

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

- ◆ 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.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene, or Mary of Magdala, plays an important role in the gospel accounts of the resurrection. She was obviously a significant follower of Jesus, being named as a witness to the crucifixion, discovering the empty tomb and the first to encounter the risen Christ. One would think that she would hold a prestigious place in the Church, but for many years she was confused with another character identified in the gospels and was portrayed as a prostitute and sinner. Mary is named in each of the four gospels and not once is it indicated that she was a sinner or prostitute. She has been a victim of mistaken identity for 2000 years.

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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 (select Parish)



Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth Phone: 5331 1012

Email: 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

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.

9th April, 2023 - Easter Sunday (A)

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:

2nd Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy

1st Reading: Acts 2: 42-47
 Psalm: 117: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24
 R. v.1
 2nd Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9
 Gospel: Jn 20: 19-31



Focus on the Scriptures

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

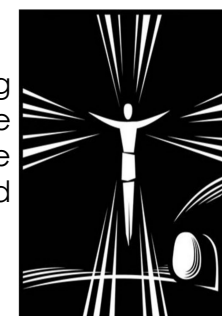
This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: 'Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.'

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was 'Apostle to the Apostles' because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ's body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ's victory over death. Alleluia!

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



Responsorial Psalm: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia.

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: those who have died recently.

Anniversaries: We remember Sr Maureen Connelly, Tony McDonald

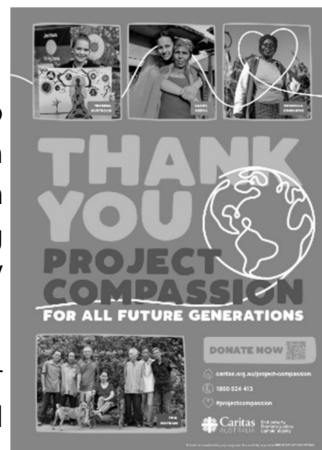
We pray: Those in need of our prayers: for the people of Turkey, Syria and Ukraine.



Thank You

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

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.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Wisdom at the Cathedral All are welcome to the next talk in the Cathedral Parish's series 'Wisdom at the Cathedral'. Professor John Ozolins from the University of Divinity will speak on St Augustine and the Early Church Fathers on the relationship between Faith and Reason. **7pm, Friday 21 April** in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms and the talk and discussion time will go for an hour and will be followed by a cup of tea.

Entry by donation. For all enquiries, please contact Fiona Bradley on 0402 474 074



Position Vacant Finance Officer The Parishes of Ballarat, Ballarat East, Ballarat North, Linton, Redan, Sebastopol and Wendouree are advertising for a full-time Finance Officer. For details about the role please scan the QR code which will take you to the advertisement

St Columba's 16th April	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		
COMMENTATOR	Peter Marquand	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Geraldine Mugavin	
COMMUNION MINISTER	Bruce Chapman	
DIGITAL PORJECTOR	Fiona Newton	
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe	
Collections at St Columba's Thank you for your generous support		
Presbytery: \$384.00 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 800.00		

(Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans). Take the bitterness out of chocolate

Easter chocolate is already on the supermarket shelves, so let's recommit to using our chocolate dollars to buy slavery-free chocolate this year. It's also the right time to tell our families, friends and communities about the exploitation of children in chocolate production. Encourage them to start buying slavery-free chocolate now – and to keep going after Easter.

You can find the Be Slavery Free Chocolate Scorecard at <https://www.beslaveryfree.com/chocolate>. The scorecard published in 2022 and updated before Easter, features most of your favourite brands and explains how they rate in several key areas including child labour, payment of a living income and the impact on climate. Look for these symbols to purchase slave-free chocolate.



Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans Online National Gathering: May 3, 2023

ACRATH invites you to join their national gathering (online) on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. The theme is from St John's gospel –



"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full".

Further details of the event will be published on the ACRATH website but save the date now.



Sew and So.. Thursday 13th April, 2023 at 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Foyer. Enjoy a pleasant couple of hours. All Welcome. Enquiries Margaret ph: 53314032

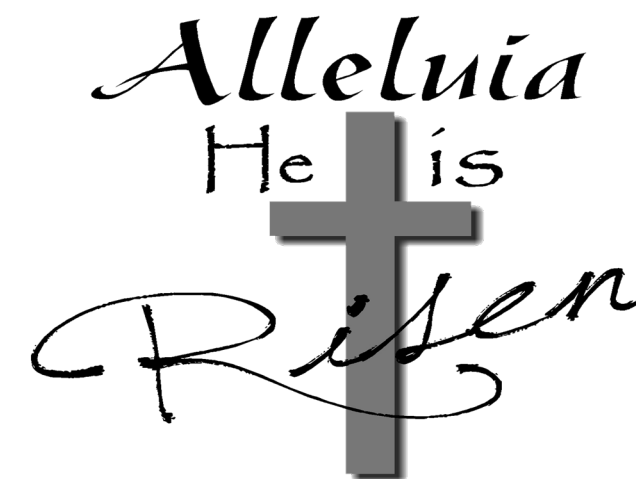
Grampians Health Ballarat are seeking to recruit Pastoral Care Visitors (volunteers) to provide regular non-denominational Pastoral Care support to patients and visitor. Training and on-going support provided. For further information please contact **Paul Ryan**, Grampians Health Ballarat on **5320 8634** or email Paul at paul.ryan@bhs.org.au. Information flyer in foyer.



OLHC Parishioners are invited to stay after Mass on the 15th April and take the opportunity to chat with friends and family. Tea/coffee will be served.

Healing Mass and Adoration at St Patrick's Cathedral o Friday 28th April, celebrated by Fr Wahid Riad (Castlemaine). Reconciliation from 6:30 pm onwards.

Australian Catholics Autumn 2023 issue "Touring the world of Jesus" is now available. For those interested, several copies are at the church foyer.



Fr Marcello, along with Lia and Maree wish parishioners of St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christian parishes blessings for this Easter Season.

Thanks to the musicians and members of the Liturgy teams for the preparation of the Easter liturgies.

Bishop's Easter message. Included in this bulletin is a letter from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Sacrament of Confirmation preparation programs for St Columba's & OLHC Parishes commence in early Term2. Further information to follow.



Centralised Baptism Preparation Session

Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session

is on Holy Thursday at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Thursday, 4th of May 2023** at 10.00am and 5:30 pm.

"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...." - Pope Francis

OLHC 15th April 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Lyn Gray
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Sue Calistro & Laureen Rhodes
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Frank Hogan & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Sue and John Calistro
Waubra Church cleaning	April:	Sharon and Marty Moran
Collections at OLHC		We thank you for your generous support
Presbytery: \$517.75		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1788.10