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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)

**priceline pharmacy**

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.
  - 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).
  - Proof of Vaccination needs to be shown to the Covid Marshall & recorded
  - 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.

**OLHC Parish QR Code**



**Waubra 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  
**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**  
Office Hours: Tues—Wed  
9:00am—1:00pm

Our Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

**Our Lady Help of Christians**  
Parish Co-ordinator and Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

**MASS TIMES (This week)**

**St Columba's**


Sunday	10:00 am
Wednesday	10:00 am

**Our Lady Help of Christians**

<b>Waubra</b>	1st & 3rd Sunday	8.30 am
<b>Beaufort</b>	2nd & 4th Sunday	8.30 am
<b>Lexton</b>	5th Sunday	8.30 am
<b>Wendouree</b>	Saturday	6:00 pm
	Thursday	10:00 am
	Friday	10:00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

Bar 5: 1-9  
Ps 125 R.v 3  
Phil 1: 3-6, 8-11  
Lk 3: 1-6



**28th November 2021 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent**


**Focus on the Scriptures**

The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. Each reading depicts a dimension of suffering that was often brought on by the people themselves. The promises are assurances that the end of their suffering was in sight. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope.

The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest.

What is expected of those who receive the promise? An Advent way of life exhorts us to 'wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ'. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia

**Recently Deceased:** We commend to God: Kevin Hanrahan, Barry James

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Sr. Claire Flanagan RGS, John Sharry, Bill Smith, Sinie Dam, Patricia Blood, Dorothy Vaughn

**We pray:** Those in need of our prayers; all the sick in our Parishes, especially Dan Coutts. For an end to the pandemic.

**OLHC PARISH FAMILY GROUPS**

The leaders of our Parish Family Groups met during the week to review activities over the past year and to share ideas for 2022. The past two years have been a challenging period with restricted opportunities to meet together but whenever a group held a gathering members thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with each other. Marg & Geoff McLean are the leaders of the Time Out group and Pauline & Tony Newman lead the Y Worry Group. Parish Coordinators are Sandra & Vin Dillon. New members are always welcome. Should you be interested in joining a group please contact any of the leaders or leave your name at the Parish Office.

**Rite of Election 2022** The Rite of Election will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall. To assist with planning for the Rite, can you please advise if your parish will have any candidates and/or catechumens participating in the event, email [julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Mass of the Oils 2022** The Mass of the Oils will be held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall.

**Ordination to the Diaconate** Seminarians Matthew Restall and William Lowry will be ordained Deacons for the Diocese of Ballarat on Friday, December 10, 2021 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Attendance requirements for the Cathedral is QR code or registration upon entry and full vaccination status needs to be provided to the COVID check-in Marshalls.

**CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal** This pandemic has been hard on us all. But as with every disaster, COVID-19 is making the already vulnerable more vulnerable still. Your generous donation to this year's Giving Tree Appeal will provide practical and financial support for struggling Victorian families - from three square meals a day to help with utility bills... every gift you choose helps. To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/14/giving-tree-appeal>

**House of Welcome Ballarat - Garden Party**

Sunday Dec 5th 2pm - 30 Waller Ave Newington  
Entry \$20. Stalls and competitions. Afternoon tea  
All Welcome. Inquiries 0401175045  
Funds raised for migrants/refugees/covid relief



St Columba's 5th Dec	(next week)	Sunday 10am
Covid Check In Marshall		
COMMENTATOR		
MINISTER OF THE WORD		
COMMUNION MINISTER		
OVERHEADS		
SACRISTAN		

**Collections at St Columba's** *We thank you for your generous support*  
Presbytery: \$ 184.45 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 950.00

**Christmas Liturgies:**

**Friday 24th December (Christmas Eve)**  
5:00 pm St Columba's  
7:00 pm OLHC  
9:00 pm Beaufort  
**Saturday 25th December (Christmas Day)**  
8:30 am Waubra  
10:00 am St Columba's  
*No Vigil Mass on Saturday at OLHC*  
**Sunday 26th December**  
8:30 am Beaufort  
10:00 am St Columba's



**OLHC Parish**

**OLHC CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH** The Christmas Day Lunch will once again be held this year. This will mark 30 consecutive years that the parish has facilitated this Christmas celebration. Like last year due to Covid restrictions the meal will be provided through take-away. This is not the organising committee's preferred format as the community spirit engendered by a sit down meal has always been a central focus of the gathering. However after taking into account the need for certainty in conducting the event and the desire to be inclusive of all who wish to have a meal, it was decided to repeat the successful takeaway model of 2020. If you wish to order a meal:  
**Email: [christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com](mailto:christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com) or phone 0419 975 914** or the OLHC Parish Office (5339 2302)

**Parish Visitation** from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR was scheduled for the end of November. However, this has now been re-scheduled until February, 2022 Bishop Paul will be keen to meet with Parish Groups and celebrate with this community at that time.

**St Joseph's Church, Learmonth.** Following the final Mass on the 17th January, 2020 and subsequent dispersal of items donated by particular families, the property and any remaining items will be auctioned on 4th December 2021. Further details can be obtained by visiting the website: [domain.com.au](http://domain.com.au)

**A Climate that Reflects Justice – prayer in Advent**

**Advent Week 1**

God of Creation,  
You created night and day.  
You separated the sea from the sky.  
You gave life to all living creatures and saw that it was good.  
Help us to reconnect with the majesty of your creation.



**Mass Attendance** As of this weekend there are no density limit for Mass attendance for fully vaccinated attendees. Proof of full vaccination will need to be provided upon entry, together with QR code check-in. The wearing of masks for full-vaccinated attendees is optional.

When someone's vaccination status is unknown, there is a limit of 50 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. Fifty people will be able to attend and it will be a requirement to book in with the respective parish. Masks are required to be worn for these Masses.

Monday	10.00am	St Patrick's Cathedral	5331 2933
Tuesday	9.30am	St Michael's Bungaree	5334 0450
Wednesday	9:30 am	St Aloysius' Redan	0455 212123
Thursday	10:00 am	OLHC Wendouree	5339 2302
Saturday	9.30am	St Alipius' Ballarat East	5332 6611

**Baptism Information** sessions are currently being conducted by individual appointment at the OLHC parish office. Please phone Maree on 5339 2302 for an appointment.

**Can you help?**

The OLHC liturgy committee is seeking someone who can play a keyboard for the Easter Mass Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. If you can assist please contact Corrie on 0401 478 220.

**Making a Scene at Christmas**—Bridge Market in Bridge Mall December 4th-5th and 11th—20th. Display of over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries. Gold coin donation. All welcome.

**The St Vincent de Paul** society will have the Columban calendars for 2022 and Christmas cards for sale at the Vigil Mass every Saturday from November. If anyone is unable to get to this Mass and would like a calendar or cards phone Harry Kennedy 0409943214.

The St Alphonsus Conference of St Vincent de Paul always happy to have new members.  
**Harry Kennedy** President

**Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal** This Christmas donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness this Christmas and your help can provide them with much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to call home. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>



OLHC 4th Dec	(next week)	Saturday (Vigil) 6pm
LEADER OF SONG		Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Harry Kennedy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Val & John Bourke
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		John & Sue Calistro

**Collections at OLHC** *We thank you for your generous support*  
Presbytery: \$ 502.45 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 865.00