

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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*Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the [CDF website](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au).



Our Lady Help of Christians Parish ~ Wendouree

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

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

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 11.00 am Hepburn House Daylesford
Thursday 11:00 am Kelaston Wendouree
Friday 10:30 am Creswick

Readings for Next Weekend: Pentecost Sunday (B)

Acts - Apostles 2:1-11

Psalm: 103: 1. 24. 29-31. 34. R.v 30

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthian's 12: 3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20: 19-23



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Ascension of the Lord (B) - 12th May 2024

Focus on the Scripture

Pope Francis encourages us to contemplate two aspects of the Ascension. 'On the one hand it directs our gaze towards heaven,' he says. 'On the other, it reminds us of the mission of the Church.'

The Pope points out that these two aspects are interconnected. In this feast we do not remember Jesus' bodily departure so much as celebrate his continuing presence in the world through the Christian community.

The Pope suggests that 'the Ascension exhorts us to lift our gaze toward heaven, in order to return it immediately to the earth, to implement the tasks that the Risen Lord entrusts to us.' As today's Gospel declares, Jesus is in heaven. Yet, by 'working with' his disciples, he is also still present in the world.

In a particular way in his encyclical Laudato Si' Pope Francis draws out the importance for Christians of proclaiming 'the Good News to all creation'. Picking up scriptural teaching, he highlights how 'all creation is bound up with the mystery of Christ' and reminds us that the Eucharist should motivate us 'to be stewards of all creation.'

People of the Ascension, therefore, do not just tell other people about Jesus. Rather, People of the Ascension, as the Pope puts it, 'seek Christ along the paths of our time'. We are called to serve the poor and the needy and the world in which they live. We are called to become 'visible signs of hope' for the whole of creation.



Responsorial Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets to thee Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: all those who have recently passed into eternal life,

Anniversaries: We remember Maureen Odum, Kathleen Clohesy, Anthony Hall, Jim McEldrew, Brian Molloy, John Kennedy

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

Different View

Snake handlers and Faith healers

There are certainly Christians who interpret literally Jesus' description of the signs that will be associated with believers. We have all seen images of old Revivalist meetings where people were called forth to be healed by touch and have evil spirits driven from them. Much of this practice can be traced to this week's gospel. The many evangelical churches and the tele-evangelists who dominate our early morning television screens operate out of this tradition and generally have a very literal interpretation of scripture. It is based in a belief that God acts in the world through miraculous intervention rather than through the slow and steady presence of individuals like you and me.



**Praying with Pope Francis:
intention for May-
For the Formation of Religious, Monks,
Nuns and Seminarians**

The Pontiff urges prayers "so that religious, monks, nuns and seminarians may grow in the vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual, and communal formation, leading them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel"



**Remembering and honouring
those who have died.**

All former patients, their families, and friends, are invited to come together with staff of Grampians Health Ballarat to remember those who have died, those we have cared about, and those we have cared for.

Venue:

- Queen Elizabeth Centre on Tuesday 21 May 2.00pm
- Lederman Hall, Ballarat Base Hospital on Thursday 23 May 5.15pm in Gardiner Pittard Cafe

Please RSVP by Wednesday 15 May to
pastoralcareballarat@gh.org.au or 0467 297 733,

Please include how many people are attending the event.

Prayer to end domestic violence

Loving God, we pray for an to end domestic, family and violence against women in our community. We ask for your wisdom and guidance. We pray for constancy in seeking a society where all people are safe in their home, families and close relationships, and where all relationships respect the equality and dignity of each person. We pray for all those affected by violence, that they may find safety and healing. We pray that all women and children will find a place and life free from violence and children will be cared for in nurturing, protective and supportive ways. We pray for young men that they may find models of respectful relationships and reject the violent and demeaning images of manhood current in our society. We ask for the courage to confront the causes of family violence, including the prevalence of violence in society, abuse of power and the unequal position of women in the community. We pray for right and just relations between all people, so that together we may transform and overcome violence in all its forms. We long for the time you have promised, when violence is banished, women and men are open to love and be loved, children are protected and the work and wealth of our world is justly shared. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: Catholic Social Services Victoria



OLHC Sacramental Program for the Sacrament of Confirmation has commenced. The next workshop will be on Tuesday May 14th at 6:00 pm in the school Art Room. Please keep the candidates and their families in your prayers as they journey into this 2nd Sacrament of Initiation. Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday 18th May at 6:00 pm



A prayer for Mothers Day

*Loving God, thank you for mums and children
and for all the joy of family life.*

*Be with those who are grieving because they have no
mother;*

*be close to those who are struggling because they have
no children;*

*be near to those who are sad because they are far apart
from those they love.*

*Let your love be present in every home, and help your
church to have eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of
all who come.*

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



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?



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 June 6th 2024 at either 10:00 am or 5:30 pm.**

Caritas Australia's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan a year ago, 25 million people - including 14 million children - now need humanitarian assistance and support, according to the [United Nations](https://www.un.org/). 9 million have been displaced from their homes making Sudan the largest displacement crisis in the world! Damage to infrastructure has impacted access to food, water, healthcare services, and even banking. Sudan now teeters on the edge of a famine. Since the outbreak of violence Caritas partners in Sudan have distributed food at 17 gathering points for internally displaced people, as well as delivering multipurpose cash assistance, water and hygiene services, and gender-based violence protection. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/sudan or phone 1800 024 413



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.

Australian Catholics Magazine—Winter edition is now available in

OLHC Foyer. Please take, read and share with family and friends,

OLHC 18th May 2024	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Jennifer Adams & Ena Bruty
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Pat Dillon & Pauline Newman
SACRISTAN		Anne Slattery
Waubra Church cleaning	May	Clare Mullane
Collections Last Weekend	Thank you for your contributions	
Presbytery: \$ 355.65	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 567.55	