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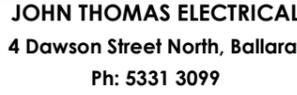
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**Child Safe Church** The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed 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)



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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.
- If you are waiting results of a COVID test stay home
- You 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 as you enter the foyer
- Ensure that you maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times (1.5 metres).
- A face mask is compulsory 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](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) (select Parish)



**Office:** 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012  
**Email:** ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Office:** 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree **Phone:** 5339 2302  
**Email:** wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**School Co-Principals:** Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr  
**School Phone:** 5332 4894

**P O Box** 192, Wendouree  
**School Principal:** Leigh Bradshaw  
**School Phone:** 5339 4726

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Marcello Colasante

**Staffing**

**St Columba's**

Tues—Wed 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**

Sunday 10:00 am  
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**  
Saturday 6:00 pm  
Thursday 10:00 am  
Friday 10:00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

Is 53:10-11  
Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22.  
R. v.22  
Heb 4:14-16  
Mk 10:35-45



**24th October 2021 ~ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

What is it that we fail to see? Today's gospel reading brings to closure a long section of Mark's gospel that focuses on the journey of Jesus and his disciples from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Jericho in the south. Jericho is the final staging point in the journey to Jerusalem where the final act of the gospel drama will be played out. This section of the gospel (8:27-10:52) is prefaced by the story of a blind man who comes to sight in stages. It ends with the story of another blind man, Bartimaeus, who comes from blindness to sight, from insight to greater insight, and who joins Jesus on the journey to Jerusalem. On the intervening journey, Jesus endeavours to lead the Twelve out of their metaphorical blindness into an understanding of what it means to follow a suffering messiah. They remain for some time in their blindness, as subsequent events will demonstrate.

The narrator creates an impression of urgency at this point in Mark's gospel. "They" come to Jericho and then leave. The intervention of Bartimaeus, who tries to attract the attention of Jesus by calling out from the roadside, threatens to delay the journey. When he cries out for "mercy", many try, without success, to silence him. The "many" are people in the crowd who neither share the depth of Bartimaeus' faith nor grasp the nature of Jesus' mission of gathering in "the remnant of Israel, among them the blind and the lame" (Jeremiah 31:8). Those who try to silence Bartimaeus are a bit like the family of Jesus who tried to protect him from himself (Mark 3:31).

When it is clear that the perception of the "many" is not shared by Jesus who tells them to "call him", we have an almost comical scene in which they do a complete about-face. It seems they want to please the authority figure no matter what Bartimaeus offers a stark contrast to these people. He knows that Jesus has the power to bring the mercy of God into his life and the lives of those who wait by the roadside with faith in their hearts. He receives the assurance from Jesus that his faith has made him well or, more literally, has "saved him". Having heard the "call", he follows Jesus "on the way", the journey of faith.

At times we, like Bartimaeus, are aware of our blindness and wait desperately by the roadside for the right person or circumstances to come along and give us the heart to rise up and live the journey of faith. At times, we are like the "many" who think we know what is best for others and who try to silence the voices of those who interfere with our plans. At other times, we, like Jesus of Nazareth, respond to the cries for mercy and stretch out our hands to gather in those whose disabilities might otherwise leave them by the side of the road in the journey of life. Veronica Lawson rsm

**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Carmel Hanrahan, June Auchetti, Fr. Denis Dennehy

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Eileen Gercovich, Joe Van der Linden, Pam Orchard, Kevin Bawden, Harold Keys, Eileen Ferguson, Sr. Therese Lynch RSM, Francis Curran, Peter Crowe, Graham Staley

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes, especially Dan Coutts, Pat Hogan and Frank McNulty. Children preparing for Sacraments.

**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 Australian Catholic 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.

**The Plenary Council is underway!** The First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia has opened:

- To see updates from the diocese go to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>
- Watch the live-streamed Mass and access other information on the Plenary Council website at [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)
- We continue to extend to people in the diocese an invitation, another opportunity, to engage in the process and to listen deeply to the voice of the Spirit. PLEASE SEE ST COLUMBA'S WEBSITE Please feel free to complete this, while the Assembly is still continuing, with thoughts and observations and email to [pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au) Any submissions will be forwarded to the Diocesan Members to the Plenary Council.
- Another way of supporting the Plenary Council is through prayer or watch this video <https://youtu.be/HXor1YbKaPs>

**Upcoming Forum: Listening, Learning....change** *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*— a Ballarat response to the Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement will be held on **Saturday 6th November, 2021 10.00 am—3.00 pm.** This free even can be attended via some parish hubs (depending on COVID restrictions) or independently via Zoom. Register through Eventbrite [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/listening-learningchange-tickets-185567857457](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/listening-learningchange-tickets-185567857457). Brochures are available or accessed through the Diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agenmcies-2/welfare/social-justice](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agenmcies-2/welfare/social-justice)

| St Columba's 31st Oct   | (next week) | Sun 10am       |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| COVID CHECK IN MARSHALL |             | Peter Marquand |
| COMMENTATOR             |             | N/A            |
| MINISTER OF THE WORD    |             | Volunteer      |
| COMMUNION MINISTER      |             | N/A            |
| OVERHEADS               |             | N/A            |
| SACRISTAN               |             | Josie Crowe    |

**Collections at St Columba's** *We thank you for your generous support*  
 Presbytery: \$ 118.60 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 2,830.00

**St Columba's 10am Mass Rosters** to assist with planning as we move toward the regular Parish Mass being at 10am Sunday mornings, I would like to hear from anyone who would like to assist at Mass as a reader, Sacristan etc.

**Catholic Mission Month** Catholic Mission Australia has launched its annual World Mission Month Appeal, focusing on the work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand supporting children from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds through the Kindergarten Centre. For more information go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/catholic-mission-launches-world-mission-month-appeal>

**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. Bishop Gregory Homering OCD reflects on "St Joseph- A Hidden Life" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

**Liturgy on the Margins - Australian Diaconal Ministry, Present and Future** Elizabeth Young RSM has launched an online community for Catholics in Australia who are drawn to diaconal ministry or who may already be leading liturgy on the margins as an ordained or consecrated person, chaplain, pastoral worker or catechist <https://liturgyonthemargins.org>

**World Day of Prayer Creative Workshop - Online** You are invited to the World Day of Prayer Creative Workshop, "England, Wales and Northern Ireland 'I know the plans I have for you'". The workshop will be held via Zoom on Friday, October 15, 2021 at 12.30pm. Registration required by Friday, October 8 via email to [wdp.vic@gmail.com](mailto:wdp.vic@gmail.com) or Ann Robinson on 0425 701 248. After your registration has been received, you will receive the Zoom login details to participate in the Workshop.

**CatholicCare Victoria - Free Mental Health & Wellbeing Guide** CatholicCare Victoria has been supporting the Ballarat community for almost 45 years. To help in these tough times, we've developed a free guide to mental health and wellbeing, created by regional Victorians, for regional Victorians. Download your copy today at [https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/13/mental-health-and-wellbeing-guide?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_campaign=mental-health&utm\\_content=ballarat&fbclid=IwAR26onSC87f6p89AM0li\\_Conf5W\\_cYPyRTwsDKzWwMk4xREnbkTGzUv07ec](https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/13/mental-health-and-wellbeing-guide?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=mental-health&utm_content=ballarat&fbclid=IwAR26onSC87f6p89AM0li_Conf5W_cYPyRTwsDKzWwMk4xREnbkTGzUv07ec)

**Synodality & Co-Responsibility - ONLINE** Synodality & Co-Responsibility is the second online conversation in the *Light from the Southern Cross - Catalyst for Conversation series*, to be held on Monday, November 1, 2021. Speakers & Topics: Rev Associate Professor Orm Rush, Australian Catholic University - *The Roots of 'Synodality' in the Vision of Vatican II*; Most Rev Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst - *Discovering Synodality by trying it out: Reflections on the First Assembly of the Plenary Council*; Mrs Teresa Brierley, Director Pastoral Ministries, Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle - *The Long and Winding Road: 30 years of discovery*. For more information go to <https://www.catholicreligious.org.au/events/synodality-and-co-responsibility>

**Link for Fr Denis Dennehy's Funeral** The funeral Mass for Fr Denis Dennehy was livestreamed from the Glenfesk Parish Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=search&v=639301350562716>. Please note that for the first 12 minutes there is no sound.



**Study at CTC** Catholic Theological College is offering the unit "Christian Faith and World Religions: Inter-religious Dialogue in Australia". This unit is designed for all who wish to contribute in a practical way to the multi-faith and multi-cultural society which Australia has become. If you are interested in finding out more we are offering a free information session on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 7.00pm - 7.30pm. To register go to <https://divinity.zoom.us/j/84181818181>

Catholic Theological College is offering a free online Open Day Information Session for "Minor Thesis and Higher Degrees by Research" in October for anyone interested in beginning or extending their study journey. Higher Degree by Research (HDR) can be undertaken in any one of our specialised fields of study such as Systematic Theology, Church History, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Moral Theology, Liturgy and Philosophy. The session will take place online on Wednesday, October 13 from 7.00pm-7.30pm. Bookings via website <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/open-days/>

**Mass attendance under the current government restrictions** means we are currently restricted to **20** persons at each Mass. This means you will need to preregister to attend a weekend Mass by telephoning the Parish office during office hours to book your spot. You are welcome to leave a message with your name and a return phone number. If you are able to attend Mass during the week when there are smaller numbers in attendance you can just turn up. You will need to still scan the QR code, use hand sanitizer and wear a mask each time. Thank you.

**From November 5th**, the numbers able to attend Masses will increase significantly for those who are fully vaccinated. When someone's vaccination status is unknown, there is a limit of 20 people able to attend Mass. Aware that not everyone will be fully vaccinated, our parishes will offer one Mass during the week where no vaccination status will be required. Twenty people will be able to attend and it will be a requirement to book in with the respective parish. These Masses will commence on Monday November 8th as follows:

|           |          |                                     |
|-----------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday    | 10.00 am | St Patrick's Cathedral 5331 2933    |
| Tuesday   | 9.30 am  | St Michael's Bungaree 5334 0450     |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am  | St Aloysius' Redan 0455 212123      |
| Thursday  | 10.00 am | OLHC Wendouree 5339 2302            |
| Saturday  | 9.30 am  | St Alipius' Ballarat East 5332 6611 |

Fr Justin Driscoll Administrator, St Patrick's Cathedral

| OLHC 30th Oct              | (next week) | Saturday 6pm               |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| LEADER OF SONG             |             | Paul Hogan                 |
| PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL     |             | Lyn Gray                   |
| FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD |             | Colin and Helen Feely      |
| COMMUNION MINISTERS        |             | Helen Feely and Tony Bruty |
| SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION   |             | Geoff and Margaret McLean  |

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