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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 ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Links to online Masses in the Diocese**

- **St Mary Mackillop Parish, Western Border:** Check the Western Border Catholic Parish facebook page for links to daily masses on YouTube <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=western%20border%20catholic%20parish>
- **St Joseph's Parish Warrnambool:** Check the St Joseph's Warrnambool facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephswarrnambool> for links to Masses on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHcYtCTuk5DivKLWY1bvqg>
- **Sacred Heart Parish, Mildura:** Sunday Masses available on Sacred Heart Parish Mildura YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3WAtskilV8>
- **St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat:** Mass livestreamed daily at 11.30am can be viewed on Patrick's Cathedral facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9>



**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)

Presbytery: Phone 5332 4324



**Office:** 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012

**Email:** ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ballaratnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**School Co-Principals:** Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

**School Phone:** 5332 4894

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

**Email:** wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**P O Box** 192, Wendouree

**School Principal:** Leigh Bradshaw

**School Phone:** 5339 4726

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Marcello Colasante

**Staff at St Columba's**

Pastoral Associate:

Judith O'Sullivan

Mon—Friday 9:00am -12:00pm

**Staff at OLHC**

Parish Co-ordinator:

Maree Roache

Wed - Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

**Safeguarding Officers**

St Columba's: Peter Marquand

OLHC: Maree Roache

**Mass times: St Columba's**

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm

Tuesday: 10:00 am

Wednesday: 10:00 am

**Mass times: OLHC**

Sunday: 10:00 am

Thursday: 10:00 am

Friday: 10:00 am

**Readings for next weekend:**

Dt 8:2-3. 14-16

Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12

1 Cor 10:16-17

Jn 6:51-58



**7th June 2020 ~ Trinity Sunday (A)**

Dear Parishioners of St Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians,

As we take the first tentative steps towards celebrating as a faith filled community gathered around the table of the Lord, we take a glimpse in the rear view mirror to see where we have come from. The past 11 weeks is something none of us could have anticipated or imagined, a crisis that in a tangible way has made us ever more aware of just how vulnerable we are and just how mortal we are. As well there have been all kinds of human behaviour, good and not so good in response to this pandemic.

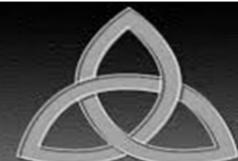
Many are fearful as there are many fears - unemployment, loss of livelihoods, future dreams shattered, loneliness, the safety of our loved ones. Many more could be added. The greatest fear of all from this virus is the fear of death, but the message of Easter is that death has been conquered. There is hope because God sent Jesus into our world.

It's a surreal feeling that whilst Easter and all that it holds is the highpoint of our Liturgical year, this Easter has been like no other. Whilst we have not been able to celebrate the season as we normally would, Easter, the hope of new life beyond death is something we celebrate each day. Hence, we are conscious of all those who are affected by the catastrophic and unprecedented events in Australia of bushfire, of flood and drought in so many parts of our country, the human and economic consequences of having to live differently so that all people can simply live.

As people of faith, we believe that through his life and ministry, Jesus identifies with and comes alongside us in our suffering, in our distress, in our fears about the future and offers comfort, love and healing in all we're going through. In these times of crisis and trauma, we stand with each other, journeying and struggling together through the long road ahead.

Continued on page 2

**Trinity SUNDAY**



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

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Maureen Fithall, Margaret Hanrahan

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; John Madigan, our RCIA & RCIC candidates, all the sick and house-bound, Doctors, Nursing staff, teachers & all essential services staff

These weeks spent in lockdown have changed us. While in the past we may have protected ourselves against predictable and visible threats, in these days we are especially shaken because something so small that it can only be seen under a microscope has brought us to our knees.

Naturally, like the first disciples, we experience fear. Now we are freshly acquainted with our vulnerability and we have lost some of the over-confidence that masks our uncertainty about ourselves and our future.

While this is not a comfortable feeling, it is the environment in which the Spirit of Jesus is manifest in the world, the Pentecost point at which the first disciples of Jesus matured from religious adherence to faith-filled living in an often-confused world. The first disciples gathered full of fear yet emerged filled with hope knowing that their health and happiness in life on earth could not be found in projects and possessions but in the person of Jesus Christ who is God living among us.

Parents in taking on the herculean task of juggling remote learning for their children whilst at same time preparing meals and co-ordinating a busy household coupled with the imposition of working from home. Caring for loved ones in Residential Aged Care Facilities where personal contact is severely restricted if not at all. Unable to utilise the Wendouree West Neighbourhood House the Exodus community have continued their regular Saturday Lunch by delivering prepared meals to those who would have normally "dropped in". These are indeed the signs of hope and signs of new life are emerging in all the initiatives people are taking which is the Spirit of Pentecost.

The closed room of Pentecost is not an environment that we escape and then avoid. Instead it is a place of intimate encounter with the Spirit of Jesus, a place that we must often return to. Jesus reminds us that we must daily go to our room, close the door, and pray in this secret place. (Matthew 6:6).

It is both humbling and gratifying to hear of the very imaginative and creative ways that people have used in order to remain in contact with those whom they deeply care about. It is living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is living the life of the Gospel without seeking anything in return. In the end that is all God invites us to do.

As we continue to journey through this challenging and uncertain times Let us embrace the call of Pope Francis, not simply acknowledging that we live in a changing era, but embracing a change of era that the Spirit of Jesus Christ us unleashing among us anew this Pentecost.

*Fr. Marcello*

**Weekend Masses** have recommenced. Saturday Vigil at 5.00 pm at St Columba's and Sunday morning at 10.00 am at Our Lady Help of Christians for twenty attendees, for contact tracing purposes registration will be required. You will need to register for these Masses as well as the weekday Masses, Tuesday and Wednesday St Columba's & Thursday and Friday at OLHC all at 10:00am. Please either telephone or email the respective Parish Office to reserve your place.

**Personal Prayer** In addition, St Columba's church will be open 9.00 am — 5.00 pm every day for personal prayer. Please follow social distancing at all times and use hand sanitizer as you enter and leave the Church.

Collections at St Columba's		We thank you for your generous support	
1st Collection:	\$ 196.15	2nd Collection (Env, DD, CC etc)	\$ 1,504.00
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**"Dancing at the Vatican"** Australian Premiere In May 2017, Pope Francis became the first world leader to recognise the devastating plight of those living with and affected by Huntington's disease. "Dancing at the Vatican" tells the story of a seemingly impossible, cross-continental journey made by some extraordinarily brave families bound by the same devastating disease. Special online screenings in Australia on June 12 and August 14. Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/dancingatthevaticanaustralia>. Learn More at <https://www.dancingatthevatican.com>. Contact: [kelly.atkins@monash.edu](mailto:kelly.atkins@monash.edu)

**Music in Liturgy** The Royal School of Church Music Australia (RSCM) is having a Zoom session for liturgical musicians. Peter Catt (Dean, St John's Cathedral Brisbane) will be chatting to Graeme Morton about Music in Liturgy on Saturday, June 6 at 10.00am. This is a free event, but requires prior registration here - <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=z3fjtrOdy0aRovrZYFuxXNEwIXshKIROtUHZ6Zdo0idUREtIMUIFRDQ5SVc3MFZQjhOV1EwWTJNWC4u>

**Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday 12th June 6pm—7pm St Columba's Church foyer. All welcome

**Free Resources** The Trinity is one of the great mysteries of our faith. For many, making the Sign of the Cross is the first and simplest prayer we learn. However great scholars have written volumes in trying to unravel this mystery. Trinitarian scholar, Anne Hunt will not demystify the Trinity, but she will give insights into this central tenet of the Catholic faith and provide material for reflection, prayer and discussion. You may obtain a free Faith Guide to use and share this with your friends, family, parish and school communities, as we prepare to celebrate Trinity Sunday on the 7th of June. Your Free Trinity Faith Guide can be found via [https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/FGTheTrinity\\_May2020.pdf](https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/FGTheTrinity_May2020.pdf)



**Plenary Council ~ Assemblies set for 2021 and 2022** The two assemblies for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will now take place in October 2021 and April 2022, following the disruption of the original schedule due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference last week decided to postpone the opening assembly by 12 months, with it now to be held in October 2021. Adelaide remains the venue for the first assembly. The second assembly will be in Sydney in April 2022

**Plenary Council Discernment Papers released** Six Discernment and Writing Groups, one each for the six national themes for discernment that emerged from the Council's Listening and Dialogue phase, were tasked with writing papers to bring some major themes and issues into focus. The papers were released on Pentecost Sunday and are available to read at the Plenary Council website <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

**Position available - Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator** The Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator will develop and facilitate diocesan initiatives, programmes and activities to strengthen and support Diocesan and Parish life. Position information available from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited** A new DOBCEL video has been launched introducing Board directors and outlining the functions and responsibilities of the DOBCEL Board. View the video at the DOBCEL website <https://www.dobcel.org.au/introducing-dobcel/>

**Readings for Trinity Year A** Ex 34:4-6. 8-9

*A reading from the book of Exodus*

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

**Responsorial Psalm** Dn 3:52-56. R. v.52

*(R.) Glory and praise for ever!*

- You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. (R.)  
Blest your glorious holy name. (R.)
- You are blest in the temple of your glory. (R.)  
You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. (R.)
- You are blest who gaze into the depths. (R.)  
You are blest in the firmament of heaven. (R.)



**Second Reading** 2 Cor 13:11-13

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Gospel** Jn 3:16-18

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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1st Collection:	\$ 219.50	2nd Collection (Env, DD, CC etc)	\$ 2,164.00
Easter Offerings	\$ 35.00		