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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



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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.
- You no longer need to preregister for Masses. Please ensure you arrive 10 minutes before Mass to register your attendance.
- Contact tracing is required for all Masses. Please use the QR code on the door or sign the register in the foyer (please add your phone number if you are a visitor).
- Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- A face mask is optional whilst visiting the Church (you should carry it with you as per State Government guidelines)
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.
- Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.
- Once Mass has concluded, please leave the Church immediately afterwards to allow for cleaning of all surfaces.

We appreciate your assistance. In helping stop the spread of the virus.



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 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

Staffing

St Columba's

Pastoral Associate:
Judith O'Sullivan
Wed-Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm

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

Saturday 5:00 pm
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

Sunday 10:00 am
Thursday 11.00 am Kelaston
Friday No Mass

Readings for Next Weekend:

Acts 1:1-11
Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6
Eph 1:17-23
Mk 16:15-20



9th May 2021 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)

Focus on the Scriptures

Cornelius, Catholics and Love

A pagan Roman officer was so evidently graced by the Holy Spirit that St Peter realised that the followers of Jesus Christ need not be constrained within the confines of Judaism. This incident, together with St Paul's mission, has helped Christianity spread to every tribe and nation on the face of the earth.

'Catholic' simply means 'world wide', and the Church's universal mission is to preach the truth of Christ's victory over death and the true meaning of love: 'No greater love can a man have than to lay down his life for his friend.'

In our experience, this is best exemplified in the desire of a mother or father to substitute themselves for a dying infant or child. Our Lord practised what he preached with incredible intensity. He substituted himself for the whole of humanity dying because of a broken relationship with its Creator. He did so on behalf of us whom he calls friends, those with whom he wishes to share his victory over death.

This is the message entrusted to the members of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church to be spread to the people of every tribe and nation.

We could take a moment to pray that we better express our undying gratitude for our status as friends of the Risen Lord, and better do our part as missionary disciples spreading the news of his great love embracing the whole of humanity.

© Fr Michael Tate;
mtate@bigpond.com



Responsorial Psalm: (R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Frank Sheehan, Frank Rienets (Mick's brother)

Anniversaries: We remember: Gerard Sullivan, Margaret Sherman, Kathleen Clohesy, Doreen Davies

We pray: Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes especially Dan Coutts, Jan Mullaly and Pat Hogan. For the success of the Plenary Council. For children beginning their preparation for Sacraments of Confirmation (OLHC) and First Eucharist (St Columba's)

Diocesan Liturgical Commission Membership is currently seeking new members from all areas of the diocese. Membership is for an initial term of three (3) years with the option of two further terms (3 years per term). The Commission meets five times per year in Ballarat. Video linking facilities are available for meetings. All members of the Commission must hold a current Working with Children check or VIT (Victorian Institute of Teaching) registration. The Charter of the Liturgical Commission is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/diocesan-liturgical-commission/>. Expressions of interest can be forwarded to liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Get vaccinated for the common good Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>. A media release and FAQ information from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is available from the diocesan website "news" section <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholics-in-australia-encouraged-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine/>

Mercy Works Assistance is urgently needed for the growing crisis in Papua New Guinea. We would be very grateful if you could send a donation to this URGENT food APPEAL by 31 May 2021. In response to the growing alarm and anxiety about this health crisis for our nearest neighbour, the people of Papua New Guinea. You can do this by clicking onto our website: www.givenow.com.au/mercyworksappeal

First Eucharist preparation begins with an enrolment Mass. Dates for these Masses are Saturday 8th May and Saturday 15th May. We have 49 children enrolled and ask that you keep them in your prayers as they begin their preparation.



Fundraising program launched for Mass for You at Home A fundraising program has been launched to help enable the ongoing broadcast of Catholic Mass on free-to-air television as it prepares to mark 50 years ministering to people who cannot attend a local church. In recent years, due to changes in religious programming obligations, the annual cost of producing and broadcasting the Mass has run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. To donate go to <https://massforyou.com.au/>

Ministry rosters St Columba's we are now going to prepare weekly ministry rosters for the Saturday evening vigil. Please advise Judith in the office of your availability. Thank you

Collections at St Columba's

We thank you for your generous support

Presbytery: \$ 318.50 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,070.00

St Columba's	15th May	(next week)	Sat 5pm
REGISTRATION			Judith
COMMENTATOR			Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD			Bruce Chapman
OVERHEADS			Volunteer please
SACRISTAN			Judith

A prayer for Mothers Day

*Loving God, thank you for mums and children
and for all the joy of family life.*

*Be with those who are grieving because they have no mother;
be close to those who are struggling because they have no children;
be near to those who are sad because they are far apart
from those they love.*

*Let your love be present in every home, and help your church to have eyes
to see and ears to hear the needs of all who come.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen



Annual Mass Count during the weekends of May we will be undertaking the annual Mass counts. Parishioners will be moving around the Church to count all adults and children present for that Mass.

Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflections Each month during the year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will publish a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character. Robert Falzon reflects on how St Joseph may have responded to his astonishing call to be the foster-father of Jesus and spouse of Mary. What does it mean for fathers and husbands in today's world? <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Virtual Learning Program Our partners, Dayton University offer low-cost online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parish and other ministries. Study subjects over 3 and 5 week cycles. Study Cycle 3 begins April 11. This cycle is mostly 3 week courses. Registrations are now open for new and returning participants. For more information go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

Congratulations to the James family who bring their children Saskia, Anders and Yves for Baptism at St Columba's on Saturday evening. We pray that they will grow in faith with the love and support of their parents, godparents and our Parish community.



Palms Australia Share your skills to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. All trades and professions are called to assist this mission. Enquire now to properly prepare for a placement in 2022. Join our online Info Zoom on 2 May, visit palms.org.au, or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333

Year of the Family Pope Francis launched the "Amoris Laetitia Family Year" on March 19, the 5th anniversary of the publication of his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris laetitia*, a document on the beauty and joy of love in the family. The year will conclude on June 26, 2022 on the occasion of the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome with the Holy Father. The launch was a virtual event entitled, "Our Daily Love", organised by the Vatican Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life, the Diocese of Rome and the Pontifical John Paul II Theological Institute, all based in Rome. The event is available to view online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkl4OUXU7LBguDrPZQKsng>

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: May 16 - 23, 2021 The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia will be observed from May 16 – 23, 2021 in the week between Ascension and Pentecost. The 2021 resources have been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp. The theme that was chosen, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the church and the human family

Vinnies launches 2021 Winter Appeal to support homelessness As Vinnies responds to a growing demand for services following the end of JobKeeper and cuts to Job Seeker, the National Council of St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is calling for donations to help support the rising number of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including children, which have all been exacerbated by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Society provides vital services and support for individuals and families facing financial hardship. With generous support from the public, Vinnies aims to maintain the dignity of those on the edge and restore hope to people who have fallen on hard times. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/winter-appeal>



Sew'n'So gathering on Thursday 20th May at 1.30pm in the home of Margaret and Terry Ranger. Please contact Margaret on 5331 4032 for more information.

Collections at OLHC

We thank you for your generous support

Presbytery: \$ 348.30 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,445.00

OLHC	15th May	(next week)	Sunday 10am
LEADER OF SONG			Paul Hogan
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL			Lyn Gray
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD			Frank Hogan
COMMUNION MINISTERS			Tony Bruty & Anne Slattery
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION			Pauline & Tony Newman