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**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)



Mon-Fri 8.30 am - 6.00 pm  
Saturdays 9.00 am - 5.00 pm  
2 Bridge Mall Ballarat Vic 3350  
Ph: 5331 4900

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.
- You no longer need to preregister for Masses. Please ensure you arrive 10 minutes before Mass to register your attendance.
- Contact tracing is required for all Masses. Please use the QR code on the door or sign the register in the foyer (please add your phone number if you are a visitor).
- Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- A face mask is optional whilst visiting the Church (you should carry it with you as per State Government guidelines)
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.
- Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.
- Once Mass has concluded, please leave the Church immediately afterwards to allow for cleaning of all surfaces.

We appreciate your assistance. In helping stop the spread of the virus.



OLHC Parish  
QR Code



Waubra  
QR Code



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



Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth Phone: 5331 1012  
Email: [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or  
[ballaratnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr  
School Phone: 5332 4894

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree Phone: 5339 2302  
Email: [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
P O Box 192, Wendouree  
School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw  
School Phone: 5339 4726

Parish Priest:

Fr Marcello Colasante

Staffing

St Columba's

Pastoral Associate:  
Judith O'Sullivan

Wed-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Our Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

Our Lady Help of Christians

Parish Co-ordinator and  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

Wed-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

MASS TIMES (This week)

St Columba's

Saturday 5:00 pm  
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

Sunday 10:00 am  
Thursday 11:00 am (Kelaston)  
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

Dt 4:32-34, 39-40  
Ps 32:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22, R. v.12  
Rom 8:14-17  
Mt 28:16-20



23rd May 2021 ~ Pentecost Sunday (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

Pentecost brings the Easter season to a close, celebrating the fullness of the Spirit and the great gathering of nations. The plan of salvation has been brought to its conclusion. The Risen Lord is exalted in his rightful place next to God and has sent his own Spirit to fill the earth with God's power. The world is charged with divine energy; it needs but a spark to ignite it with life and excitement.

If this has all really happened, why does our world look the same? Why is there so much religious and ethnic rivalry? Why do we continue to make distinctions between Jew and Gentile, slave and free, woman and man, distinctions that favour one at the expense of the other? Why is there so little peace, or comfort, or solace? Why do we refuse to forgive or to be reconciled? Is Pentecost merely a feast that we celebrate in red vestments? Has the face of the earth really been renewed?

The answer is yes! Resoundingly, yes! The Spirit has been poured forth and works wonders wherever human hearts are open to its prompting. The earth is renewed each time rivalries are resolved, distinctions are recognised as merely expressions of diversity, peace is restored, comfort and solace are offered, and forgiveness is granted. We are immersed in the vigour of the Spirit of God; all we have to do is open ourselves to it and the reign of God will be born in our midst.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Thomas Gurrie, Faye Tobin, Peter Cook

**Anniversaries:** We remember: Joyce Keynton, Claire Carroll, Anton Kors, Nancy Colasante, Max Franklin

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes especially Dan Coutts, Jan Mullaly, Frances Dorrington and Pat Hogan. For the success of the Plenary Council. For children beginning their preparation for Sacraments of Confirmation (OLHC) and First Eucharist (St Columba's)

**Get vaccinated for the common good** Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>. A media release and FAQ information from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is available from the diocesan website "news" section <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholics-in-australia-encouraged-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine/>

**Mercy Works** Assistance is urgently needed for the growing crisis in Papua New Guinea. We would be very grateful if you could send a donation to this URGENT food APPEAL by 31 May 2021. In response to the growing alarm and anxiety about this health crisis for our nearest neighbour, the people of Papua New Guinea. You can do this by clicking onto our website: [www.givenow.com.au/mercyworksappeal](http://www.givenow.com.au/mercyworksappeal)

**Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflections** Each month during the year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will publish a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character. Robert Falzon reflects on how St Joseph may have responded to his astonishing call to be the foster-father of Jesus and spouse of Mary. What does it mean for fathers and husbands in today's world? <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

**Fundraising program launched for Mass for You at Home** A fundraising program has been launched to help enable the ongoing broadcast of Catholic Mass on free-to-air television as it prepares to mark 50 years ministering to people who cannot attend a local church. In recent years, due to changes in religious programming obligations, the annual cost of producing and broadcasting the Mass has run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. To donate go to <https://massforyou.com.au/>

**Mass Numbers** the state government has announced an easing of restrictions for places of worship to take place from 28th May. This means we will now be able to accommodate 200 people in both St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christian's churches. As part of this increase in numbers we will be required to have as many people as possible attending to sign in using the electronic QR code. Please upload the Service Victoria app on your phone, if you have not done so already. If you do not have a mobile phone we will need to check you in on your behalf. Please arrive in plenty of time for us to do this.

**First Eucharist preparation St Columba's** we welcome the children for the first weekend of Dismissals.

**Collections at St Columba's** *We thank you for your generous support*  
Presbytery: \$ 245.95 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 2,325..00

St Columba's 29th May	(next week)	Sat 5pm
REGISTRATION		Barb Brown
COMMENTATOR		Ann Lacey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Peter Dalton
COMMUNION MINISTER		Jennifer Adams
OVERHEADS		Judith
SACRISTAN		Volunteer please

**Confirmation OLHC** . This Sunday, on the Feast of Pentecost, and next Sunday on the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity OLHC Parish will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation for 39 children and their families. Please keep their candidates in your prayers as they progress through the Sacraments of Initiation



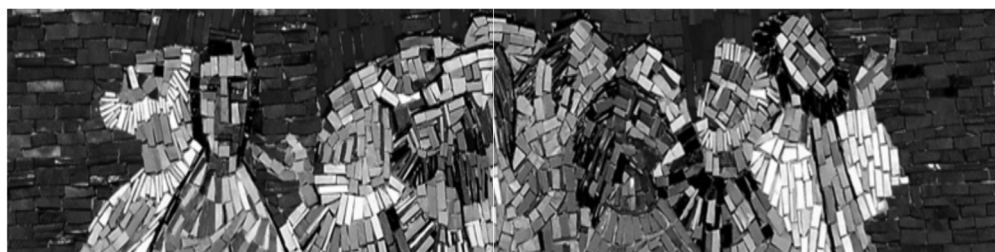
**National Volunteer Week: May 17-23, 2021** is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers celebrating the significant contribution of Australia's almost six million volunteers, which includes people in our parishes and agencies. Each year these volunteers dedicate over 600 million hours to help others. The theme for NVW 2021 is *Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine*. which acknowledges that it is time to: RECOGNISE, celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in our lives. RECONNECT to what is important by giving our time to help others and ourselves. REIMAGINE how we better support volunteers and communities they help. For more information about National Volunteer Week 2021 go to <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/>

**Prayer for Volunteers** We pray for all those who volunteer in our parishes. May we value the many talents and gifts that God has given to these people. We thank them for generously offering their time to parish ministries. For all these gifts, given out of your love, we thank you, God of all goodness. Amen.

**National Reconciliation Week: May 27 - June 3, 2021** The 2021 National Reconciliation Week theme, *More than a word*. Reconciliation takes action, urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action. The Reconciliation movement is at a tipping point: In the past year, with Black Lives Matter protests and huge numbers at Invasion Day rallies across the country, we're seeing people are understanding the truth and speaking up on issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. *More than a word*. Reconciliation takes action asks people to take this awareness and knowledge, and use it as springboard to more substantive, brave action. Resources and further information is available from <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/2021/03/23/more-than-a-word-reconciliation-takes-action/>

**Global Prayer for China** Global Prayer for China was created by an informal coalition of lay Christians from six continents who have joined together to facilitate a response to Cardinal Bo's Global Call for Prayer for the Church and Peoples of China. The situation for people of faith in China is dire. Christians, Buddhist, Muslims and other believers are routinely persecuted, imprisoned and tortured. A week of prayer will be held from May 23-20, 2021. More information <https://globalprayerforchina.org/>

**Plenary Council Prayer Campaign** People across the country are invited to participate in the "Fan the Flame" prayer campaign leading up to the first assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. The assembly starts on October 3. Campaign materials include resources for personal and communal prayer, reflections, musical suggestions and multimedia content. Find the resources at: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/)



**Year of the Family** Pope Francis launched the "Amoris Laetitia Family Year" on March 19, the 5th anniversary of the publication of his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris laetitia*, a document on the beauty and joy of love in the family. The year will conclude on June 26, 2022 on the occasion of the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome with the Holy Father. The launch was a virtual event entitled, "Our Daily Love", organised by the Vatican Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life, the Diocese of Rome and the Pontifical John Paul II Theological Institute, all based in Rome. The event is available to view online at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI4OUXU7\\_LBguDrPZQKsng](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkI4OUXU7_LBguDrPZQKsng)

**Vinnies launches 2021 Winter Appeal to support homelessness** As Vinnies responds to a growing demand for services following the end of Job Keeper and cuts to Job Seeker, the National Council of St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is calling for donations to help support the rising number of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including children, which have all been exacerbated by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Society provides vital services and support for individuals and families facing financial hardship. With generous support from the public, Vinnies aims to maintain the dignity of those on the edge and restore hope to people who have fallen on hard times. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/winter-appeal>

**Covid India Appeal Fundraising Dinner** The Ballarat Indian Association Inc. is holding a Fundraising Dinner on Saturday, May 29, 2021 at Albert Coates Complex, Federation University, Mount Helen. Go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=759476&> for bookings and information. Donations also accepted to account name: Ballarat Indian Assoc Inc. BSB 033-205 Acct No: 183147

**Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)** There are changes to Victoria's COVID-Safe settings from 11.59pm on May 28, 2021. <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony>. Further information is also available from the diocesan website "news" section [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au). St Columba's Church and OLHC Church will be able to accommodate 200 parishioners for each Mass.

**Annual Mass Count** during the weekends of May we will be undertaking the annual Mass counts. Parishioners will be moving around the Church to count all adults and children present for that Mass.

**National Mass to celebrate 200 year of Catholic Education in Australia** A National Mass will be celebrated across all states, territories and dioceses on Monday, May 24, 2021 (the Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians - Patron Saint of Australia), to commemorate 200 years of Catholic education in Australia. Mass will be livestreamed from a number of locations. Check the website for sites and starting times [www.200years.catholic.edu.au/](http://www.200years.catholic.edu.au/)

**Collections at OLHC** *We thank you for your generous support*  
Presbytery: \$ 334.50 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,876.00

OLHC 30th May	(next week)	Sunday 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Trish Lawson
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Robyn Clark & Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		John & Sue Calistro