Members are offered a number of social and spiritual activities throughout the year. If you are interested, both women and men, email [mercyassociates@ismapng.org.au](mailto:mercyassociates@ismapng.org.au)



*Laudato Si'*



"Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest" (Laudato Si' 48).

*reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose*

**"Learn about your food"**. Did you know? Discovering more about food helps you eat meals that are better for the planet. Learn if your snack grew on a tree or comes from a farm. How did it end up in that wrapper?

OLHC 4th May 2024	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Laureen Rhodes
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Trish Lawson & Kevin Murphy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Bev Hayward & Val Bourke
SACRISTAN		Geoff & Marg McLean
Waubra Church cleaning	May	Clare Mullane
<b>Collections Last Weekend</b>	Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 307.40	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 350.00	