

### 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.**

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

### It is for the best...

*At the time of this gospel's writing, some 70 years after the events it describes, amazing things have taken place in the early Christian community. Rather than everything falling apart with the death of Jesus, the message of Jesus has spread further than he himself could ever have accomplished. It is the departure of Jesus from their midst and the sending of the Spirit that really prompts the disciples to act on what they had experienced while Jesus lived among them. The gospel writer has Jesus saying that he has to go away so that the disciples can reach their potential.*

### Please support our loyal advertisers

**BB** Ed Browne  
 Busy Bookkeeping  
 Phone 5364 2922  
[ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au](mailto:ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au)

**N.J. & A.M. HAINTZ**  
 Building Contractors  
 Phone: (03) 5332 3069  
 Mobile: 0418 504 254

**ACDF** Funeral Fund  
 Prepaid Funerals  
 Eliminate family stress  
 Details: 5337 7111

**M&L McLEAN**  
 CLEANING SERVICES  
 Domestic & Commercial cleaning  
 0402862188/0434746818  
[admin@mlmclean.com.au](mailto:admin@mlmclean.com.au)

**BALLARAT MEAT COMPANY**  
 11 Neerim Crescent,  
 Wendouree Industrial Park  
 Ph: 5339 3122  
 Open Direct to the Public  
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**PPT**  
 PROWSE PERRIN & TWOMEY  
 20 Lydiard Street Sth,  
 Ballarat  
 Ph: (03) 5331 3711  
[www.ppt.com.au](http://www.ppt.com.au)

**Pat Cashin Funerals**  
 Ballarat  
 A.B.N. 28 007 228 757  
 Address: 1114 Doveton Street  
 North, Ballarat, 3350  
 Phone: (03) 5333 3911  
 All hours. Moderate cost

### 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

P O Box 192, Wendouree Prayer Line: 5339 2302

Email: [wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

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

Office Hours: Wed-Fri 9-1pm

Parish Co-ord & Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

### 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 9:30 am Earlier time  
Friday 10:00 am

### Readings for Next Weekend:

6th Sunday of Easter  
1st Reading: Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17  
Ps 65: 1-7, 16, 20. R. see v 1  
2nd Reading: 1 Pt 3: 15-18  
Gospel: Jn 14: 15-21

### 7th May 2023 - 5th Sunday of Easter (A)

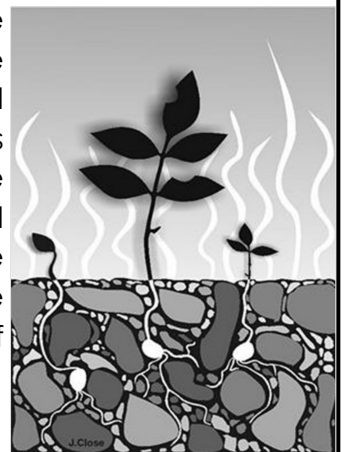
### Focus on the Scriptures

The gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus' last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation.

This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him 'chosen and precious in the sight of God' but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will effect us, we have Jesus' own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him.

Today's readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers.

© Dianne Bergant CSA



**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Sheila Anderson, Jenny Jackson, Mario Perovic, Alida Turkenburg, Annette Cunningham

**Anniversaries: We remember** Margaret Schmickering, Marlene Odum, Stan Mahar, Timothy Mahar, Peter Thorpe, Frank Sheehan, Frank Rieniets,

**We pray: Those in need of our prayers:** for the sick including Helma Van Den Brule



### 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, 1st June 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.**



### 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.

### 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 14th May '23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Judy Brown
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Tom Keogh
COMMUNION MINISTER		Colleen Wakefield
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Kathleen Keogh
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
<b>Collections Last Weekend St Columba's</b> <i>Thank you for your contributions</i>		
Presbytery: \$ 323.95	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$927.80



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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) and donate online. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves.



### Donations to date:

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

### Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is an initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The next Cycle begins May 22, 2023. There are 32 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations open April 19. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.



**OLHC Feast Day** is on Wednesday May 24th. Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 24th May at 11:00 am. All Welcome.

**Mass Counts start this weekend May 6-7** The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over 4 weekends in May. Counting begins on May 6-7 and will continue over the next four weekends of May.

### Mystery and Mission: The Art of Liturgical Celebration - September 28-30, 2023

Registrations are now open for the National Liturgy and Liturgical Music Conference to be held at the Brisbane Hilton from September 28 – 30. International keynote presenters are Sarah Hart, one of the leading figures in contemporary Catholic music, and Dr Timothy O'Malley, professor of liturgical-sacramental theology and academic director of the Notre Dame Centre for Liturgy (USA). These international guests will be joined by acclaimed local presenters: Rev Dr Tom Elich, liturgist and Director of Liturgy Brisbane, and Dr Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF, theologian and composer. In addition to these keynote presenters, there will be more than 50 workshops on offer across the three days. The full program available here: <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/>.

**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](mailto:paul.ryan@bhs.org.au)

**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.



**Sew and So.....** Thursday 11th May 2023 at 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Foyer. Come and enjoy a couple of hours of frivolity and good company. All welcome. Enquiries Margaret 53314032.

### St Vincent's College Bendigo Reunion



Past students of St Vincent's College Bendigo and their partners are invited to attend our 65th Anniversary and Sports Hall of Fame Dinner on Saturday, May 20, followed by Mass and BBQ at Catherine McAuley College on Sunday, May 21, 2023. For more information and booking details, contact Tim Coates on 0407 403 574 or [timothycoates@gmail.com](mailto:timothycoates@gmail.com) or visit our website.

### New report reveals makeup of Australian Catholic population

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census. Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486>

### OLHC Mass next Thursday will be at the earlier time of 9:30 am.

**Insert:** Report from the OLHC Parish Meeting held on April 29th.

OLHC 13th May 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Pauline Newman & Vin Dillon
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Rieniets & Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN		John & Sue Calistro
<b>Waubra Church cleaning</b>	<b>May:</b>	Clare Mullane & Suzanne McDonald
<b>Collections Last Weekend OLHC</b> <i>Thank you for your contributions</i>		
Presbytery: \$ 388.30	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)	\$ 1,505.00