

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.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Matthew's explanation

In the gospel passage, following the presentation of the three parables, Jesus explains the parable of the wheat and darnel to his disciples. It is explained in terms of a final judgement. (Compare it with Matthew 25: 31-46.) The parable of the weeds, or darnel, and its explanation only appear in the gospel of Matthew – although the parable does occur in the non-canonical gospel of Thomas. The interpretation belongs to Matthew more than it belongs to Jesus. It is an unapologetic direction to his community that living a righteous life in the midst of wickedness will be rewarded.

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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

P O Box 192, Wendouree **Prayer Line:** 5339 2302

Email: 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 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3: 5. 7-12

Ps 118: 57. 72. 76-77. 127-130 R. v 97

2nd Reading: Rom 8: 28-30

Gospel: Mt 13: 44-52

23rd July 2023 - 16h Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)



Focus on the Scriptures

One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. Stop! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. Stop! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Perhaps accentuated by the constant messaging of social media, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come.

We could pause for a moment to relax and to allow the Spirit to express our plea in a way which could never be put into words.

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Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

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

Anniversaries: We remember Ian Cuthbertson, Sheilah Foley, Leo Bond, Frank Clarke, Joan O'Connor, Steven Mikus,

We pray: Those in need of our prayers: for the people of Turkey, Syria and Ukraine., and for those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.



Laudato Si Audit ~ OLHC Earthcare Parish Audit People and Outreach

This week the OLHC Earthcare Audit is reflecting on do we as a parish community recognise and support the wider community in their caring for creation. The three goals of the encyclical are actions of mission within our local communities and by prayer and action we are joining other Australian Earthcare parishes and the Laudato Si Movement globally in solidarity to care for the most vulnerable in our precious yet threatened world.

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, August 3rd 2023 at 10.00 am & 5:30 pm.**



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

Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre and Museum



Open Day: MMHC are holding an Open Day on Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 10.00am – 4.00pm. Hourly tours from 10.00am. More information and bookings at <https://www.mmhc.org.au/open-house-melbourne-at-mmhc/>

Fundraising Dinner: A dinner, auction and raffles will be held from 6.30pm on Friday, August 18, 2023 at Mount St Joseph Girls' College, 133 Maidstone Street, Altona. Cost \$50.00pp (BYO drinks). RSVP by Friday, August 11 on QR code or ph. 03 9926 9300.



Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria's Archbishop's Dinner – Save the date

The annual Archbishop's Dinner in support of Corpus Christi Seminary, will be held on Friday, September 1, 2023 at Moonee Valley Racecourse at 7.00pm. Guest speaker is Corpus Christi College Seminary Rector, Fr Cameron Forbes. More information is available from <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081831675720>

Reconciliation and First Eucharist Program has commenced in Term 3. The Sacrament Reconciliation will be celebrated on Tuesday 1st August at 6:00 pm in OLHC church.



Workshops for the Sacrament of First Eucharist will commence on Tuesday 15th August. First Eucharist for these candidates will be celebrated in the parish community on Saturday 26th August. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

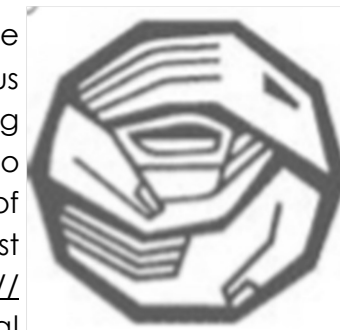
World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Sunday, July 23, 2023 "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk. 1:50) is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The Day is marked near the Feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Parishes, schools, agencies, aged care facilities and other ministries are encouraged to find creative ways to celebrate the contribution of older people to their families and communities. Resources to celebrate this day are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-for-grandparentsand-the-elderly-sunday-july-23-2023/>

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on our website pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship. Closing Date 4 August 2023



Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for July - For a Eucharistic Life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and be opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters. Lord hear us.

Vinnies Winter Appeal The St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Winter Appeal will focus on the number of older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Vinnies are also experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal> on 13 18 12 and at all Vinnies Shops. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.



Catholic Social Services Webinar Series - Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) and Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) are pleased to invite you to a series of webinars to discuss the upcoming referendum on Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the Voice to Parliament on Thursday, July 27 from 4.00pm - 5.00pm (AEST) via zoom. Cost is \$12.00. CSSV and CSSA members free of charge. Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1052799?eid=1052799&>. Enquiries to Kate Stilwell. Email office@css.org.au

Voiced to Parliament: NATSICC, with the help of Jesuit Social Services, have developed a kitchen table conversation (KTC) guide to assist people - in parishes, families, groups of friends, teams/workplaces or volunteer groups - to reflectively consider the question the referendum will put to us. The 'KTC' Guide can be found at <https://indigenousvoice.church/>, which CSSV and Caritas Australia supported NATSICC to put together. The website also features a range of other resources, prayers and videos for consideration as part of our "One Journey, Together" project.

Diocesan e-News

Read about news and events of the diocese in the latest edition of e-News <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>

St Columba's 30th July '23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Mark Lacey
COMMENTATOR		Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Min Myers
COMMUNION MINISTER		Volunteer, please
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 560.95		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,528.60

OLHC 29th July 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Veronica Stott
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Vin Dillon & Zeena Lazarus
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Feely & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Kath Leonard & Anne Slattery
Waubra Church cleaning	August :	Anne Dalton & Brian Gallagher
Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 317.80		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$1,030.00