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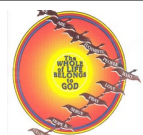
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**Child Safe Church** The Parishes of St Columba's & Our Lady Help of Christians (including Lexton, Miners Rest and Waubra) follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed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

**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
- Contact tracing is required for all Masses. Please use the QR code or enter your details in the register as you enter the foyer
- 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.

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

**27th February 2022 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

“Everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher,” says the Lukan Jesus. What might it mean to become “fully qualified” for discipleship? For Jesus, being fully qualified in the ways of discipleship is not so much a matter of acquiring book knowledge as it is a question of being like the teacher. This is not to discount the importance of acquiring a deep knowledge of the tradition. Jesus certainly knew his own tradition well. Luke presents him as literate, as capable of reading from the sacred scriptures in the Nazareth synagogue and of interpreting the prophetic texts for the assembled congregation. In today’s gospel selection, Luke also presents Jesus as familiar with the secular wisdom of his age. The sayings about the blind leading the blind and the log and speck have clear parallels in ancient literature. Jesus’ closest followers were educated business people with an appreciation of and commitment to their traditions. They were fully qualified in the sense that they had the personal resources to make a difference in the lives of those on the edge.

The primary qualification for the disciple is, however, to be “like the teacher”. Jesus wants his followers to live out in their lives the pattern of his life of attentiveness to the pain of the world, his life of compassion and justice and mercy. Seeing with clarity (without a log in one’s eye) is at the heart of the gospel way of life he proclaims. This theme of seeing permeates Luke’s writings. Seeing and understanding one’s own self is part of that, as is the capacity to see and to understand the rhythm of the forms of life that constitute one’s habitat. The recurrence of agricultural images in Jesus’ sayings is quite remarkable. Jesus grew up in Nazareth, a Jewish village in Lower Galilee, home to vines and olive trees, to goats and sheep and some four hundred human inhabitants. From early childhood, Jesus saw the processes involved in ensuring that the vines produced grapes. He knew the importance of the water from the spring for nurturing the grain crops in the valley close to his home. He knew that brambles and thorns did not yield any edible fruit. It would seem that being “like the teacher” includes closeness to and appreciation of the natural world.

Finally, to be a disciple is to be a “good person” and good persons are those who produce “good treasure” out of the abundance of their hearts. In the Jewish tradition, the heart was the seat of wisdom and knowledge as well as the seat of emotions. In 1 Kings 12:3, for instance, God is said to give Solomon a wise and discerning heart/mind. The Hebrew word for heart (lev) is often translated into English as “mind”. Heart and mind are as one-so it must be for us as disciples.

Veronica Lawson RSM

**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

**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

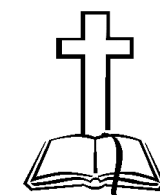
Wed-Friday 9:00am—1:00pm

**MASS TIMES (This week)**

**St Columba's**  
Sunday 10:00 am  
Wednesday 9.30 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  
Wednesday 11.00 am  
Thursday 10.00 am  
Friday 10.00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**  
Dt 26: 4-10  
Ps 90:1-2, 10-15, R. v  
15  
Rom 10: 8-13  
Lk 4:1-13



**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Jacinta Wilson, Marion Voss,  
**Anniversaries: We remember:** Kathleen Squire, Patrick Duffy, Margaret Pearson, Imelda McGrath, Patrick Duggan

**We pray:** for the people Ukraine: Come Holy Spirit – destabilise our desires for conflict and lead us to peace!

**World Day of Prayer Services – March 4, 2022**

All are invited to participate in the World Day of Prayer services on Friday, March 4, 2022:

- 10.00 am:** Seventh Day Adventist Church, 317-319 Drummond Street South, Ballarat.
- 10.00 am:** St Paul's Uniting Church, 73 Inglis Street, Ballan.
- 10.30 am:** St Andrew's Uniting Church, 28 Wallace Street cnr Wilson Street, Meredith.
- 2.00 pm:** Carmel Welsh Presbyterian Church, 263 Albert Street, Sebastopol.
- 2.00 pm:** St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 54 Montgomery Street, Sipton.
- 5.00 pm:** St Augustine's Catholic Church, 115 Napier Street, Creswick.
- 7.00 pm:** Sts. Peter & Paul's Catholic Church, 701 Fiske Street, Buninyong.
- 7.00 pm:** Christ Church Anglican, 54 Central Springs Road, Daylesford.

**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/>

**Position Vacant: Parish Co-ordinator** The Parish of St Columba's Ballarat North is seeking a Parish Co-ordinator to ensure the efficient operation of the Parish Office, part time 16 hours (0.4) per week. Duties will include reception and administration as well as coordinating Sacramental Programs for Confirmation, Reconciliation, (Junior and Senior), First Eucharist and Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC). An understanding of the rituals, traditions, practices and values of the Catholic Church is essential to this role. Please contact the Parish Office on (03) 5331-1012 for a position description. Applications including a covering letter and addressing the Key Selection Criteria close on Friday, March 4, 2022 and should be addressed to the Parish Priest, St Columba's Parish, 306 Gregory St Soldiers Hill Vic 3350. email:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Columba's 6th March	(next week)	Sun 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Volunteer
COMMENTATOR		Ruth Marquand
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Vicki Moroney
COMMUNION MINISTER		
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Volunteer

**Collections Last week at St Columba's** Thank you for your contributions  
 Presbytery: \$ 179.40 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 645.00

**Lenten Program—The Spirit and the Cross** Daily reflections from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday, Easter Monday to the 2nd Sunday of Easter. These daily reflections invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day, followed by a quote from Pope Francis and a prayer. Books cost \$7.00 each. If you would like to journey through the Season of Lent and conclude with the 2nd Sunday of Easter by purchasing a book kindly contact either parish. Vin Dillon has kindly offered to facilitate a weekly Zoom session each Wednesday morning during Lent for those who wish to participate in a group. I

**Study Tour of the Biblical Lands** Olive Tree Travel have planned a study tour of the Biblical Lands from December 3-14, 2022. This tour is focused on the Gospel of Luke engaging the narrative in the contextual landscape, escorted by Dr. Rosemary Canavan of Catholic Theological College Melbourne. For more details visit [www.olivetreetravel.com.au/](http://www.olivetreetravel.com.au/) upcoming events.

**Baptism:** This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the sacrament of Baptism: **Matilda Patricia Farquhar** daughter of Luke and Caitlin.

**"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...." Pope Francis**

May Matilda grow in faith with the support of her family and our Catholic Community..

**Invitation to Blessing of Statue of St Patrick for the Cathedral**  
 A statue of St Patrick will be placed and blessed in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR during Evening Prayer (Vespers) on the Vigil of St Patrick's Day (Wednesday, March 16) at 7.00pm. On St Patrick's Day itself, there will be Masses at 10.00am and 7.00pm. Fr Ed Moloney and Fr Abraham Thomas will preside and acknowledge the blessing of the statue during those Masses. People of the Diocese are welcome to the Evening Prayer and the Masses. More information is available from the diocesan website [https://mcusercontent.com/904e76c839232ddc552d4311d/files/df651b2-ca50-6e9d-4844-c24a97df8ff0/St\\_Patrick\\_Invitation.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/904e76c839232ddc552d4311d/files/df651b2-ca50-6e9d-4844-c24a97df8ff0/St_Patrick_Invitation.pdf)

**Position Vacant: Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission with responsibility for the Dioceses of Ballarat and Sandhurst (West Victoria)** For a position description and short video on what it is like to work at Catholic Mission, go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission>. If you are interested, please submit a cover letter of 1 page and a resume no longer than 3 pages to [employment@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:employment@catholicmission.org.au).



**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 February: **For religious sisters and consecrated women:** We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women - thanking them for their mission and their courage. May they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

**Collections and Stewardship Reminder** For safety reasons we suspended passing around the 1st and 2nd collections plates (but still welcome all donations). You can donate in church by placing cash or stewardship envelopes in the plates at the front of the sanctuary. Alternatively if you are comfortable using internet banking you may deposit contributions to the Presbytery and Parish Bank Account. Kindly contact the office for details.

**Project Compassion Sunday today – February 27**  
 Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and "For All Future Generations." With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all. As St Pope John Paul II said, "The future starts today, not tomorrow." Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow "For All Future Generations." You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish or by visiting [www.lent.caritas.org.au](http://www.lent.caritas.org.au) or by calling 1800 024 413.

**Mass times for Ash Wednesday March 2nd**

St Columba's Ballarat North	9.30 am
Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree	11.00 am
St John the Baptist Beaufort	7.00 pm

OLHC 5th March	(next week)	Saturday 6pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Pauline Newman and Kevin Murphy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		John and Val Bourke
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray and Kylie Gray

**Collections Last Week at OLHC** Thank you for your contributions  
 Presbytery: \$ 356.45 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 375.00