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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

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

No Masses

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

No Masses

Readings for Next Weekend:

Is 35:4-7
Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1
Jas 2:1-5
Mk 7:31-37



29th August 2021 ~ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Focus on the Scriptures

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living. The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite.

Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment.

When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves. © Dianne Bergant CSA



Responsorial Psalm: (R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Anne Briody

Anniversaries: We remember: Mark Milne, Molly Flynn, Eddie Kennedy, Therese Hayes, Eileen O'Meara, Gerald Butler

We pray: Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes, especially Dan Coutts, Jan Mullaly and Frank McNulty. Those preparing to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation. For our RCIA candidates.

Vinnies 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 also be left at the Parish Office. Thank you for your financial support.



Commission Climate Change Forum – Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission

On November 6, 2021 the Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission will host a Climate Change Forum in Ballarat. Through this forum, we celebrate the launch of the Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement 2021-2022 'Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor'. We are inviting you to share what you have for ecological justice. Do you market a product that is about sustainable practices and clean living? Maybe you know a thing or two about how to reduce carbon emissions. Do you have a particular skill in embracing nature and celebrating all things in the natural environment? We want to show the community what people are doing and this is an opportunity for you to share! It could be anything from how to make bees wax wraps, how to compost food scraps to how to recycle and make your own paper. Perhaps you have a wealth of gardening skills and can set up a stall to showcase them. Maybe you have information about how to save power and water. Get in touch with us and let us know what you've got! We would love to hear from you. Email: social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

From Bishop Paul From September 20, 2021, Fr Gary Jones, currently Parish Priest of Creswick and Daylesford, will become Parish Priest of Mortlake and Terang. For most of this year, Fr Mick McKinnon has been serving the communities of Mortlake and Terang while he has been waiting for an opportunity to travel to Peru for ministry there in collaboration with the Columbans. Fr Mick has recently received notification that he will be able to travel. I offer my thanks to Fr Mick for his care for the parishioners of Mortlake and Terang for these past months. He will continue as Administrator of these parishes until September 19.

Bishop Paul will reschedule his visit to the Parish at a date to be announced.

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

Presbytery: \$ Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 195.00

St Columba's	(next week)	Sat 5pm
REGISTRATION		
COMMENTATOR		
MINISTER OF THE WORD		
COMMUNION MINISTER		
OVERHEADS		
SACRISTAN		

Mass times: The impact of COVID-19 has resulted in reduced numbers of worshippers attending in each parish which can be accommodated by the provision of one Mass in each Parish. On 10th March a combined gathering of parishioners from both parishes was held meeting to discuss Mass times. On 9th June representatives of each Parish Council met to share their thoughts.

Both meetings were candid, cordial and respectful recognising that whatever decision is made not everyone will be pleased as it is difficult to embrace change.

Consensus was reached that neither parish seemed particularly concerned about whether they had the vigil or the morning Mass but it to be the same each week to give people a degree of certainty and predictability. Across the 6 Ballarat Parishes, 4 Vigil Masses are celebrated, some in close proximity to each other. Hence it seems reasonable that a vigil Mass be celebrated in Wendouree to cater for people who in the North Western side of Greater Ballarat.

With effect from the weekend of **9th/10th October 2021** the following Mass Times will apply:

Wendouree Saturday Vigil **6.00 pm**

Ballarat North Sunday **10.00 am**

Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Seventeen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation.



This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Social Justice Sunday: August 29, 2021

- The launch of the Social Justice Statement was held on August 5 and Bishop Paul features in this video. Watch it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LvLX2BQiOjM&feature=emb_logo
- The Social Justice Statement 2021-22: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. Download the statement from the ACBC Office for Social Justice website <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>. Hard copies are available.

Interfaith Forum at Ballarat – Sunday, September 12 The Ballarat Interfaith Network are hosting a forum, "Death, Sanctity of the Human Body, and Organ Donation" to be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 from 2.00pm - 4.00pm at St Patrick Cathedral's Hall, Ballarat. Speaker topics are organ donation, blood donation and interfaith perspectives - Aboriginal, Baha'i, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh. Registration is essential, ph. 0400 650 234. This is a COVID compliant event – masks, QR check in, social distancing. Donor registration is available - bring Medicare card to facilitate.

Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflection 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. Lara Kirk, Marriage, Family and Relationships Co-ordinator for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, reflects on "The Holy Family" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

"Mission: one heart many voices" Virtual Conference Inspired by Jesus, this conference will focus on themes of encounter on the margins, inclusion, governance and syndality and challenge you to consider contemporary Mission in light of Pope Francis' teaching, witness and vision of liminal leadership in mission. The Conference is from September 1-3, 2021 and is being convened by Catholic Religious Australia in conjunction with Catholic Mission. Perhaps your parish may wish to host a forum and invite members of your community to attend and share this experience together. An opportunity not to be missed. Check it out at <https://2021.mohmv.com.au/>.

No Masses until restrictions lifted

Strength for this Challenging Time

*We pray for your love and compassion to abound
as we walk through this challenging season.*

*We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load
of making decisions with widespread consequences.*

*We pray for those who are suffering with sickness
and all who are caring for them.*

*We pray that misinformation be curbed
and that fear may take no hold in hearts and minds.*

*As we exercise the good sense that you in your mercy provide
may we also approach each day in faith and peace,*

trusting in the truth of your goodness towards us

Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support

Presbytery: \$ Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 255.00

OLHC	(next week)	Sunday 10am
LEADER OF SONG		
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		
COMMUNION MINISTERS		
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		