

Please support our loyal advertisers



**Prepaid Funerals**  
Eliminate family stress  
Details: 5337 7111



**Ed Browne**  
Busy Bookkeeping  
Phone 5364 2922  
ballarat@busybookkeeping.com.au



Domestic & Commercial cleaning  
0402862188/0434746818  
admin@mlmclean.com.au



20 Lydiard Street Sth,  
Ballarat  
Ph: (03) 5331 3711  
www.ppt.com.au



139 Bogong Ave,  
Invermay Park  
Phone: 5331 4510  
Mobile: 0418 501 606



Phone: (03) 5332 3069  
Mobile: 0418 504 254



11 Neerim Crescent,  
Wendouree Industrial Park  
Ph: 5339 3122  
Open Direct to the Public  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday



402 Sturt Street Ballarat  
5331 2233  
Best Result Every Time!  
BALLARAT | MARYBOROUGH | ARARAT



Address: 1251 Doveton Street  
North, Ballarat, 3350  
Phone: (03) 5333 3101  
www.peterobinfunerals.com.au



4 Dawson Street North, Ballarat  
Ph: 5331 3099  
We can help you with all your repairs and installation of:  
\*Televisions & Television Antennas  
\* Home Theatres & Projectors  
\* DVDs & Audio Equipment  
\* Household appliances  
\* Public Address Systems  
\*CCTV Systems



Address: 1114 Doveton Street  
North, Ballarat, 3350  
Phone: (03) 5333 3911  
All hours. Moderate cost



801 Howitt Street WENDOUREE  
PH: 5339 5033  
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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

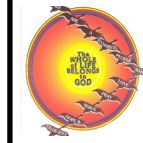


Mon-Fri 8.30 am - 6.00 pm  
Saturdays 9.00 am - 5.00 pm  
2 Bridge Mall Ballarat Vic 3350  
Ph: 5331 4900

**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.
- 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](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

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

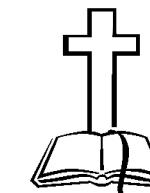
Sunday 10:00 am  
Wednesday 10:00 am

**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:**

Zep 3:14-18  
Is 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**

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has called us to look into our hearts and to bring the compassion and mercy of God to our troubled planetary home. Care of our common home and of all that inhabits our planet is both a gospel imperative and an urgent call to the whole human community. Our courageous pope gives extraordinary leadership in this respect.

Like Luke, author of the third gospel, Pope Francis recognises that the message is for the whole world and not simply for the Church community. Luke situates his gospel drama on a national and international stage and in relation to global events. He wants to insist that religion is no private affair and that the story of the movement around Jesus of Nazareth is no ordinary, everyday story. It is, rather, a story with momentous political and religious significance. His references to Herod Antipas and to Pilate foreshadow the imminent fate of John and the eventual fate of Jesus. Luke is strong on dramatic impact and less concerned about the facts. He situates events in the "pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas", implying that there were two high priests at the same time. In fact, Caiaphas succeeded his father-in-law Annas as high priest, even if the influence of the latter persisted into Caiaphas' pontificate.

Luke presents John the son of Zechariah as a prophet in the long line of prophets that culminates in the appearance of Jesus of Nazareth on the global stage. Jesus is the one who truly brings the salvation of our God. It is worth noting that prophecy in Luke is not reserved to the male characters. With the shift from private to public space in Luke 3, however, women prophets who featured prominently in the earlier chapters (Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna) now disappear from the narrative.

Luke 3:1-6 contains some of Luke's favourite themes: prophecy and its fulfilment; the word of God; reversal of expectations; conversion or repentance; proclaiming the good news; forgiveness of sins; salvation. As in Israel's past, the wilderness or desert is the locus of God's revelation. The prophet John calls on the people of the region around the Jordan River to turn their hearts and their lives around, to accept "a baptism of metanoia/conversion for the forgiveness of sins".

We listen to the Isaiah citation that follows ("Prepare the way...") against the backdrop of the first reading from the prophet Baruch. While we might critique the violent metaphorical language that speaks of God's salvation in terms of filling the valleys and levelling the hills, we yearn for a time when "all flesh", human and other-than-human, will see the salvation of God. God's way involves putting on the "cloak of integrity" or the "robe of righteousness" and allowing God to provide an escort of mercy and right relationship. If we take seriously the call to live the gospel, we shall surely search for ways to heal the broken relationships within our ailing planet

Veronica Lawson RSM

**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. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Michael Rix

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Terry Carman, Mary McCauley, Sinie Dam, Dorothy Vaughan, Brian Fitzpatrick, Fr John Martin, Carmel Caligari, Trevor Jeffreys, Paul Melenhorst, June Henderson

**We pray:** for in need of our prayers especially those who have no-one to pray for them

### 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?>

**OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch** OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers will be preparing free, hot Christmas meals for people to collect on Christmas Day. This is the 30th year the parish has provided Christmas lunch for those in need. Bookings are essential, ph. 0419 975 914 or email [christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com](mailto:christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com). Arrangements can be made for those unable to collect meals.

**Year of St Joseph:** The 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.*

**Sew and So:** Thursday 9th December 2021 at 1.30pm in the Church Foyer. We always enjoy each other's company so join us for the Christmas gathering. Enquiries Margaret 53314032

### Christmas Liturgies

Wednesday **15th Dec** 10.30 am Anointing Mass Ballarat North

Thursday **16th Dec** 7.00 pm Reconciliation Wendouree

### Christmas Eve:

Friday **24th Dec** 5.00 pm Mass Ballarat North

7.00 pm Mass Wendouree

9.00 pm Mass Beaufort

### Christmas Day:

Saturday **25th Dec** 8.30 am Mass Waubra

10.00 am Mass Ballarat North

### Feast of the Holy Family:

Sunday **26th Dec** 8.30 am Mass Beaufort

10.00 am Mass Ballarat North

St Columba's 12th Dec	(next week)	Sun 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Kyle Hackwill
COMMENTATOR		N/A
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Volunteer
COMMUNION MINISTER		N/A
OVERHEADS		N/A
SACRISTAN		Volunteer

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

Presbytery: \$ 136.25 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,659.00

**Synod of Bishops** Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

**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.

**House of Welcome Ballarat— Garden Party** Sunday 5th December 2.00 pm 30 Waller Ave Newington Entry \$20.00 Stalls and Competitions, Afternoon Tea All Welcome. Enquiries Carmel 0401175045. Funds raised for Migrants, Refugees, Covid Relief

**Parish Nativity Scenes** The coordinators of the "Making a scene at Christmas" nativity displays are asking parishes to send in photos of their nativity scenes so they can be added to an online display, which will featured on the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat website. Please email these images to [jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Looking forward to receiving the beautiful images of the many nativity scenes around the diocese.

**Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre & Museum** With Christmas coming up, please consider supporting the work of the Sisters of St Joseph by purchasing a [2022 Josephite Calendar](https://www.mmhc.org.au/2022-josephite-calendar) (\$8.00) and/or a present from the [Museum Gift Shop](https://www.mmhc.org.au/gift-shop/) (communion & confirmation gifts, devotional items, Vatican Library collection, rosary beads, holding crosses, candles, cards, statues, crucifixes, books and Peruvian handmade items) <https://www.mmhc.org.au/facilities/gift-shop/>. Accommodation is available at the Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre for events like the Boxing Day Test, Australian Open or the theatre in the heart of Melbourne. For those staying in the apartments, there is free onsite parking located across from Fitzroy Gardens and the Cathedral. Contact Kate for accommodation enquiries, ph. 9926 9300.

**A Climate that Reflects Justice** 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.

**Highways and Byways Small Grants Program 2022** The 2022 Highways and Byways Small Grants Program is now open for applications. The theme is Healing the Land – Healing Ourselves – Together. Grants of up to \$3,000 are available to community organisations, especially in rural and regional areas, for projects that focus on healing the land in holistic ways and increasing opportunities to build community through practical projects, leadership and skills acquisition, and knowledge transfer. For more information go to <https://highwaysandbyways.org.au/grants/>



**Advent: Online Learning** Our online learning partner, Dayton University, is offering two new Advent classes beginning November 28. *Advent: A Holy Waiting* is designed as an e-retreat experience. Participants will find enrichment for the season through scripture, spiritual reading and listening, group discussion, prayer, and sacred music; and *Let This Be the Time: Spiritual Essentials for Life's Second Act* explores the needs of people in their later lives: what is happening and how to maximize these times for the deepening of our spirituality. Registration is open until November 25. More information or to register please go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

**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

**Praying with Pope Francis** The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org). Pope's intention for November: **Universal intention – people who suffer from depression:** We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

**CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal** The 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>

**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 6pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Marie McMillan
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Christine Richardson and Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN & REGISTRATION		Geoff and Margaret McLean

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