

### 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.**

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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

**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 11:00 am Kelaston

Friday 10:00 am

### Readings for Next Weekend:

#### 7th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 1: 1-11

Ps 46: 2-3; 6-9. R. v 6

2nd Reading: Eph 1: 17-23

Gospel: Mt 28: 16-20



### 14th May, 2023 - 6th Sunday of Easter (A)

### Focus on the Scriptures

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: 'paraclete'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you another Paraclete to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a Paraclete, and he would send another.

What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, para-llel. They run alongside each other. A paraclete is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor *par excellence*.

Our Lord promises another Paraclete dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This Paraclete particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two Paracletes, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

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



## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### Live in love

Throughout the gospel of John, we are reminded of the enduring relationship between Jesus and the Father. A number of times, Jesus announces that he and the Father are one. In today's passage, Jesus also says to the disciples that they can share in this relationship of love. When Jesus speaks about anyone who 'loves' him, he speaks about anyone who lives by his message and seeks to be like him. Anyone who does that will share in the love that exists between the Father and the Son. That invitation is open for each of us today as well.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Helma van den Brule

**Anniversaries: We remember** Anthony Hall, Jim McEldrew, Brian Molloy, John Kennedy

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



**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, June 1st 2023 at 10.00 am 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 Workshop** (child & parent) - **May 16th at 6:00 pm** in the **OLHC School Library**. Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday **27th May at 6:00 pm**. Please keep these candidates and their families in you prayers.



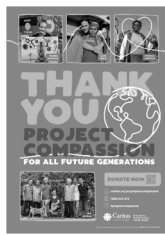
**From Bishop Paul Bird CSsR**

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 21st May '23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR		Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Min Myers
COMMUNION MINISTER		Kaye Merbach
DIGITAL PORJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
<b>Collections at St Columba's</b>	<b>Thank you for your generous support</b>	
Presbytery: \$ 435.15	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$455.00	



**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 out of poverty. Contributions received to date:

**Ballarat North \$ 3,350.45 Wendouree \$ 2,341.70**



**National Volunteering Week—May 15th—21st.**

This is our opportunity to recognise the contributions of the many volunteers in our parish and thank them for their work to support our community!

**Annual Mass count** continues this weekend.

**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:djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.



Follow-up Parish Meeting re: **Parish Garden** will be on Thursday 25th, following 10:00 am Mass. Morning tea provided. All welcome!

**Catholic Education Week— May 21st—26th**

This year's theme: **"Let the words you speak always be full of grace"** (Col 4:6)



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: May 21-28, 2023** Resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are available from <https://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources>

**Mass at Kelaston** is celebrated each month on the third Thursday. This Mass is for the residents. Any other visitors wishing to attend that Mass will be required to comply with the COVID-Safe measures implemented by Kelaston.

**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)

**St Vincent's College Bendigo, Reunion** Past students of St Vincent's College Bendigo and their partners are invited to attend our 65<sup>th</sup> 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](#).



*Loving God, we pray for our mothers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love, and others who show us a mother's love.*

*We pray for adoptive mothers and for the women who wish to give birth but experience challenges, that they know your care.*

*We pray for mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.*

*We pray for those who wish to serve as mothers, but are not able to do so, that they know your comfort.*

*We pray for mothers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of his kingdom. Amen.*



OLHC 20th May 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Paul Hogan
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Lyn Grey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Zeena Lazarus & Sue Calistro
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Feely & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Kath Leonard & Anne Slattery
<b>Waubra Church cleaning</b>	<b>May:</b>	Clare Mullane & Suzanne McDonald
<b>Collections Last Weekend</b>	<i>Thank you for your contributions</i>	
Presbytery: \$ 289.80	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 570.00	