

### 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)

### 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.**



# Have you thought?

### Affirmation or Challenge

The salt and light of the world passage is often used to affirm and encourage, but when Jesus tells his disciples – and us – to be salt and light of the world it is not so that they can draw attention and glory to themselves. The whole purpose of being salt and light is to lead others into right relationship with one another and with God. Whilst the translation we have clearly states that disciples are to be salt and light of the world, it is just as clear that the intention is that they/we be salt and light for the world.

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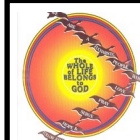
The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference  
**Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine**

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.



### 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)  
**School Co-Principals:** Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr  
**School Phone:** 5332 4894

**Office:** 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302  
**Prayer Line:** 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

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

### 5th January, 2023 - 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

#### Focus on the Scriptures

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community.

Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the cosmos? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

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



**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  
Thursday 9:30 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  
Friday 10:00 am

#### Readings for Next Weekend: 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

- Sir 15L 15-20
- Ps 118: 1-2, 4-5, 33-34 R v 1
- 1 Cor 2: 6-10
- Mt 5: 17-37

**Responsorial Psalm:** Alight rises in the darkness for the upright

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Des Lloyd, Barbara Beechey  
**Anniversaries: We remember** those who have anniversaries occur about this time: Peter Baker, Pasquale Milazzo, Barbara Melican, Valarie Lavery, Marsha Gallagher, Joan Thomas, Margaret LeMarshall, Rita Moclair,  
**We pray: Those in need of our prayers:** for the people of the Ukraine and those suffering in Africa.

**2023 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** Expressions of interest are invited to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, June 11th - 24th 2023 - Jordan, Petra, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Mt of Olives, Jericho, Qumran. Fully escorted, all inclusive pilgrimage accompanied by Fr Justin Driscoll and arranged through Lifestyle Travel in Ballarat. Contact Fr Justin for further information (Daylesford 0448 220 685) or [info@lifestyletravel.com.au](mailto:info@lifestyletravel.com.au)



**Baptized with the Holy Spirit** **Baptism Preparation Session** Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Centralised Baptism Preparation Session will be held at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall on Thursday 2nd March, 2023 at 10.00am & 5.30pm. Bookings to be made with Parish Office.



**Advance Notice: World Youth Day** World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More info at: <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/youth-and-young-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

**Project Compassion Sunday: February 19, 2023** On Sunday, February 19, 2023 Bishop Paul will be launching Project Compassion 2023, "For All Future Generations" at St Patrick's Cathedral during the 5.00pm Mass. Parishes of the dioceses are invited to do the same. Please find attached a reflection that can be offered to your parish community and a Prayer of the Faithful. Parishes may wish to commission their Caritas Ambassadors / Representatives who manage Project Compassion for their parish or school communities. If you would like to receive a commissioning prayer to use, please contact Jillian Hogbin, Caritas Diocesan Director at [caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

St Columba's 12th February	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		
COMMENTATOR	Peter Marquand	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Terry Ranger	
COMMUNION MINISTER	Kaye Merbach	
DIGITAL PORJECTOR	Vicki Moroney	
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe	

**Collections at St Columba's** *Thank you for your generous support*  
 Presbytery: \$ 533.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,130.00

**Prayer Requests:** At different times in our lives, circumstances happen for which there is added need for prayer, and there is comfort in knowing that we need not be alone in praying. Our parish is connecting with a Ballarat wide Prayer-Line where requests for prayer can be made. All prayer requests are confidential. Please ring the Parish Office 5339 2303. The parish phone is monitored for messages at all times and your request will be forwarded to the Prayer-Line.



**Sacristan Assistance at OLHC** Are you able to help with Sacristan duties at OLHC on Saturday evening 6.00pm Mass?

The tasks are to open the Church and assemble Mass requirements, and lock up at the end of the liturgy. Guidance is available and ongoing.

In each four-month roster cycle, you will be rostered 3 or 4 times.

Please phone OLHC office if you can help. Office 53392302. *Thanks*



**Sew and So.....** Thursday 9th February 2023 at 1.30pm in St Columba's Foyer. So many people have said they would come for a get together. Please be part of it. We had a lovely crowd for our December meeting and everyone enjoyed each others company. Enquiries Margaret 53314032. All Welcome.

**Round Table Ecological Theology Sessions** The recent Plenary Council committed the Catholic Church in Australia to developing and committing to a culture of life-long faith formation. For some years now, Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson have been offering regular adult theology classes. A new series begins on Wednesday, February 22 (afternoon group 1-3pm and evening group 7-9pm) at the Mercy Centre in Ballarat East (16 Gent Street). This will be the first of six sessions (March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26). If you are interested, kindly send your contact details (mobile number and email) to Sr. Veronica on [veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au](mailto:veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au) and she will provide you with further information.

**Word of God Sunday – THIS SUNDAY** The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.



**Pope's Intention for February. For parishes**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

**Word of God Sunday** The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

**ACU Parish Courses: see flyers available in the OLHC foyer, or** <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/pastoral-training> paths to international cooperation.



**OLHC Parish**

**Christmas Day Lunch Thank-You**

Once again OLHC Parish hosted a successful Christmas Day Lunch. Although numbers were slightly down on previous years possibly due to lingering anxiety about Covid and attending indoor gatherings, the guests enjoyed a sumptuous roast meal and lovely dessert accompanied by musical items. Thank you to all parishioners who supported the lunch through financial contributions, donations of food and drink, cleaning and setting up the venue or volunteering on Christmas Day. All this meant that many people who would have been spending Christmas Day alone or without a special meal were able to be part of a joyous Christmas community celebration where all were welcomed and accepted.

OLHC 11th February	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer, please
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Darryl Clart & Laureen Rhodes
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Christine Richardson & Helen Rieniets
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray and Kylie Gray
<b>Waubra Church cleaning</b>	<b>February :</b>	Anne Dalton & Brian Gallagher
<b>Collections at OLHC</b>	<b>We thank you for your generous support</b>	
Presbytery: \$ 493.40	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,105	