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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.



**Have you thought? Love**

*I love my dog! I love your hair! I love that new song! I absolutely love chocolate! We throw around the word 'love' so casually today that it has almost lost its meaning. The decision whether or not to say "I love you" in a relationship has become a major dilemma - or alternatively, just the formula that has to be said to get what you want! Jesus did not use the word so casually or so inappropriately. He spoke of love very deliberately and very specifically. Jesus calls us to share in the selfless love that he modelled and to follow his example.*

**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 recommend 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: Wed—Friday  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Parish Co-ord: Lia Andanar Yu  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

**Our Lady Help of Christians**

Parish Co-ordinator and  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

Wed-Fri 9– 1pm

**MASS TIMES (This week)**

**St Columba's**

Sunday 10:00 am  
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**  
Saturday 6:00 pm  
Thursday NO Mass—Kelaston  
Friday 10:00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

6th Sunday of Easter

- Acts 15: 1-2 , 22-29
- Ps 66: 2-3;, 5-6, 8 R.v.4
- Rev 22: 12-14 , 16-17. 20
- Jn 17: 20-26



**15th May, 2022 - 5th Sunday of Easter (C)**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

'Love one another as I have loved you.' You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.

But actually, something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.' It is the same with a person seeing their much loved life partner in a similar situation.

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others. We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

© Fr Michael Tate; [mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)



**Responsorial Psalm:** (R) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
Alleluia, alleluia! I will give you a new commandment : love one another as I have loved you . Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Jim McEldrew, Peter Thorpe, Stan Mahar

**Anniversaries: We remember** those in our community who have died in previous years.

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; for the people of the Ukraine, and all the sick in our Parishes.

**Invitation** to acknowledge the conclusion of the first phase of the Synodal process on Sunday May 15th, 2022 at 10:30 am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. All welcome to attend this Mass.

**Legion of Mary** will host a '**Day of Reflection**' on Friday, 27 May 2022 in honor of Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia. Father Nathan Rawlins of St Peter's Parish, Epping, will be the Keynote Speaker for the day. All members of the Legion of Mary Family, active, auxiliary and past members, including parishioners from all Parishes of Ballarat, are cordially invited to participate in this event. The day will start at 9.15 am and finish at 3.15 pm

**Laudato Si' Week: May 16-24, 2022**

This year marks the 7th anniversary of Pope Francis encyclical on care for all creation, a global celebration to unite all Catholics to listen and respond to the seven Laudato Si Goals.

As part of Catholic Earthcare's celebration of *Laudato Si'* Week, they are hosting an online screening of the newly released 'Regenerating Australia' short film - a fictitious news segment set on New Year's Eve 2029, examining the decade that 'could be'. The film challenges people to consider how to respond to the Cry of the Earth. Speakers: Bishop Ken Howell and a range of guest speakers to share in this celebration, followed by a panel discussion & question time. You are welcome to join by yourself or register a parish group for the viewing (please note if registering for a group, only 1 person need register via Trybooking). The video will be streamed via zoom. The online event will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 from 6.00pm – 8.00pm AEST. Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BZADT>.

**Book Launch**—an extra-ordinary marathime drama off the coast of Western Australia, told by one who experienced this as a child — "After the Tamapa" written by Abbas Nazari, in conversation with Prue Bentley (ABC Ballarat) May 20th at the Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-35 Barclay Street 5:00 pm—5:30 pm to conclude at 7:00 pm. COVID safe—masks required. Notice in foyer.

St Columba's May 22nd	(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: \$ 382.35 Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 925.00

**Time Out Family Group ~ 15th May** - Lunch— Golden Point Hotel (formerly Zagames). 639 Main Road. 12 noon to celebrate Maree Howlett's 60th birthday (10th May). Senior's Menu available. Numbers to Maree by Monday 2nd May 0400 053 465.



**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).

**National Family Week: May 15-21, 2022** CatholicCare Victoria believes that building strong family relationships is the key to building healthy, resilient communities. Strong families give children the foundation they need to grow and the support they need to face challenges and setbacks not only now, but into the future. So how can parents and families build strong family relationships? Family Relationship Practitioners in Bendigo, Julia Feiss and Lisa Castles, share five important elements for creating strong families at <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/news/247/a-blessing-for-families>. There is also, "A Blessing for Families" on this webpage.

**Prayer for the Family**

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
 in you we contemplate  
 the splendour of true love,  
 to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
 grant that our families too  
 may be places of communion and  
 prayer,*

*authentic schools of the Gospel  
 and small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
 may families never again  
 experience violence, rejection and  
 division:  
 may all who have been hurt or  
 scandalized  
 find ready comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
 may the approaching Synod of  
 Bishops  
 make us once more mindful  
 of the sacredness and inviolability  
 of the family,  
 and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
 graciously hear our prayer.*

**Given by Pope Francis on the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Saint Peter's Square, Sunday, 29 December 2013**



**National Volunteers Week: May 16-22, 2022**

National Volunteers Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. From May 16-22, 2022 NVW is a chance for all of us to celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and to say thank you and this includes people in our parishes and agencies. The theme for NVW 2022 is *Better Together*. Volunteering brings people together; it builds communities and creates a better society for everyone. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better. We are, *Better Together*. The Volunteering Australia Volunteer website has National Volunteer Week resources, certificates of appreciation, volunteer thank you gifts and merchandise available <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/nvw-resources-2/>

**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.

**St Augustine's Church Creswick 150th Anniversary** On the weekend of September 17-18, 2022 celebrations will be held for the 150th anniversary of St Augustine's Church, Creswick. If anyone has any old photographs, stories, memorabilia or anything which you believe may be of interest, please contact Leonie in the parish office, email [creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 0488220685

**Advance Notice: Ordinations to the Priesthood** Deacons Matt Restall and Bill Lowry will be ordained priests for the Diocese of Ballarat on Friday, July 22, 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 7.00pm. Matthew had been present our Parishes during 2019. Bill is currently working in the Redan Parish.

**Mass Counts** will be occurring for the next 3 weeks. Please be aware that attendance will be noted and reported to the Diocese.

OLHC 21st May	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer, please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		John & Val Bourke
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Pat Dillon & Trish Pearce
SACRISTAN		John & Sue Calistro
Waubra Church cleaning	June:	Clare & Kerry Mullane
<b>Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support</b>		
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