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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

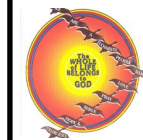
Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

Within the chapel of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Thornbury, in Melbourne's inner north, a set of Indigenous Stations of the Cross are on display, which were created by artist 'John Dunn', a member of the Stolen Generations. These Stations are an exploration of his own journey and they illustrate beautifully how Aboriginal people resonate with the sufferings of Jesus. 10cm x 16cm resource sets are available for parishes, churches and school communities at \$15.00 each. For more information go to <https://art.catholic.org.au/2021/07/13/aboriginal-stations-of-the-cross/>

COVID Safe Plan

Checking-in is no longer a requirement. Face Masks are no longer required to be worn in most indoor settings but are recommended, particularly if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. They are also recommended for people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and are in settings where keeping a safe physical distance from other people is not possible.

- **If you are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough or sore throat) please do not attend Mass.**
- **If you are awaiting results of a COVID test, please stay home.**
- **Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.**
- **Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.**



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

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302

Email: wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

P O Box 192, Wendouree

School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw

School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

School Phone: 5332 4894

School Phone: 5339 4726

Parish Priest:

Fr Marcello Colasante

Staffing

St Columba's

Parish Co-Ordinator: Lia Andanar Yu
Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

Our Safeguarding Officer:

Peter Marquand

Our Lady Help of Christians

Parish Co-ordinator and
Safeguarding Officer:

Maree Roache

Wed-Friday 9:00am -1:00pm

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 (Vigil) 6.00 pm

Thursday 10.00 am

Friday 10.00 am

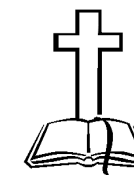
Readings for Next Weekend

Acts 2: 42-47

Ps 117:2-4,13-15, 22-24

1 Pt 1:3-9

Jn 20: 19-31



9th April 2023 ~ Resurrection of the Lord Yr A

Focus on the Scriptures

Easter invites us to celebrate life in its fullest sense. It is anything but easy to celebrate life, however, when many are still dying from COVID and so much of the Earth community is affected by the climate crisis. Resurrection faith calls us to be fearless in facing the challenges that confront us.

A faith-filled man and two faith-filled women prepare Jesus for burial. These three people are fearless in the face of possible reprisals for their support of a "political criminal". Joseph of Arimathea cares for Jesus out of his personal wealth, providing a clean linen cloth and his own newly rock-carved tomb. With his own hands, he performs the burial ritual, lays Jesus' body in the tomb, and rolls the stone into place. The women disciples who witness the closing of the tomb are both named Mary. One is known as Magdalene (the "Tower") and the other is the mother of two male disciples. These women have been towers of strength, contributing their goods and services to Jesus on the journey from Galilee to Jerusalem.

The women set out at dawn "to see the tomb" This seems strange until we realise that they are functioning as witnesses, this time to the dramatic opening of the tomb and the appearance of God's interpretive messenger. "Seeing" is a metaphor for insight. In the earthquake phenomenon and the allusion to lightning, there are echoes of other great moments of God's appearing to Israel, such as the encounter with Moses and the giving of the Law on Mt Sinai.

The two Marys are the first to learn the news of Jesus' resurrection and the first commissioned to proclaim it. The women "see" the place where he was laid. They obey the angel's command not to be afraid but to go quickly to inform the scattered disciples that the resurrected Jesus has gone before them to Galilee, the place of mission, where they too will "see" him. Resurrection life energises these faith-filled women disciples/apostles and negates the death-dealing power of the Roman Empire. Ironically, the Roman tomb guards become "as though dead".

As the women hurry away from the tomb, Jesus comes to meet them on the path or the road. He addresses them with a familiar greeting of joy, Chairete. This is the first appearance of the resurrected One and it draws from the women a profoundly reverential response: taking hold of him, they fall down in worship. Jesus reiterates the commission already delivered by the angel: not to be afraid and to let the men know what has happened. The male disciples will later be commissioned on the mountain top (Matthew 28:16-20). We sometimes fail to notice that all are commissioned, first the women, then the men. Those "on the mountain top" must not succumb to the temptation of remaining there. They must join those on the road in fearlessly bringing life to Earth's afflicted, the human and the more-than-human.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice let us feast with joy in the Lord

Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Anniversaries: We remember: Sr. Patricia Vagg RSM, Tony McDonald, Brendan Love, Bill Eddy, Eleanor Eddy, Monica Eddy, Terry Foran,

We pray: for those in need, all who are sick, and for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.



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 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 caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans Online National Gathering: May 3, 2023 ACRATH invites you to join their national gathering (online) on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 "Hearts stirred to action - The Call of the Human face of trafficking." Details of the event available at <https://acrath.org.au/hearts-stirred-to-action/will>

Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for April - For a culture of peace and non violence: We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

Next 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 10.00 am and 5.30 pm .

St Columba's 16th April	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Volunteer
COMMENTATOR		Peter Marquand
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Geraldine Mugavin
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$384.40 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$800.00

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Parishes of St. Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

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: *Mystery and Mission: The Art of Liturgical Celebration*. 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 of keynotes and workshops on available from the Conference website <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/>. An early bird discount will apply to those registrations received by April 30, 2023.

4 in 10 Australians would accept an invitation to an Easter service if invited by a close friend or family member NCLS Research has some encouraging numbers from the 2022 Australia Community Survey about inviting people to church for Easter. Read about it at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/ncls-research-four-in-10-australians-say-they-would-go-to-an-easter-service-if-invited-by-a-close-friend-or-family-member/>

A message from the Vatican Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue about the Muslim celebration of the month of Ramadan The Vatican's Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue has issued a message of good wishes to Muslims for the celebration of the month of Ramadan. A copy of the letter is available to read on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/vaticans-dicastery-for-interreligious-dialogue-message-for-the-month-of-ramadan/>

Position Vacant Finance Officer The Parishes of Ballarat, Ballarat East, Ballarat North, Linton, Redan, Sebastopol and Wendouree are advertising for a full-time Finance Officer. For details about the role please scan the QR code which will take you to the advertisement.



Grampians Health Ballarat Seeking Volunteer – Pastoral Care Visitors

We are seeking to recruit Pastoral Care Visitors (Volunteers) to provide regular pastoral care support to patients, and visitors of all faiths and beliefs, including those who have no religious beliefs.

Are you:

- comfortable listening to people with views and beliefs different than your own?
- able to listen to and support people to identify where they find meaning, belonging, and a sense of connection and purpose?
- able to commit to 2.5 hours per week?

The support offered by pastoral care visitors includes:

- A Listening Ear, when people have anxieties or concerns and wish to speak to someone (e.g., about their condition);
- Faith-based support (e.g., Whenever possible, access to a person who shares their faith); and
- Non-Religious support (i.e., Spiritual and pastoral support for people who hold non-religious beliefs)

How we will support you as a volunteer

- Provide you with training prior to starting, ongoing support & professional development

If you are interested or want to discuss further

- Please ring Paul Ryan, Grampians Health Ballarat on 5320 8634 or
- email Paul at paul.ryan@bhs.org.au

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.

Sew and So.....Thursday 13th April, 2023 at 1.30pm in St Columba's Church Foyer. Enjoy a pleasant couple of hours. All Welcome. Enquiries Margaret 53314032

OLHC 15th April	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Lyn Gray
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Sue Calistro & Lauren Rhodes
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Frank Hogan & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Sue & John Calistro

Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$517.75 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$1,788.10