

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.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Babylonian Exile

In the book of Leviticus (25:4), it is commanded that every seventh year, the land was to be allowed to have a 'Sabbath year' – no tilling soil, no planting, no harvesting. The people failed to observe this command and the prophet, Jeremiah, interprets the destruction of the Temple and exile into Babylon as God's opportunity to enforce the period of Sabbath rest for the land. The people were in exile in Babylon for 70 years, ending about 537 BCE when the Persian emperor, Cyrus conquered the Babylonians and agreed to return the Israelites to their land. He also returned to them all of the treasures looted from the Temple so that it may be rebuilt.

Please support our loyal advertisers



Ed Browne

Busy Bookkeeping

Phone 5364 2922

ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au



Funeral Fund

Prepaid Funerals

Eliminate family stress

Details: 5337 7111



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

**BALLARAT
MEAT
COMPANY**

11 Neerim Crescent,

Wendouree Industrial Park

Ph: 5339 3122

Open Direct to the Public
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday



Domestic & Commercial
cleaning

0402862188/0434746818

admin@mlmclean.com.au



20 Lydiard Street Sth,
Ballarat

Ph: (03) 5331 3711

www.ppt.com.au



"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience"
(Laudato Si', 217).

reduce reuse recycle
rethink repurpose



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

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which our Parish communities meet, the Wadawurrung people. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation of first peoples.

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:

5th Sunday of Lent (B)

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Psalm: 50: 3-4, 12-15, R.v 12

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5" 7-9

Gospel: John 12: 20-33

4th Sunday of Lent (B) - 10th March 2024

Focus on the Scripture

'How does God picture us? St Paul reveals one of God's favourite ways of regarding us.

'We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, to live the good life as from the beginning He had intended us to live it.'

Just as an artist respects the medium he or she is working in, whether it be oils or crayon, so too God respects us as human beings with free will. Which is why His works of art don't always look the way He intended!

Now, if one has a work of art in the house, a picture or print that means a lot to you, or perhaps the first sketch by a child, do you put it in the darkest corner of the room? Or do you allow just enough light to fall on it so as to reveal how terrific it is, why it gives you pleasure? Of course, the latter.

Now, if you and I are God's work of art, God wants exactly the same. He wants us to be revealed in the light. What sort of light? Christ our Light.

Of course, it might be necessary for the Light to dispel some darkness, some shadow dimension of our lives. In this regard Christ is a healing Light, but this is so that he might illuminate us in a way which more clearly reveals the love which the Divine Artist has for His creation.

We might take a moment to pray for the courage to expose ourselves to Christ's healing light this Lent to be more beautifully illuminated at Easter.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue be silenced, if I every forget you.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God Margaret O'Brien

Anniversaries: We remember Mary Semple, Sheila Prendergast, Marie Green, Brendan O'Brien, Brian Troy, Mary Kelly, Helen Ross, Lorna Quinlan

We pray: for all in areas of conflict, war and natural disasters, for the sick and all in need of our prayers.



St Mary's Syro Malabar Mission, a long established Eastern Catholic Church, has commenced regular usage of OLHC Church. Utilizing this worship space at times when the OLHC Parish community in not using the Church and Meeting room has been negotiated, and will be reviewed in 6 months. This community is making a financial contribution commensurate with the use of the facility

Usage: Sunday from 4pm—8 pm. Monday-Friday each week from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, and Saturday from 9:30—11:30 am. There will be some exceptions to this arrangement for scheduled OLHC parish liturgies and celebrations e.g. Good Friday liturgy, First Reconciliation celebration, etc. Further Information about this community can be found on the website: syromalabar.org.au

Sew and So..... Thursday 14th March 2024, at 1.30 in St Columba's Church Foyer. Enquiries Margaret 53314032



Easter Liturgies:

Anointing Mass Wednesday 20th March

Ballarat North 10.00 am

Reconciliation Tuesday 26th March

Wendouree 7.00 pm

Holy Week Liturgies

Holy Thursday 28th March Ballarat North 7.00 pm

Good Friday 29th March

"Way of the Cross" Waubra 10:00 am

Good Friday 29th March Wendouree 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil 30th March Wendouree 7.00 pm

Easter Sunday 31st March

Lexton 8.30 am

Ballarat North 10.00 am

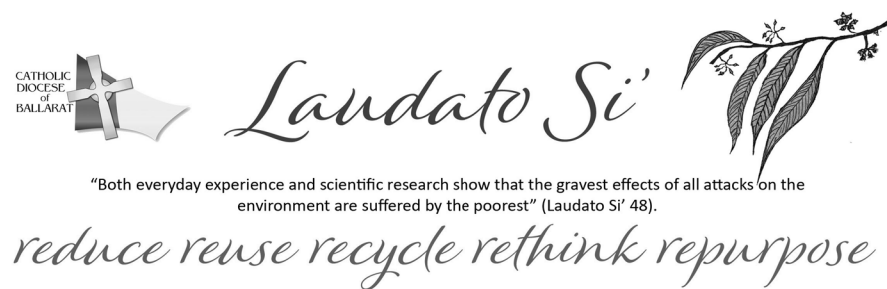
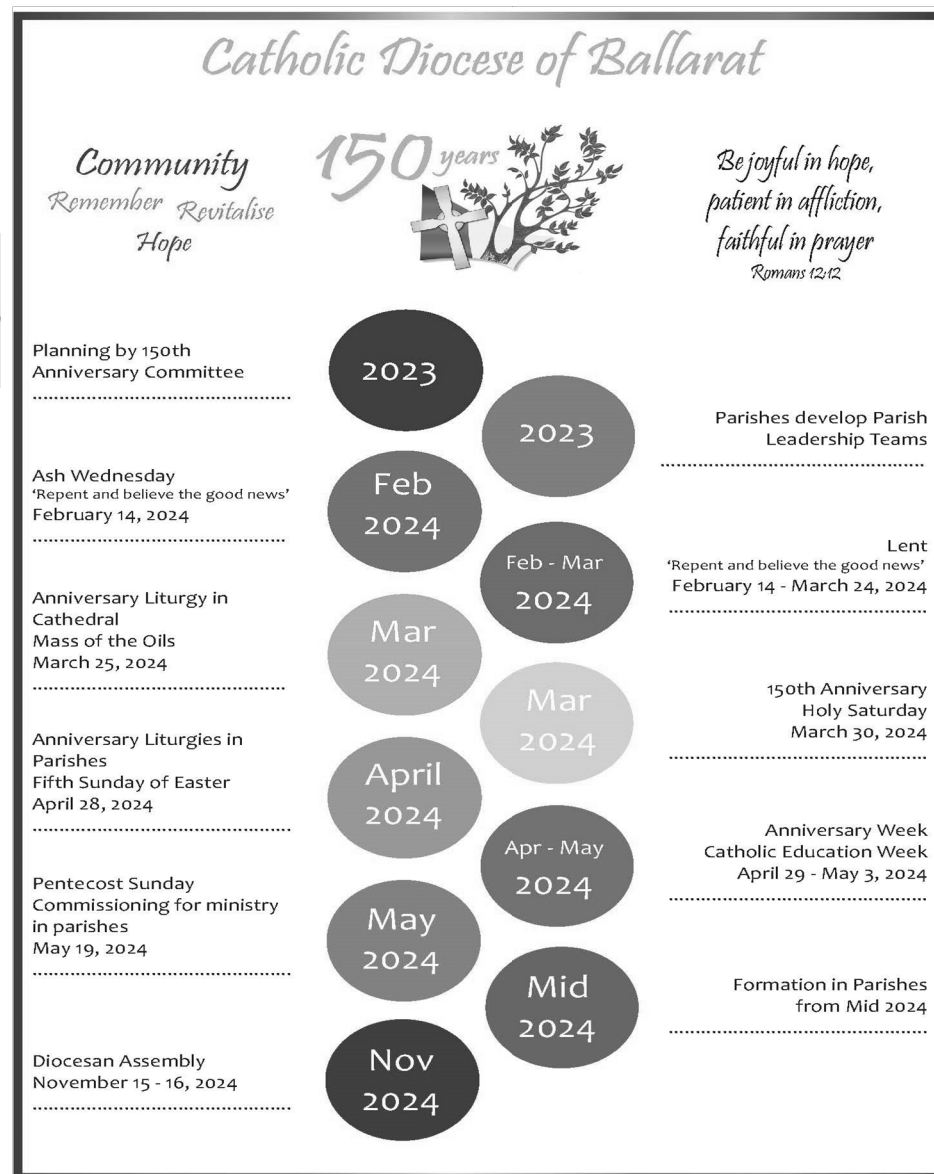


Centralised Baptism Preparation Session Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session is on Holy Thursday at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Next session: April 4th 2024 at either 10:00 am or 5:30 pm.**

St Columba's 17th Mar '24		(next week)	Sunday 10:00 am
LEADER of SONG		Tony Beggs	
COMMENTATOR		Min Myers	
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Jo-anne van der Voort	
COMMUNION MINISTER		Judy Brown	
DIGITAL PORJECTOR		Bruce Chapman	
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe	
Collections Last Weekend St Columba's <i>Thank you for your contributions</i>			
Presbytery: \$ 376.50		Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 895.00	

Praying with Pope Francis: intention for March- For the New Martyrs

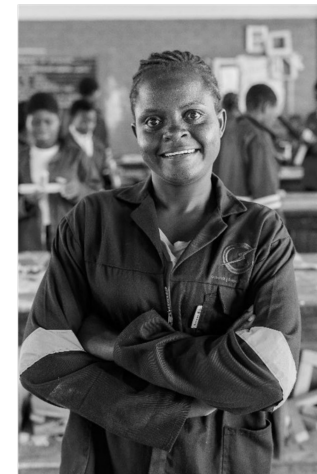
Pope Francis invites prayer "for those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, to inspire the Church with their courage and missionary zeal."



"Walk, cycle or use public transport" Did you know? Choosing active transport like walking and cycling can not only dramatically reduce your carbon footprint, but you could end up saving money and staying fit at the same time! When walking or cycling is not an option, swapping the car for a bus or train can also make a significant dent in emissions.



Fourth Sunday of Lent 9 & 10 March



Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted. With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a male-dominated industry. Please donate to Project Compassion. 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 and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or phone 1800 024 413. Photo: Tim Lam/Caritas Australia



Invitation to all interested parishioners who wish to join in Singing practice for our Easter Ceremonies. When: Tuesdays 12th and 19th March at 7pm. Venue: TBA All welcome.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat The Diocese of Ballarat will turn 150 on March 30, 2024. During this year there will be many events to acknowledge this significant anniversary. Keep up-to-date at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/>

OLHC 16th March 2024	(next week)	Saturday 6:00 pm
LEADER OF SONG	Vin Dillon	
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Veronica Stott	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Kevin Murphy & Trish Pora	
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Tony Bruty & Jennifer Adams	
SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman	
Waubra Church cleaning	March	Sharon & Marty Moran
Collections Last Weekend Thank you for your contributions		
Presbytery: \$ 604.80	Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,455.70	