

Please support our loyal advertisers



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



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



**PPT**  
PROWSE PERRIN & TWOMEY  
20 Lydiard Street Sth,  
Ballarat  
Ph: (03) 5331 3711  
www.ppt.com.au



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



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



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



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



ARCH MEDICAL CENTRE PHARMACY  
1730b STURT STREET  
ALFREDTON VIC 3350  
03 5331 3027  
Mon- Fri 8.30am-6.00pm  
Saturdays 9.00am to 12 noon  
arch.ballarat@bfcpg.com.au

**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

**13th February 2022 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

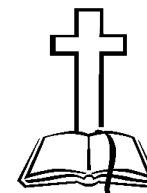
Why does Luke's Jesus declare the poor and suffering happy or blessed? And why does he seem to be so hard on those who enjoy economic security and the respect of others? We are unlikely to consider ourselves blessed or happy when we cannot pay our bills or put food on the table. We are likewise slow to count our blessings, much less dance for joy, when we find ourselves in tears or when we are excluded, rejected, and treated with contempt. We are more likely to consider ourselves blessed when we do not have to be constantly worried about money or food and when others treat us with respect. What does the gospel say to those of us who are somewhere in between the destitute who are declared blessed and the wealthy who are told to watch out? What does this gospel offer to those who attract neither praise nor blame? There are no easy answers to any of this, beyond the clear evidence that Luke's Sermon on the Plain engages the theme of reversal that permeates this gospel.

The poor are told that the reign of God is theirs. In other words, it is a present rather than a future reality. The poor can at least know that they are acceptable to God in ways that may be incomprehensible to the wealthy who, in their turn, are challenged to share their wealth. It is not much consolation for the hungry or those who weep to know that their "reward will be great in heaven" if heaven is a place enjoyed only in the afterlife. "Heaven" is better understood as a way of talking about God's empire of justice and compassion both present and to come. Reversal is expected in this life rather than the next. Weeping is usually connected in the prophetic literature with the disasters that flow from "ungodly" decisions. In our times, there are many weeping over "ungodly" decisions in relation to asylum seekers and carbon emissions. Laughter seems a remote possibility for many displaced people of our world and for those still unable to access vaccines. We are reminded today of the gospel imperative to work and pray that war-torn, pandemic and climate affected countries will once again resonate with the sound of happy laughter.

Finally, our experience makes us wary of those who flatter or put us on pedestals. It is generally only a matter of time before we fall from favour and find ourselves on the receiving end of criticism or even attack. It is ultimately better to be misunderstood and to be at peace with one's conscience in the pursuit of compassion and justice than to be the object of adulation and praise. It is only in handling life's challenges with dignity, grace, and single-minded focus on the gospel that we find blessing or happiness

Veronica Lawson RSM

**Responsorial Psalm:** (R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven. 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 No Mass

**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 10.45 am (Kelaston)  
Friday 10:00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend:**

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23  
Ps 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v8  
1 Cor 15: 45-49  
Lk 6: 27-38

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Malcolm McLean, Eileen Haintz, Brian O'Neill, Rita Moclair, Pasquale Milazzo, Johannes Kors, Maria Mars

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Joan Thomas, Peter Baker, Anoja Stanislaus, John Brusaschi, Lesley Bigarelli, Sr. Ursula Caine RSM, Mavis McKeegan, Judith Johnstone, Neil Woods, Gwen Souter

**We pray:** for all who are sick including Jacinta Wilson

**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?>

**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>

**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 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

**EthicsFinder.com** Explore [www.ethicsfinder.com](http://www.ethicsfinder.com). Wish you could easily find Church teaching and the best articles, books and videos on bio-ethics, business ethics, cancel culture, human rights, marriage, subsidiarity, and 100+ other topics? Try ACU's free, digital tool

St Columba's 20th Feb	(next week)	Sun 10am
LEADER OF SONG		Volunteer
COMMENTATOR		Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Terry Ranger
COMMUNION MINISTER		
OVERHEADS		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Volunteer

**Collections Last week at St Columba's**  
 Presbytery: \$ 235.55      Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,065.00

**Caritas Appeal for Tonga**

Tonga is reeling after the violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications and blanketed the country in ash and rock. Roads, bridges and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater. Tonga needs your support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response. Donate at <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific/>

**Caritas Prayer for Tonga and the Pacific**

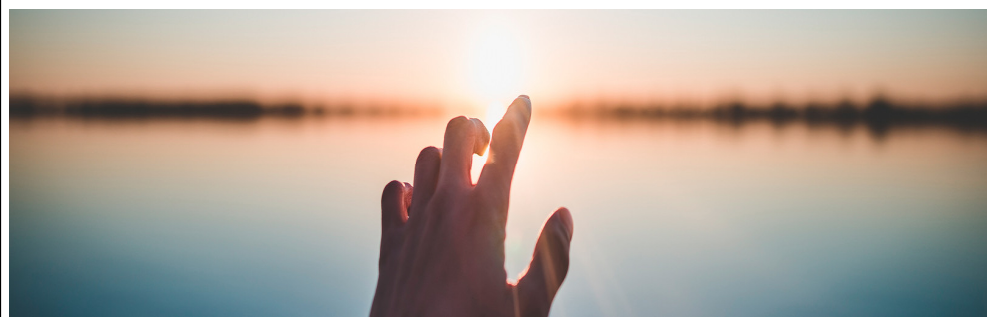
Loving God,  
 we hold before you in our hearts the people of Tonga in this time of need. We know that the communities of the Pacific often experience fragility. Now, with a volcanic explosion leading to both a Tsunami and degradation of land and water through ash, we ask that your people find strength and feel closer to you than ever. They are communities of great faith.  
 May they turn to you for peace and reassurance.  
 May they turn to each other for comfort and community.  
 And may they turn to us for support and solidarity.  
 We all share this mysterious world  
 which you have entrusted to our care, as one family.  
 May your Holy Spirit give us wisdom and courage  
 and fill us with the gift of Hope. Amen.

**World Day of the Sick: February 11, 2022** The World Day of the Sick, which falls on February 11, has reached its 30th edition this year, with the theme "Be merciful, as your Father is merciful" (Lk 6,36). In Pope Francis' message for this day he spoke directly to health care workers, recognising the importance of their work as infection rates and deaths from COVID-19 continue to rise. In addition to this, Catholic Health Australia CEO Pat Garcia and Bishop Karol Kulczycki SDS, Bishop Delegate for Health in Australia, have spoken out to honour health care workers. Further information and resources are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-of-the-sick-2022-february-11/>

**Baptism:** This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the sacrament of Baptism: **Henry Craig Whitefield** and **Edward Peter Whitefield** sons of Christopher and Linsie.

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

May these children grow in faith with the support of their family and our Catholic Community..



**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 2022** February 26-27, 2022 is Project Compassion Sunday - the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. Get your Project Compassion 2022 activities off to a good start, ensuring your whole parish is engaged with this year's theme, "For All Future Generations." Many parishes find it is a great help having a parishioner/s, parish social justice team or youth group working with them as their 'Caritas Parish Representative/s'. This person or team could create Project Compassion displays, distribute materials, photocopy and staple, organise the use of films and prayer reflections and arrange other appropriate ways to maintain Project Compassion's message during Lent. To help you find a Caritas Parish Representative, the PC22 includes advertisement bulletin notices and a parish flyer, as well as a guide for new Parish Representatives website <https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/project-compassion/?audi-ence=Parish&resourceTopics=Project+Compassion+2022includes>. Your Diocesan Director, Jillian Hogbin, is also happy to assist your community, please email [caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Usual day of work is a Tuesday.

OLHC 19th Feb	(next week)	Saturday 6pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
FIRST MINISTER OF THE WORD		Trish Pora
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Patrick Dillon and Trish Pearce
SACRISTAN		Geoffrey and Margaret McLean

**Collections Last Week at OLHC**  
 Presbytery: \$ 329.65      Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 460.00