

Please support our loyal advertisers



Prepaid Funerals
Eliminate family stress
Details: 5337 7111



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



Address: 1114 Doveton Street North, Ballarat, 3350
Phone: (03) 5331 3711
www.ppt.com.au



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



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



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

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

Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

Within the chapel of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Thornbury, in Melbourne's inner north, a set of Indigenous Stations of the Cross are on display, which were created by artist 'John Dunn', a member of the Stolen Generations. These Stations are an exploration of his own journey and they illustrate beautifully how Aboriginal people resonate with the sufferings of Jesus. 10cm x 16cm resource sets are available for parishes, churches and school communities at \$15.00 each. For more information go to <https://art.catholic.org.au/2021/07/13/aboriginal-stations-of-the-cross/>

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 awaiting results of a COVID test, please 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
Parish Co-Ordinator: Lia Andanar Yu
Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

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:

Acts 2:1-11
Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34 R.v.30
1 Cor 12: 3-7, 12-13
Jn 20: 19-23



29th May 2022 ~ The Ascension of the Lord

Focus on the Scriptures

Loss is part of the human condition, and the physical death of a loved one is among the most painful experiences of loss. Today's Feast of the Ascension invites us to face the experience of loss in a transformative way. In Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus. Over the period of Lent and Easter, we have been remembering his death and resurrection. As we approach the end of the Easter season, the liturgy draws us into another aspect of the Mystery, that of the presence and absence of Jesus who has been raised.

The Lukan Ascension stories as found in the gospel and in today's first reading (Acts 1:1-11) presuppose a pre-scientific, three-tiered understanding of the structure of the world. In this ancient view, God is in the heavens above and the prophet Jesus, like the prophet Elijah of old, is caught up into God's realm from whence the Holy Spirit will "descend" upon God's people. This vertical (up and down) movement is balanced by a horizontal movement. We must begin to use language in prayer and liturgy that recognises God's presence everywhere, not only in the "heavens" above.

In Acts, Jesus' family and friends who grieve the loss of their loved one are told not to keep looking up to the heavens. They have work to do: they must return to Jerusalem for the present and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the prophetic ministry of Jesus ("clothed with power from on high"), to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. They have to face the fact that the physical loss of Jesus means a new and different sort of presence and that they have a role to play in making him present in their world. Like us, the early Christians needed time to grasp each dimension of the one great mystery of God's presence among them.

In the gospel account, the disciples gathered in Jerusalem are to be witnesses to the death and resurrection of Jesus. They are to proclaim a gospel of "repentance and forgiveness". In the gospel (Luke 24:47) their audience is "all peoples", while in Acts 1:8, they are commissioned to be witnesses to Jesus "in all Jerusalem, in Judaea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". In other words, the good news is not only for the earth's human inhabitants but for the earth itself. Pope Francis, in calling us to be attentive to the cry of the poor, insists that the earth itself is "among the most maltreated and abandoned of our poor" (Laudato Si' 2).

Joy, peace, prayer and blessing have the final word in Luke's gospel. They have permeated Luke's story from the outset. As we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we might pray that the spirit of joy that animated the earliest Christians will fill our hearts so that the entire planetary community might know the blessing of God.

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Patricia Gleeson, the children and teachers of Robb Elementary School

Anniversaries: We remember: Lang Dean, Maxwell Franklin, Eileen Dean, John Kirby, Frank Reilly, Kathleen De Groot, Margaret Waight, Joyce Kyneton, Anthony Hall, Faye Tobin, Francis White, Jan Dwyer, Peter Driscoll, Paul Gleeson

We pray: for the people of Ukraine and all in need of our prayers.

Welcome to Lia Andanar Yu Lia commenced her employment as Parish Co-Ordinator for St Columba's Parish a few weeks ago. As well as a number of administrative tasks, Lia will assume responsibility for co-ordinating the Sacraments of Initiation.

As a person of faith and committed member of the Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree Parish, Lia has enriched the life of that parish with her dedication and commitment together with her husband and children.

Lia's professional background encompasses media broadcast and print journalism as well as Multicultural Ambassador. At Present Lia is an Intercultural Advisor for the City of Ballarat. Welcome Lia!!

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace in Ukraine I ask you to pray the Our Father for peace in Ukraine, now and throughout this Day. Let us ask the Lord to grant that the country may grow in the spirit of brotherhood, and that all hurts, fears and divisions will be overcome. We have spoken about the Holocaust. But let us think too that [in Ukraine] millions of people were killed [1932-1933]. They are a people who have suffered; they have suffered from hunger, suffered from much brutality and they deserve peace. May the prayers and supplications that today rise up to heaven touch the minds and hearts of world leaders, so that dialogue may prevail and the common good be placed ahead of partisan interests. Please, no more war.

National Reconciliation Week: May 27 – June 3 National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. A prayer of the faithful from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria: Lord, open up our hearts so that we may hear the message you teach of a world in which the wrongs of the past are recognised - a world in which a reconciled people walk and talk together sharing stories; a world in which all burn with the desire to have your peace and justice reign. We ask this in Jesus' name.

St Columba's 5th June	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Volunteer please
COMMENTATOR		Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Vicki Moroney
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Volunteer please

Collections Last week at St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 358.40 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 620.00

St. Columba's Parish Sacramental Program. This program is Family Based, School Supported and Parish Co-ordinated. We are celebrating **Confirmation** Ceremonies today, 29th of May, and at 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, 5th of June. St. Columba's will have 26 children and their families participating this week and another 16 next week. Please keep them all in your prayers.



Walking in the Spirit The People of God are invited to make a prayerful journey towards the Second Assembly of the Plenary Council through the "Walking in the Spirit" prayer campaign. Walking in the Spirit begins on Easter Sunday, April 17, and runs until the Second Assembly, which opens on Sunday, July 3. Resources have been created for use by individuals, families, schools, parishes and other Catholic communities. Find out more at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthespirit/

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal On the weekend of 5th & 12th June we will be collecting for the annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal, the collection will take place after Mass. This appeal coincides with the time of year that many of our least fortunate in society need assistance the most. The theme of this year's Winter Appeal is 'Make it Stop', focusing on the importance of providing safety to families and individuals fleeing domestic violence. Funds raised will be dedicated to rebuilding lives – by providing emergency accommodation, financial support and material assistance to help families start again. Please give generously.

Common Prayer for the 7th Anniversary of Laudato Si' Loving God, Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them. You created us in your own image and made us stewards of all your creation. You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land so that all might be nourished. Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we may attend to your gift of creation. Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.

May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need. Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind. Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of heart. Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic.

Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good. Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent. Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.



May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world. Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for 2022: May 29 – June 5

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 was chosen by the Middle East Council of Churches "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship" (cf Matthew 2:2). Resources for use in prayer services in your parishes, local ministers associations or inter-church Councils are available at <https://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources/wopcu22>

All Saints Parish Portland 175th Anniversary Over the weekend of August 27 & 28, 2022 celebrations will be held for the 175th anniversary of All Saints Parish Portland. All Saints Portland is the oldest parish in the Diocese of Ballarat. If anyone has any old photographs, stories, memorabilia or anything which you believe may be of interest, we invite you to please contact us at the Parish Office by email portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au or by posting copies of items to All Saints Parish, PO Box 210, Portland, 3305.

St Augustine's Church Creswick 150th Anniversary On the weekend of September 17 & 18, 2022 celebrations will be held for the 150th anniversary of St Augustine's Church, Creswick. If anyone has any old photographs, stories, memorabilia or anything which you believe may be of interest, please contact Leonie in the parish office, ph. 0488220685 or email creswick@ballarat.catholic.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. Pope's intention for May: **For faith-filled young people:** We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest. May they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

OLHC 4th June	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Corrie Harbour
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Ena Bruty & Vin Dillon
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Rieniets & Trish Lawson
SACRISTAN		Lyn Gray & Kylie Gray

Collections Last Week at OLHC Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 193.90 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 305.00