

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

A line of shepherds

When Jesus used the image of himself as a shepherd, he named himself as belonging to a Jewish ancestry that associated itself with shepherds. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses were all shepherds. David, the second King of Israel, was regarded as the greatest king in Jewish history. His humble beginning, captured magnificently in the sculpture by Michelangelo, was as a shepherd boy guarding his flock with a slingshot. The kings of Israel were charged to 'shepherd' their people rather than to lord it over them as the pagan kings did.

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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.

Staffing

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

Finance Officer: Bernadette Prestwood

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:

5th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 6: 1-7

Ps 32: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R.v22

2nd Reading: 1 Pt 2: 4-9

Gospel: Jn 14: 1-12



30th April, 2023 - 4th Sunday of Easter (A)

Focus on the Scriptures

This is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and a particular focus taken today is leadership. Which voices do we follow? Why do we follow these voices and not others? Authentic leadership is rooted in authority, and authentic authority is the ability to author or bring life to birth. Genuine authority cherishes, guards and encourages the best in life; it provides rest and refreshment; it guides our steps; it nourishes us; it leads us to God. Peter is an example of authentic authority: he proclaims the truth, even if others find it hard to hear; he denounces error, even when this places him in jeopardy; he calls for a change of heart, even when it makes great demands.

Authentic leadership is patterned after the leadership of Jesus. It is gentle and familiar, like the true shepherd; it has won the confidence of those who follow, as did the true shepherd; it is committed to the enhancement of the lives of others, as was Jesus. Authentic leadership is willing to forgo its own needs and to deny its own interests in favour of the needs and interests of others.

Heavy demands are placed on those who follow authentic leadership. Those who follow the Good Shepherd must follow him in the dark valleys as well as to the refreshing streams. They must be willing to relinquish some of their own plans an self-determination and entrust themselves to his leadership. They must never forget that they are following a shepherd who has paid the ultimate price on their behalf.

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Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me! Alleluia

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Owen Duncan, Tony Goode

Anniversaries: We remember Catherine Anderson, Peter Thorpe, Rosa Hill, Kathleen Richie, Denise Collins, Fr. Peter Jones SJ, Christopher Waight, Michael Ryan, Mark Ryan

We pray: Those who are ill: Jenny Jackson, and for the people of Turkey, Syria, Sudan and Ukraine.

From Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

A number of people have asked about arrangements for the reception of Holy Communion. I have concluded that it is not yet time to reintroduce the sharing of the chalice. In regard to the way of receiving the host, recognising the continuing risks of the pandemic, and out of consideration for the health of all parishioners, I recommend reverent reception of the host in the hand rather than reception on the tongue.



OLHC Parish community welcomes

Sophie Bennett, daughter of Adam and Michele.

May Sophie continue to flourish in the love and care of her families and our parish community.

“The Church gives faith to your children through baptism and you have the task to make it grow...” Pope Francis.

Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for May - For church movements and groups:

We pray that the church movements and groups will rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world,

St Columba's Family Group Celebration - Sunday May 21st

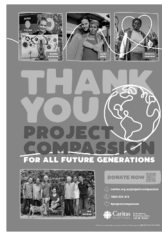
This May marks the 50th Anniversary of the Passionist Family Group Movement begun by Father Peter McGrath.

It is also 35 years since Family Groups began at St Columba's.

Over the time, the Family Groups have led to the development of strong friendships and bonds between the members which has helped strengthen our Parish Community.

To celebrate both these milestones **all** parishioners are warmly invited to the 10.00am Mass at St Columba's on May 21st followed by lunch at the Ballarat Golf Club. For further information about the day please contact Kaye Beggs on 0427739121

St Columba's 7th May 2023	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG	Terry Ranger	
COMMENTATOR	Fiona Newton	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Terry Ranger/Volunteer please	
COMMUNION MINISTER	Peter Marquand	
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Vicki Moroney	
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe	
Collections at St Columba's	Thank you for your generous support	
Presbytery: \$501.90	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$819.50	



Thank You from Caritas Australia 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 www.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 www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Donations to date:

Ballarat North \$ 3,350.45 **Wendouree** \$ 2,341.70 *Thank you!*

Farewell & Thanks Max Hills Earlier this year Max Hills made the decision to relocate to Geelong to be closer to family. Max and Roma, who died in **2016**, were original members of OLHC Parish when it was formed in 1964. Max was a member of the steering committee for the 1st Parish Council. Throughout their time in the parish Max and Roma were great contributors in a variety of ways including membership of the Catholic Women's League and St Vincent de Paul Society, Wendouree Catholic Ball Committees, involvement in various liturgical ministries notably having responsibility for the changing liturgical seasonal colours behind the altar (no mean feat for Max aged 70+ to climb the ladder to the ceiling to install the colour for the new liturgical season). When Passionist Family Groups came to our parish Max and Roma were the first Parish Coordinators and continued in this role for close to 15 years. They were much loved members of the YWorrey Family group

Thank you Max for all you and Roma have done for our parish but especially for the love and friendship you shared with us all. We wish you every blessing as you settle into this new phase of your life in Geelong

Cathedral Branch Catholic Women's League Our next meeting will be held in the Mary Glowrey room Wednesday, May 3rd at 1.30pm. Discussion on Father Mc Culloch's visit and afternoon tea. All Welcome. Inquiries 0401175045

Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Disaster A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria. Over 50,000 people have been killed, with many more injured and left homeless. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance. We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.



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



Sacrament of Confirmation

preparation programs for St Columba's & OLHC Parishes commence in early Term 2 for children in Grade 3 or above who have received the Sacrament of Baptism The preparation programs are offered as Workshops in both parishes. NB: Reconciliation and Eucharist Programs will be conducted in Term 3.

OLHC Confirmation Workshops (child & parent) - May 9th and 16th

at **6:00 pm** in the **OLHC School Library**. Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday **27th May at 6:00 pm.**

Volunteers Pastoral Care Workers

at Grampians Health Ballarat Grampians Health Ballarat is seeking expressions of interest for volunteers Pastoral Care Workers to provide regular pastoral care support to patients and visitors of all faiths and beliefs. If you are willing to commit to 2.5 hours per week, and provide a listening ear, then Grampians Health Ballarat would like to hear from you. Contact Paul Ryan, ph. 5320 8634 or email Paul at paul.ryan@bhs.org.au

OLHC Parish Meeting on Saturday, April 29th

following 6:00 pm Mass. Pizzas provided. At OLHC Meeting Room. All Welcome.

Our Diocesan Community Magazine for March

is now available in the Church foyer for your collection. Many interesting articles to keep you up-to-date with matters around our Diocese.

OLHC 6th May 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG	Paul Hogan	
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Veronica Stott	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Trish Pora & Darryl Clark	
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Pat Dillon & Trish Lawson	
SACRISTAN	Geoff & Marg McLean	
Waubra Church cleaning	May: Clare Mullane & Suzanne McDonald	
Collections at OLHC	We thank you for your generous support	
Presbytery: \$312.15	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 367.30	