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127 Gillies Street Sth BALLARAT
PH: 5334 2700
55 Albert Street SEBASTOPOL
PH: 5335 9023

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



Mon-Fri 8.30 am - 6.00 pm
Saturdays 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
2 Bridge Mall Ballarat Vic 3350
Ph: 5331 4900

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 (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 NO MASS

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 NO MASS
Friday 10:00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:
Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10
Ps 44:10-12. 16. R. v.10
1 Cor 15:20-26
Lk 1:39-56



8th August 2021 ~ Feast of St Mary MacKillop

Focus on the Scriptures

The Gospel reading for today is, at first glance, an odd choice to pair with the feast of St Mary of the Cross. Mary MacKillop faced more than a few financial challenges, after all, especially in her youth. The burden of supporting her poor family fell to Mary in her teenage years, and surely no one held it against her for worrying about money, food, or clothing.

But the pairing of saint and gospel makes sense in the context of Mary's vocation. Rather than worrying about herself, she cared for others. In this, Mary MacKillop lived the gospel very effectively. First caring for her immediate family, then for wider relations, soon enough Mary was focused on meeting the many needs of the communities in which she and her fellow Sisters of St Joseph lived. Through aid, education, and example Mary offered her contemporaries and us an example of faith through works.

From quietly and unobtrusively teaching in a stable in 1866, to founding a religious order that spread throughout and beyond a continent, Mary's spiritual journey was truly focused on "God's saving justice". Tending to Australia's Aboriginal peoples, prisoners facing execution, children requiring education, the homeless, the orphaned, the sick, indeed anybody she saw in need, Mary shows us how God seeks to answer the day's troubles: through us.



© Nick Brodie

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him. Alleluia!

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

Anniversaries: We remember: Des Willis, Brian Blood, Jane Morris, Carmel Sheehan, Michal Yaworowicz, Trudy Walters, Jack Nuttall, Henry Morgan, Ella Deady, Sr Barbara Lemke, Michele & Giuseppina Agostinelli, Kevin Nestor, Rodney Stapleton, Eng Liang

We pray: Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes.

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> and St Columba's Church foyers. Thank you for your financial support.



Expressions of Interest are being sort for membership of the Diocesan Finance Council, the Committee of Management of the Catholic Development Fund and the Board of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation Ballarat's Diocesan Finance Council, the Committee of Management of the Catholic Development Fund, and the Board of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation are seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified people (women and men) to join the advisory council, the advisory committee as well as the Foundation's Board. We are seeking persons from across the Diocese who have experience in one or more of the following areas: Corporate Governance; Finance, Banking; Legal; and Philanthropy. Successful candidates will demonstrate a genuine commitment to the ethos and values of the Catholic Church, and possess personal qualities of integrity, collaborative approach, sound judgement, and excellent communication skills. More information is available at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/expressions-of-interest-are-being-sort-for-membership-of-the-diocesan-finance-council-the-committee-of-management-of-the-catholic-development-fund-and-the-board-of-the-catholic-diocese-of-ballarat-f/> or contact Andrew Jirik, Diocesan Business Manager, ph. 5337 7126.

Bishop Paul's Visitation at St Columba's has been postponed until a later date. We will advise of the new arrangements once they are made available.

Masses this weekend and including Wednesday and Thursday have been cancelled. Please follow the news updates if there are any changes. Take care and stay safe. There will be someone in the offices most of the usual office hours if you need to talk with someone. We appreciate that these sudden and continual lockdowns are difficult for many people.

Collections at St Columba's We thank you for your generous support
 Presbytery: \$ 311.00 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,949.00

St Columba's 14th August	(next week)	Sat 5pm
REGISTRATION		Judith
COMMENTATOR		Fiona
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Bruce
COMMUNION MINISTER		Colleen
OVERHEADS		Stephen
SACRISTAN		Norah

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/fanthefflame/

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, Tel (02) 6201 9845 or www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

CSSV Mission Inspired Leadership Program 2021 The Mission Inspired Leadership program is a professional development opportunity for senior leaders (Board members, CEOs, senior/executive managers and emerging leaders) in the Catholic social services sector and other affiliated organisations within health and education. It is designed for busy people so it is set up as four 1.5 hour workshops over four months. A mix of practical knowledge, conceptual challenge, and reflective practice, the program is a chance to spend a few hours hearing from experienced, relevant and highly skilled facilitators. It is a space to consider, share and encourage each other in the mission that all our organisations are a part of. This year each of these sessions will be run online via zoom, with an additional face-to-face 'cocktail' networking event in Melbourne for local participants in late November. Further information and sign up can be had here: <https://css.org.au/events/mil2021/>

Are You Called to be a Spiritual Director? Come to our Siloam Taster Session via ZOOM & in-person on Sat 14 August 2021, 9.30am-11am. The Siloam Program is an approved full-time or part-time program to form Spiritual Directors, which in 2022, will be available on both Zoom and in-person. It is suitable for those who wish to companion others in their spiritual journey, helping them to notice the movement of God in their hearts and in their lived experience. The program blends academic and practical work to foster a discerning, contemplative approach. Fee-Help is available to qualifying students. We invite local, interstate and overseas individuals to join us for our Taster Session. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 14 Stanhope St, Malvern VIC 3144. Further information is available via email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101. Register via <https://www.trybooking.com/BSUNV> or visit our website www.heartoflife.melbourne

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Virtual Learning Program Our partner, Dayton University, offers low-cost online study (\$50usd) and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parish and other ministries. Study subjects over 3 and 5 week cycles. Study Cycle 6 begins August 22. Registrations are open now until August 13 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.



"Mission: one heart many voices" Virtual Conference Inspired by Jesus, this conference will focus on themes of encounter on the margins, inclusion, governance and synodality 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/>. Discount for registrations prior to 1st August

Aid to the Church in Need Australia Especially in remote and non-Christian areas, the faith is often nurtured via faith-based TV and radio programs. For over thirty years ACN has supported the Catholic Radio and Television Network which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

CTC - Ethical Issues and Human Ageing studies Catholic Theological College is offering a course on "Ethical Issues and Human Ageing" over six Saturdays 31 July; 7 and 28 August; 11 September; 9 and 23 October from 10.00am – 12.00pm and then 2.00pm to 4.00pm. The course can be taken for personal enrichments or credit towards a post-graduate award. For more information go to <https://units.divinity.edu.au/scheduled-unit/DT9633C-3770> or email registrar@ctc.edu.au

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria delivers counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, support for separating families, homelessness support and pastoral care. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities, to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help the vulnerable and marginalised in our community and empower everyone to reach their full potential. You can call (03) 9287 5513 or donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au

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>

Collections at OLHC We thank you for your generous support
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OLHC	(next week)	Sunday 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Elly Green
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Colin & Helen Feely
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Trish Lawson & Marie McMillan
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		Mick & Helen Rieniets