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**Praying with Pope Francis**

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org). Pope's intention for April: **For health care workers:** We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially those in the poorest countries. May they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

**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.



**COVID Safe Plan**

Checking-in is no longer required. Face masks are no longer required in most indoor settings but they are still recommended. Carry a mask when leaving home. They are strongly recommended if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and/or are outdoors and cannot physically distance.

- If you are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough or sore throat) please do not attend Mass.
- If you are waiting results of a COVID test, stay home.
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.

**We appreciate your assistance in helping stop the spread of the virus.**

**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)

**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 or  
**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  
**P O Box** 192, Wendouree  
**School Principal:** Leigh Bradshaw  
**School Phone:** 5339 4726

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Marcello Colasante

**Staffing**

**St Columba's**

Office Hours: Tues - Wednesday  
9:00am - 1:00pm

Our Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

**Our Lady Help of Christians**

Parish Co-ordinator and  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

**MASS TIMES (This week)**

**St Columba's**

Sunday 10:00 am  
Wednesday 10.00 am  
Friday 10:00 am Funeral

**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 No Mass

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

3rd Sunday of Easter

- Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41
- Ps 29: 2. 4-6, 11-13 R. v.2
- Rev 5: 11-14
- Jn 21: 1- 14



**24th April, 2022 - 2nd Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

The disciples did not purge their group of 'doubting Thomas'. They remained his companions, waiting for something or Someone to be revealed to him with them.

Doubt and questioning are a normal and proper part of being human. We should allow for this within the community of the Church. A point may come where a person may no longer remain in the Church with any integrity. But a dismissive, excluding Church is not the Church of this gospel story.

Within the companionship of the Church a doubter may hear the words: 'Peace be with you.' What sort of peace? It is that inner assurance that, in the midst of all the tribulations and the turmoil and the myriad precursor deaths which we suffer on all sorts of levels, the Conqueror of Death wants to be with us.

How can the Risen Lord be with us? In Holy Communion, and in those counted as least in the world. According to Matthew 25, He is those without the necessities of life: food, shelter, medical care, comfort in distress.

We could pause for a moment to savour that Peace which comes from faith in the Conqueror of Death and in his Real Presence in Holy Communion and in those in dire need.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



**Responsorial Psalm:** (R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe.  
Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Ika Perovic, Wencilito Tan Andanar, Michael Leslie Phillips,

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Val Dooley, Edna Petrie, Gerald Dobson, Angela Loader, Wendy Smith, Lorna Batty, Mary Smerdon, Betty Kirkpatrick, Barry McNamara, Veronica McNamara, Eric Myers, Kath Myers, Polly Borg, Sr Monica Butler RSM Gillian Briody, Father Phil Crotty S.J.,

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes.

**Alive in the Spirit 2022 – Virtual Conference**

“Alive in the Spirit” is for lay and clergy, staff, leadership teams, finance teams, pastoral councils, pastoral ministers and volunteers, those in education, counselling, pastoral care, youth ministry, family ministry, aged care and chaplaincies and anyone who wants to be “Alive in the Spirit”. For more information and to register go to <https://aliveinthespirit.com.au/>

**“Engaging Your Faith” online sessions**

Catholic Theological College presents, “Engaging Your Faith”, a series of online short sessions offering an opportunity to explore your faith through a variety of topics including: Theology, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Vatican II, Pastoral Studies, *Laudato Si*, Christian Meditation, *Lectio Divina*, Interfaith Relations, and Science and Religion. All topics are presented by lecturers of Catholic Theological College. For more information go to <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

**Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study now open**

Our partner, Dayton University, offers low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes. Study cycles are over 3 or 5 weeks. The next Cycle of 2022 begins April 25. There are 29 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available by email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or ph. 5337 7121.



**Walking in the Spirit** The People of God are invited to make a prayerful journey towards the Second Assembly of the Plenary Council through the “Walking in the Spirit” prayer campaign. “Walking in the Spirit” began on April 17 and runs until the Second Assembly, which opens on Sunday, July 3. Resources have been created for use by individuals, families, schools, parishes and other Catholic communities. Find out more at [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthespirit/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthespirit/)

St Columba’s May 1st	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
COMMENTATOR		Volunteer
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Volunteer
COMMUNION MINISTER		Volunteer
OVERHEADS		Volunteer
SACRISTAN		Volunteer

**Collections at St Columba’s We thank you for your generous support**  
 Presbytery: Parish: \$ 349.65 Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,29.20

**Our Diocesan Community – Issue 1 2022** The first edition of ODC 2022 has been published. Feel free to take copies to share with the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of our diocese.

**Time Out Family Group**

**15th May** - Lunch Golden Point Hotel (formerly Zagames). 639 Main Road. 12 noon to celebrate Maree Howletts 60th birthday (10th May). Senior’s Menu available. Numbers to Maree by Monday 2nd May 0400 053 465.



**Reflection Day - Tuesday 17th May from 9.30am - 2.00pm**

Invitation to attend a day of reflection “Where is the will of God for us in loss” OLHC Parish Wendouree. Numbers are limited. For bookings contact Kath 5331 2677.



**OLHC Liturgy** meeting is on Tuesday .26<sup>th</sup> April at the Parish Centre at 4:00 pm. All welcome

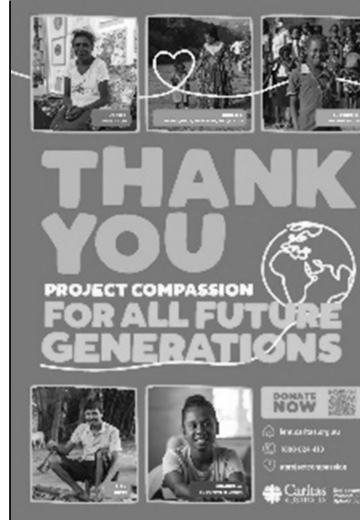
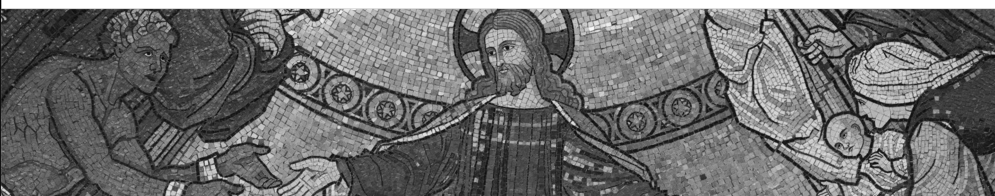
**Xavier Society for the Blind - New York City**

Xavier Society for the Blind has been providing free braille and audio materials to blind and visually impaired Catholics worldwide since 1900. Although an overseas organisation, the society serves many people in Australia and hopes to reach many more people in need of accessible materials. There are hundreds of books available in braille and audio and serve clients of all ages worldwide. One of the biggest lines of service is the Mass Propers - the readings, prayers, and responses to the Mass on Sundays and special Feast days (basically the Missalette). These are available in braille, audio, and large print. For more information go to [www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org](http://www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org)

**OLHC Parish Sacramental Program.** This program is Family Based, School Supported and Parish Co-ordinated. Preparation for Confirmation will commence shortly. Confirmation is available for Baptised Catholic children in Year 3 or older Enrolment Forms are available in the Parish or through OLHC school,

**Confirmation** preparation will be presented via Workshops (child and parent) on Tuesday 17th May and Tuesday 24th May at 6:00 pm in the OLHC Library, Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday June 4th at 6:00 pm. Enquiries to Maree in the Parish Office (5339 2302 or [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)).

NB: Reconciliation and First Eucharist programs will be conducted in Term 3.



**Caritas Australia - Thank You!**

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/donate-today/> and donate online or by calling 1800 024 413. Your generosity will empower the world’s most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow. **For All Future Generations.**

**Divine Mercy Sunday – April 24, 2022**

The Divine Mercy Picture travels to parishes to bring healing, hope and courage and will be at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat on April 24, 2022 from 1.00pm. Jesus says: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Mt 11.28 Eight first class relics: Pope St John Paul II; St Jadwiga Queen; St Faustina Kowalska, St Maximilian Kolbe; St Stanisław Papczynski; St Maria of Jesus Crucified from Bethlehem; Blessed Michał Sopoćko; and Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko. Prayers for peace, merciful love for Ukraine, Russia, all nations, the Church and the world.

- All are welcome:  
 1.00pm – Viewing of Relics, talk  
 1.00pm – 4.00 pm Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation), three Priests  
 1.30pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary  
 2.00pm - Hour of Mercy prayers, Benediction  
 3.00pm - Holy Mass, Blessing with Relics



**ANZAC Day—April 25th.**  
 Dawn Service—Arch  
 Mass at 9:15 am at St Patrick’s Cathedral.  
 March and Ceremony at Cenotaph at 10:00

OLHC April 30th	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Lyn Gray
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Zeena Lazarus & Bill Jones
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Val & John Bourke
SACRISTAN		Tony & Pauline Newman
Waubra Church cleaning	May	Trish & Steve Coleman

**Collections at OLHC** We thank you for your generous support  
 Presbytery: \$ 508.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 937.75  
**Holy Places:** \$ 441.00