

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 Ch 13

Over the last few weeks we have now heard Matthew Chapter 13 almost in its entirety. We heard first the parable of the sower then last week three short parables about weeds amongst the wheat, the mustard seed growing into a great tree and leaven in the flour. Finally, today we have had these additional pithy parables. The entire chapter seeks to paint metaphoric images of the kingdom. Woven through these images is a suggestion that the kingdom is open to all – all are presented with the invitation – but not everyone will accept that invitation or respond to it in the same way.

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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 2:00 pm Funeral

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:

Transfiguration of the Lord

1st Reading: Daniel 7: 7-9, 13-14

Ps 96: 1-2, 5-6, 9. w.1.9

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1: 16-19

Gospel: Mt 17: 1-9

30th July 2023 - 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

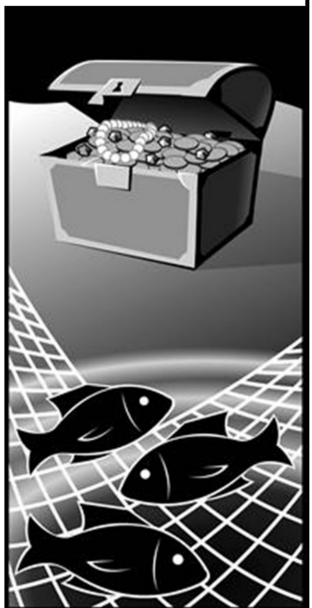
Focus on the Scriptures

Two themes seem to weave through the readings for this Sunday: treasure and delight. The treasure is the extraordinary gift that comes from God; the delight is the joy that we experience when we realise that the treasure is ours. A third theme, which is found in the first reading, picks up a theme that we have considered several times during this period of Ordinary Time, namely, service of others.

The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really a gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it.

Solomon chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God.

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Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love your commands

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 John Graham, Margaret Irvin,

Anniversaries: We remember Keith Ridsdale, Brian Charleson, Frank Clarke, Rohan Cosgriff, Lorraine Campbell, Hilda Duggan, Ivan Kovacic, Frances Morris, Adrian Jones, Tom Bending, Ron Flynn, Jacqueline Curran, Mary 'Bel' Jackman,

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 we are called to reflect upon how we as individuals and a community reach out to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable in our community and the world. This could be financial or active support through various groups working towards sustainable practices for vulnerable people and groups that work for right relationships between living things and their environments.

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— Feast day 8th August.

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.

Mary Mackillop Today (MMT) Community Grants 2024 Applications

Open: Schools and community groups with a project that helps people, may be able to apply for a grant up to \$10,000. Applications open Monday, August 14, 2023. Apply at <https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/what-we-do/our-projects/grants/how-to-apply/>



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 will be celebrated on Tuesday 1st August at 6:00 pm in OLHC church. Please keep these children in your prayers,



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.

Sacred Heart College Ballarat Reunion A reunion of SHC Ballarat East class of 1965 plus anyone who attended SHC, will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2023 at GC's Ballarat from 11.00am – 3.00pm. To attend email loisknights345@hotmail.com or ph. 0419 902538.

World Youth Day 2023: August 1-6, 2023 More than 3000 Australian pilgrims will attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. We pray for the five people from the Diocese of Ballarat attending:

- Grace Doherty & Anna Whiting (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill students); and Gerry Vytilingam (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill staff member);
- John-Paul Walker (Linton & Sebastopol Parishes);
- Laura Bruty (Linton Parish & ACU Ballarat).

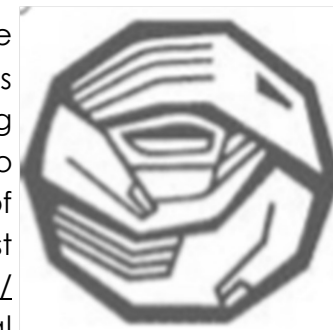
The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on 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

Voice 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 6th Aug '23	(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR		Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Vicki Moroney
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman / Volunteer
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe
Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 372.15		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 559.20

OLHC 5th August 2023	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Elly Green
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Colin & Helen Feely
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Bev Hayward & Harry Kennedy
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray & Michael Rieniets
Waubra Church cleaning	August :	Anne Dalton & Brian Gallagher
Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 267.45		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 260.00