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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

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 (select Parish)

Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth **Phone:** 5331 1012
Email: 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
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

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:

Zep 3: 14-18
Ps 12: 2-6 R.v 6
Phil 4: 4-7
Lk 3: 10-18



5th December 2021 ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

Focus on the Scriptures

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary.

John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony.



The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.
© Dianne Bergant CSA

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) The lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia

Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Anniversaries: We remember: Val Roberts, Bob Davis

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

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 0401 175045
Funds raised for migrants/refugees/covid relief



St Columba's 12th 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: \$ 136.25 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1659.00

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 or phone 0419 975 914 or the OLHC Parish Office (5339 2302)

Year of St Joseph concludes on December 8, 2021. Prayer of St Joseph to conclude the year:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son;

in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Advent Week 2

God of Love, Fill us with your love for all creation. Empty us of apathy, selfishness and fear. Inspire us to live simply and in harmony with creation. Help us to be good stewards, caring for all creation With self-sacrificing and nurturing love.



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 24th 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 11th Dec	(next week)	Saturday (Vigil) 6pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Marie McMillan
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Christine Richardson & Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		Geoff & Marg McLean

Collections at OLHC *We thank you for your generous support*
Presbytery: \$ 403.90 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,900.00