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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 or ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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. Masks 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.

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.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Give up my possessions?

We live in an era of extraordinary wealth in some countries contrasted against extraordinary poverty and need in other countries. Accumulation of possessions has become a driving force in our society. Flat screen televisions, iPods, multiple computers, games consoles, portable DVD players, multifunction cell phones are all 'must-have' items. The thought of surrendering such items may be almost impossible to consider. However, Jesus' message about being a disciple calls to us. How can some people in the world surround themselves with such luxuries while others don't have enough to eat? Does the love of 'possessions' blind us to the needs of others?



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 (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

The Parishes acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

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
Office Hours: 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 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

24th Sunday Ordinary Time

- Ex 32:7-11, 13-14
- Ps 50: 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 R. Lk 15:18
- 1 Tim 1: 12-17
- Lk 15:1-32s



4th September, 2022 - 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time (C)

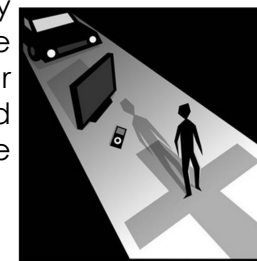
Focus on the Scriptures

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to them.

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Responsorial Psalm: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Neil Sheehan, Walter John Gradkowski

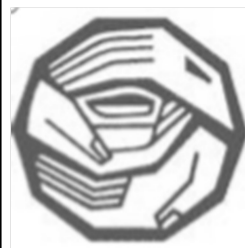
Anniversaries: We remember Charlie Mallia, Shirley Ford, Gwen Dobell, Anne Nuttall, Newell Barrett, Michael Franc, Maryanne Rawlings, Genoveva Jurisic, Fr Gavin O'Sullivan SJ, May O'Donnell, Paul Mahar, Noreen Earl, Cathe McArdle,

We pray: Those in need of our prayers: for the people of the Ukraine, and those suffering in Africa. Please pray for the children who received the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend.

Vinnie's Winter Appeal Domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness for women and children. Your support of the 2022 Vinnie's Winter Appeal will help provide emergency accommodation, financial support, as well as material assistance. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/winter-appeal-vic>

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. For more information go to <https://staugustines150.weebly.com/>

Social Justice Sunday This year's Social Justice Statement, "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse", invites us to engage with a complex and confronting social reality. It explores the roots of violence and abuse, honours the voices of victims, offers a social and theological exploration of the reality of violence, especially against women and children, and invites us to develop relationships in all parts of our lives 'marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control.' We welcome this urgent call from our Church to deepen our faith through full and frank discussion and dialogue, advocacy and action. *If the content of the Statement raises issues or concerns for you, please refer to the Getting Help page in the Statement for a list of support channels, or speak to a trusted friend, your GP, your parish priest or parish pastoral worker.*



St Vincent de Paul St Alphonsus Conference of Vincent de Paul Wendouree are having a Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Vincent de Paul on the 20th of September at O.L.H.C. at 10 A.M. Followed by morning tea. (The Feast is the 27th of September). All are welcome

OLHC Laudato Si Action Platform series: During Mass over the last few weeks, we have been looking at the Laudato Si Action Platform Goals. You are invited to provide some feedback on this series. The feedback and suggestion box will be in the foyer for a few weeks.

St Columba's 11th Sept	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Judy Brown
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Joanne Vandervoort
COMMUNION MINISTER		Colleen Wakefield
DIGITAL PORJECTOR		Vicki Moroney
SACRISTAN		Josie Crowe

Collections at St Columba's We thank you for your generous support
 Presbytery: \$ 301.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1394.00



First Eucharist for OLHC candidates.

This weekend 10 children from OLHC parish will celebrate their First Communion, This completes their Sacramental Initiation. Congratulations to Kiera Anderson, Scarlett Hofheins, Darcy Rushton, Airlie Fisher, Riley Perna, Nicholas Neville, Ryan Osborne, Caitlin Manning, George Miller and Logan Kent.

Embracing the Call to Global Mission American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities. Embrace one of these **Mission opportunities abroad** and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961. **Enquire online** or **Ph: 0422 742 567** and **Register** for a Webinar on **Saturday September 24th at 11:30am** where you can talk directly with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now. Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our **13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from October 16th to 28th.**

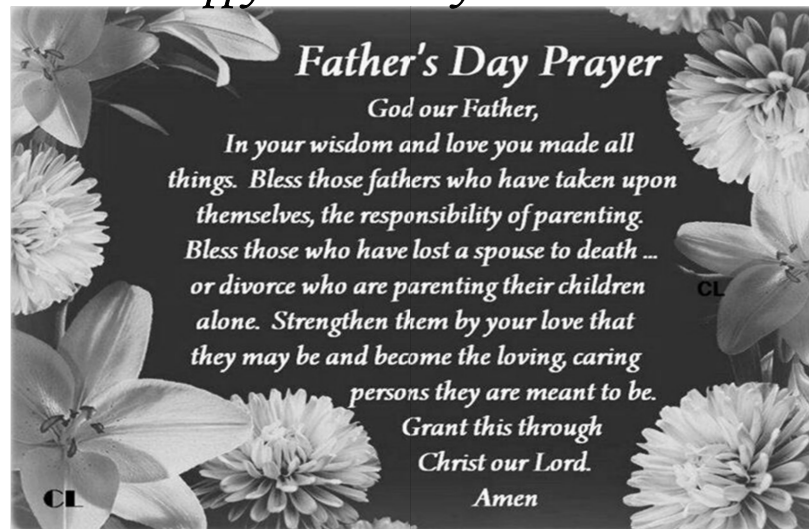


Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement, and will also need to be supported by the fund. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you can, and help us continue 'caring for those who cared for us'. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week. A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$ 2.00 are tax-deductible.

Caring for those who cared for us – the Church community's responsibility

Happy Father's Day to all our dads.



SEASON OF CREATION 1 September – 4 October The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home. Catholic representatives on the Season of Creation advisory committee are the Vatican's Dicastery for human Development and the Laudato Si Movement.

Bishop Jose Colin Bagaforo. Bishop of Kidapawan, Philippines presents the launch of the Season of Creation 2022 by the Dicastery for Human Development.

The Season "Celebration" begins on 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. This year the theme is, "Listen to the Voice of Creation." The Psalmist declares, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge...their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the Earth, and their words to the end of the world." (19: 1-4) During the Season of Creation, our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced. In prayer we lament the individuals, communities, species, and ecosystems who are lost, and those whose livelihoods are threatened by habitat loss and climate change. In prayer we centre the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

Safeguarding Sunday The Parish of OLHC ~ Wendouree and the Diocese of Ballarat are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work together to ensure all people feel safe and supported.

CWL Cathedral Branch would like to invite Parishioners to join them for a Social afternoon at the Mary Glowrey Room, on Wednesday September 7th at 1.30.. There will be afternoon tea, a stall and competition. Entry free.

Come along and bring a friend and meet our members and other Parishioners. Inquiries Carmel 0401175045 or annekav1234@gmail.com

OLHC 10th September	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Zeena Lazarus & Harry Kennedy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Harry Kennedy & Trish Lawson
SACRISTAN		Geoff & Marg McLean
Waubra Church cleaning	September:	Kerryn & Lawrence Gallagher

Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support
 Presbytery: \$ 208.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 305