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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

COVID Safe Plan

Checking-in is no longer a requirement. Face Masks are no longer required to be worn in most indoor settings but are recommended, particularly if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. They are also recommended for people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and are in settings where keeping a safe physical distance from other people is not possible

- 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
- Please use the hand sanitiser available upon entering the Church.
- Please do not touch any surfaces unnecessarily.



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

Office: 480a Gillies Street, Wendouree Phone: 5339 2302
Email: 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)

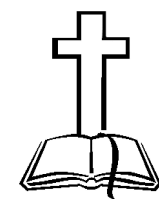
St Columba's
Sunday 10:00 am
Wednesday 10.00 am

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 11.00 am (Kelaston)
Friday 10.00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

Ex 3:1-8, 13-15
Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11. R. v 8
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12
Lk 13: 1-9



13th March 2022 ~ Second Sunday of Lent Yr C

Focus on the Scriptures

Last week, the wilderness was a character in the gospel reading. This week, we find a mountain and a cloud featuring in the narrative. These other-than-human characters and the prophets of old (Moses and Elijah) link Luke's story of Jesus to the Israelites' covenant relationship with God. Wilderness, mountain and cloud also remind us that God's Earth is the locus of mystery where human and other-than-human Earth beings are transformed through encounter with the divine. For Pope Francis, "[s]oil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God" (Laudato Si' 84).

For Jesus, the mountain is already a place of encounter with God, a place of prayer. Luke has Jesus spending a night in prayer on an unidentified mountain before he chooses the Twelve. Jesus now takes three of his closest friends up another unidentified mountain where the aspect of his face changes and his clothing becomes dazzling white. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, "appear" and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet.

This episode seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he accepts his likely fate: if he continues to challenge oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with this realisation in the wilderness and comes to terms with what it involves on the mountain. The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus and calls for a response: "Listen to him". These words are reminiscent of Moses' instruction to the Israelites: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet" (Deut 18:15). For Luke, Jesus is the prophet-like-Moses whom they must heed. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" and settle down. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. The tents evoke once more the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness.

Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of glory. We also need the good sense to follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we sometimes experience. If we are to hear the prophet-like-Moses in our times, we have to come to terms with the personal costs involved. Some of us actually need to go alone or together to a mountain top or place of extraordinary beauty to discover again the strength that comes from encountering the divine. I grew up in the shadow of Geboor (Mt Macedon). I once climbed within view of Everest. Every now and then, I climb Mt Buninyong. At such times, I know the wonder of God revealed in the beauty of the earth itself even as I sense its fragility and susceptibility to destruction.
Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Margot Conaughton, Cyril Potthiyittel, Carmel Molloy
Anniversaries: We remember: Sr Mary Lynch RSM, Bryan Deady

We pray: for the people Ukraine: Come Holy Spirit – destabilise our desires for conflict and lead us to peace! For those inundated by flooding throughout the low-lying suburbs of Brisbane, as well as Gympie, Maryborough, Ipswich, and Sunshine Coast regions of South-East Queensland and the Northern,

Prayer Creator God, We pray for all whose lives have been disrupted by the floods that have devastated the country. We pray for those who have lost their lives, their homes, and their livelihoods. Be with and sustain those whose entire world has been torn apart and washed away. Grant them patience and hope that eventually they can rebuild their lives and start afresh.



We are grateful to the emergency flood workers and all those who were heroes in helping those in distress during the floods. May they continue their missions of mercy.

Be with those who are caring for flood victims that their compassion and presence will be life-sustaining. May they continue their missions of mercy. We are thankful for those who serve others and pray for strength, courage and healing to all those affected.

Adaptation from prayer at <https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com>

| St Columba's 20th March | (next week) | Sun 10am |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| LEADER OF SONG | | Volunteer |
| COMMENTATOR | | Peter Marquand |
| MINISTER OF THE WORD | | Bruce Chapman |
| COMMUNION MINISTER | | Volunteer |
| DIGITAL PROJECTOR | | Vicki Moroney |
| SACRISTAN | | Volunteer |

Collections Last week at St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 405.75 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 585.00

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study

Our partner, Dayton University, offers low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes. Study cycles are over 3 or 5 weeks. The next Cycle of 2022 begins March 7. There are 39 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on 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 or ph. 5337 7121

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 focussed 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.olivetree-travel.com.au/ upcoming events.

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/dfe651b2-ca50-6e9d-4844-c24a97df8ff0/St_Patrick_Invitation.pdf

Position Vacant: St John of God Healthcare Ballarat - Pastoral Practitioner

The hospital has an exciting opportunity available for a dedicated and committed Pastoral Practitioner to join our Pastoral Services team in promoting and providing holistic pastoral services to patients and clients. <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>



Vinnies Flood Appeal: Vinnies are accepting donations for those affected by the flood disaster. The website offers opportunity to donation to Queensland, New South Wales or both. To find out more go to https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/Flood_appeal/

Garage Sale: Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees are holding a garage sale next **Saturday 19th March**. The Ballarat RAR are seeking to raise funds to meet the ongoing commitments of housing, transportation, education, health and general living expenses for refugees and people seeking asylum, many of whom are denied rights to work and access to government benefits.

Where: CBD end of Skipton Street. (No. 111)

Enquiries: rarballarat@gmail.com.

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. Pope's intention for March: **For a Christian response to bioethical challenges:** We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges. May they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

Project Compassion – Second Sunday of Lent



As a person with a disability living in remote India, Biru faced the prospect of a life of poverty and discrimination. With your support, he participated in entrepreneurship training and gained the skills to become financially independent. Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia. 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, by visiting www.lent.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.

Conversations about Project Compassion 2022

Explore the stories, programs and issues for each week of Project Compassion with our Caritas Conversations. These one-hour sessions are open to individuals over the age of 18 as well as parish, youth and community groups. Biru's Story: March 15 at 11.30am (Sydney Time); March 16 at 2.30pm and 10.00pm (Sydney time for WA); March 17 at 11.30am (SydneyTime).

Register at <https://calendly.com/conversations-about-pc-22>

| OLHC 19th March | (next week) | Saturday 6pm |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| LEADER OF SONG | | Vin Dillon |
| PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL | | Elly Green |
| MINISTER OF THE WORD | | Ena Bruty, Vin Dillon |
| COMMUNION MINISTERS | | Tony Bruty and Jennifer Adams |
| SACRISTAN | | Margaret and Geoff McLean |

Collections Last Week at OLHC Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 355.20 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 572.00