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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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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.
- 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.



St Columba's  
Parish QR Code



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)



**Office:** 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012  
**Email:** [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or  
[ballaratnorthpastoral@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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 10:00 am  
Friday 10:00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

Am 7:12-15  
Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8  
Eph 1:3-14  
Mk 6:7-13



**4th July 2021 ~ 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

Most of us have known the experience of feeling powerless in the face of rejection, especially when it is rejection from those who are closest to us, from those who might normally be expected to understand and affirm us. Mark presents such rejection as the experience of Jesus. Earlier in the gospel (3:20-21), we find that Jesus is misunderstood by his family who consider him to be out of his mind. Members of his family try to take responsibility for him, to take hold of him and to save him from himself. When they come to take him away, he leaves them outside and continues to teach those gathered around him about a new sort of kinship, kinship that is based on doing God's will.

In today's gospel reading (6:1-6), we find that the neighbours and friends of Jesus' family have trouble coping with him. They admit that his teaching demonstrates considerable wisdom. They also acknowledge his extraordinary power as a healer. From their perspective, however, something does not add up. After all, he is basically just one of them, "the craftsman".

Jesus' hometown people do not simply puzzle over his extraordinary powers. They are actually "scandalised" by him. He experiences their response as rejection and tells them how he feels. In so doing, he identifies himself with the rejected prophets of old. The townspeople's lack of faith renders Jesus, the prophet in their midst, powerless: he is simply unable to perform any mighty deeds among them. There is a hint in the text, however, that some few do have faith: "he cured a few sick people." He cures these people "by laying his hands on them". We have seen, in the request of the man with leprosy (1:41) and the action of the crowds (3:10,) the people's well-founded faith in the healing power of touch, of bodily encounter. Touch is once more the agent of healing.

At times, we may be like Jesus, bringing the wisdom and power of God to our families or local communities, only to meet with rejection. Sometimes, we may be like the few who come in faith and experience a healing touch. At other times, we may replicate the behaviour of the opponents of Jesus and discount the achievements of those who excel or whose message challenges us or our lifestyle. To refuse to listen to a prophetic message because the messenger fails to meet our preconceived ideas about prophets may have something to do with a lack of faith. It may actually stymie the power of God. Finally, the emphasis on healing in this reading invites us to pause and consider what is happening in our world, presently beset by pandemic. It invites us to affirm the intrinsic value of all, human and other-than-human, so often denigrated and devalued by attitudes that dichotomise the material and the spiritual with dire consequences for the Earth community.

Veronica Lawson rsm



**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Pauline Howard

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Peter McCartney, Jim Gercovich, John Bond, Helena Macklin, Gina Ryan, James Chol

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes especially Fr Alex Lim, Dan Coutts, Jan Mullaly, and Pat Hogan. Children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and our RCIA candidates

**Vinnies launches 2021 Winter Appeal to support homelessness** As Vinnies responds to a growing demand for services following the end of Job Keeper 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> Donations can be left at the Parish Offices during office hours.



**Alive in the Spirit Virtual Pastoral Ministry Conference** We are encouraged to engage in a special opportunity inviting us to experience new vision, new energy, new life as we become the community Christ calls us to be. "Alive in the Spirit", an innovative online pastoral ministry conference from July 8-10, 2021, will enliven and inspire our Catholic Church through a variety of keynotes, workshops and enriching prayer and worship experiences. To register or find out more details, go to [www.aliveinthespirit.com.au](http://www.aliveinthespirit.com.au)

**Plenary Council Prayer Campaign** Fan the Flame: Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021 "Do not be afraid; only have faith." Mark 5:21-24,35-43. While being conscious of the work to be done, we also have much to be thankful for. There are many signs of hope in that members of the faithful persevere with the practice of the faith... and are living their commitment to love of neighbour in myriad ways. (Instrumentum Laboris #193) [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheffame/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheffame/)



**Sew and So** Thursday 8th July 2021 in the St Columba's Church Foyer at 1.30pm. Come along for a cuppa and stay connected. Enquiries to Margaret 53314032

**Social Justice Sunday** We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29th of August. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

**Collections at St Columba's We thank you for your generous support**

Presbytery: \$ 233.95 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,984.00

St Columba's 10th July	(next week)	Sat 5pm
REGISTRATION		Judith
SACRISTAN		Volunteer
COMMENTATOR		Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Bruce Chapman
COMMUNION MINISTER		Judy Brown
OVERHEADS		Volunteer

**Position Vacant - Spiritual and Pastoral Carer** St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat invites applicants for the part-time position (15 hours per week) of Spiritual and Pastoral Carer. This ministry will be exercised primarily at Ballarat Health Services, including the Base Hospital and the facilities at the Queen Elizabeth Centre. Ballarat Health Services is the main public referral health service to the Grampians region of Victoria, with a catchment population of over 250,000 people. We are a Child Safe Parish following the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian State Government, and implementing the policies, procedures and standards of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat. Please contact the Cathedral Office for a position description and further information, 5331 2933 or [ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Applications close Friday, July 2, 2021 and are to be directed to Fr Justin Driscoll, 3 Lyons St Sth, Ballarat 3350

**Praying with Pope Francis** The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org). **Pope's intention for July:** July universal intention – social friendship: We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

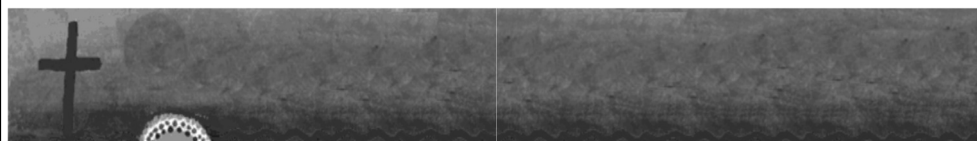
**'Mindfulness & Meditation via Zoom**, 1hr x 4 Tuesday nights, 7.30pm-8.30pm (AEST), 6-27 July 2021'. This is an evening series on the practice of contemplative mindfulness and meditation. It provides input and guidance, encouraging regular practice within a supportive group. The series is led by Paola Cheng, a qualified meditation teacher, spiritual director and social worker, who brings an inclusive and gentle approach to her sessions. Cost \$50. [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), tel 9890 1101 email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne)

**NAIDOC Week - July 4-11, 2021** NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. NAIDOC Week coincides with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday and both events are sharing the theme "Heal Country".

**"Heal Country" - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday - July 4**

Every year, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church. We pray together the Prayer of Aboriginal People (For the Pope's visit to Australia in 1986, Aboriginal people composed the following prayer for the ceremony in Alice Springs. This prayer now is prayed by many Catholic Aboriginal groups around the country):

*Father of all, you gave us the Dreaming.  
You have spoken to us through our beliefs.  
You then made your love clear to us in the person of Jesus.  
We thank you for your care. You own us.  
You are our hope. Make us strong as we face the problems of change.  
We ask you to help the people of Australia to listen to us  
and respect our culture.  
Make the knowledge of you grow strong in all people,  
so that you can be at home in us and we can  
make a home for everyone in our land.  
Amen.*



**E News** the latest edition of the Ballarat E-News is out, if you don't receive one via email, please contact Julie in the Pastoral Ministry Office

**Catholic Religious Australia Conversation Services** CRA is launching a series of online 'conversations' as a springboard for dialogue to explore 'The Light from the Southern Cross' report and to provide formation opportunities. "Mission and Church" will be held online on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 from 9.00am to 2.00pm (AEST). The speakers are Richard Lennan, John Warhurst and Melissa Dwyer FDDC. The two other themes, "Co-responsibility" and "Accountability and Synodality" will be held in conversation before the second assembly of the Plenary Council (July 2022). Speakers will be announced soon. Further information is available on the CRA website: <https://www.catholicreligious.org.au/events>.

**A topical and exciting opportunity for your students/youth groups to reflect on the COVID-19 Pandemic** The Project Officer for Melbourne Young Christian Students has great pleasure in presenting a topical and exciting opportunity for students/youth to understand, reflect on and respond to the COVID-19 virus, a pandemic that has affected us all in so many ways. Shaping our Post Pandemic World is an Enquiry for Secondary Students, comprising five sessions to explore How the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected me, my country and our world; why it should concern me; and what I might be able to do about its consequences. It is published, free of charge, by the Australian Young Christian Students, written in Melbourne for students, whether they are in the YCS or not. <https://www.aycs.org.au/pandemic-enquiry>.

**New Parish name** Saint Paul VI Parish, Wimmera-Mallee. The new parish includes the area of the former parishes of Hopetoun, Horsham, Nhill and Warracknabeal. Monsignor Glynn Murphy and Fr Jim McKay have been serving in these parishes and they will continue their service in the new parish.

**Entries Open for The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award** for emerging and published writers The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award is an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The award aims to support and encourage the development of emerging and published writers. The Good Oil's editorial vision is to nourish the spirit, stimulate thinking, promote social justice and encourage reflection and dialogue about issues of the day from a Christian, Catholic, Good Samaritan perspective. The theme for the award is "Inclusivity", which is embodied in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37). Entry is free. For further information about the award and to download the guidelines and entry form, go to [https://www.goodsams.org.au/the-good-oil/the-good-oil-2021-writers-award/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=TGO%202021%20Writers%20Award&utm\\_content=TGO%202021%20Writers%20Award+CID\\_8f34669f14ea1d1fb1e138afa615b839&utm\\_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm\\_term=here](https://www.goodsams.org.au/the-good-oil/the-good-oil-2021-writers-award/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=TGO%202021%20Writers%20Award&utm_content=TGO%202021%20Writers%20Award+CID_8f34669f14ea1d1fb1e138afa615b839&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=here). Entries close at midnight on Sunday August 22, 2021.

**Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support**

Presbytery: \$ 321.75 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 455.00

OLHC 11th July	(next week)	Sunday 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Paul Hogan
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Bill Jones
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Bev Hayward & Pauline Newman
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		Sue & John Callistro