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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

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 Andanan 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 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 10.00 am
Friday 10.00 am

Readings for Next Weekend:

Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10
Ps 39: 2-4, 18.
R.v.14
Heb 12:1-4
Lk 12: 49-53



7th August 2022 ~ 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Focus on the Scriptures

The longer form of today's gospel brings together a number of loosely connected sayings of Jesus about trust and vigilance. Jesus addresses his disciples affectionately as "little flock". He tells them not to be afraid. He is warning them against the paralysing effects of fear. God, their "father", has delighted in giving them the kingdom and they are to be generous in their turn. They are to sell their material possessions and give "alms" or, in a more accurate translation of the Greek original, they are to use their resources to engage in "works of mercy" (eleēmosunē).

Their security resides in Jesus' assurance: "Where your treasure (or treasury) is, there your heart will be also." The parental and affectionate language of the opening verses is in sharp contrast with the violent imagery of the latter part of the gospel reading. Contrary to what some have argued in the past, the murderous slave master who cuts recalcitrant slaves into pieces can never be understood as a gospel image of God. In this problematic passage, the Lukan Jesus is engaging his hearers' experience of slavery in order to make a point about the need for attentiveness to the demands of the gospel. The vigilant slave is said to be "blessed" or "happy" or "privileged". From a contemporary perspective, it seems strange indeed to speak of a slave as fortunate. As the story unfolds, we realise that the slave enjoys a relative happiness in comparison with the fate of the other slaves.

The shorter form of the gospel in 12:35-40 presents a very strange teaching that would surely have been met with scepticism by its earliest hearers. The word picture that Luke paints is just not credible in a first century setting where slavery was taken for granted and where the respective roles of masters and slaves were characterised more by extreme violence than by mutuality of any sort. The disciples are told to be like slaves who keep vigil all night as they await the return of their master from a wedding banquet. Their function is to open the door when he knocks and, if they are alert enough to perform this function, there will be an extraordinary reversal of roles: the slaves will sit down at table while the master assumes the role of slave and serves their meal.

The disciples are being prepared for Jesus' announcement later in the narrative that he is among them as one who serves. They are invited to understand that something extraordinary is happening, even more extraordinary than the slave-master banquet scenario might suggest. God's way of being in the world is full of healing experiences and life-enhancing surprises. The final verses of the shorter reading shift to the image of the thief in the night. These verses are also about vigilance, being watchful and alert so as not to be taken by surprise in the final reckoning.

Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Des Watts, Tony Driscoll

Anniversaries: We remember: Des Willis, Brian Blood, Jane Morris, Carmel Sheehan, Sr. Barbara Lemke, Michele & Giuseppina Agostinelli, Jack Nuttall, Ella Deady, Kevin Deady, Hugh Deady, Henry Morgan, Michal Yaworowicz, Trudy Walters, Kevin Nestor, Rodney Stapleton, Eng Liang

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

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. As our parish's social service agency, CatholicCare Victoria delivers over 60 programs and services including counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care in hospitals and prisons, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support. Donations from our parish community help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community and empower everyone to live life to the full. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring support for people when they are at their most broken. You can donate using the appeal envelope available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.



Mary of the Cross MacKillop Patron Saint of Australia Ever-present God, you gifted us with Mary MacKillop whose life inspires us never to lose hope. Build our confidence in your strengthening presence especially in the darkest moments of our lives. Be present with hope for those suffering trauma, injustice, illness and despair at this time in our world. We ask this through Christ accompanying us. Amen

Sew and So.....Next Thursday 11th August 1.30 pm St Columba's Foyer. All Welcome. Enquiries Margaret 53 314032. Please NOTE we are having a gathering in August by popular demand.

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 begins September 5. There are 37 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.

St Columba's 14th August	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Terry Ranger	
COMMENTATOR	Ruth Marquand	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Joanne Vandervoort	
COMMUNION MINISTER	Kaye Merbach	
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman	
SACRISTAN	Josie Crowe	

Collections Last week at St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 315.55 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,224.00

National Vocations Awareness Week: August 7-14, 2022 This Sunday throughout the Church in Australia we celebrate National Vocations Awareness Week. This week we affirm and pray for all the baptised who are uniquely called by God and in particular we acknowledge the Single Life, Marriage and Family Life and all Lay Ministries within the Church. (Prayer shared by the Archdiocese of Adelaide) National Vocations Awareness Week coincides with the feast of the country's first saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have created a webpage which shares resources from other dioceses, religious institutes, vocations networks and other Catholic ministries <https://catholic.org.au/vocations>.

Clergy Appointments: With effect from Thursday August 4th Bishop Paul has made the following appointments:

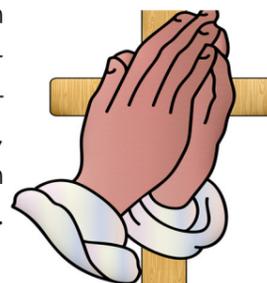
- Fr. Matthew Restall** Assistant Priest St Paul VI Parish Wimmera-Mallee
- Fr. William Lowry** Assistant Priest Star of the Sea Parish Sth West Coast
- Fr. Jim McKay** Assistant Priest St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Vinnies Winter Appeal – Ballarat City Brass Band Concert The Ballarat City Brass Band presents, "A Golden Era Music" this Sunday, August 14, at 2.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. No booking required. Entry by gold coin donation and all proceeds will be donated to the Vinnies Winter Appeal.

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 August: For small business: We pray for small and medium sized businesses. In the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating and serving their communities.

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.



St. Columba's Parish Sacramental Program continues in Term 3. Reconciliation preparation was conducted in workshop style for parents and candidates and there were two Reconciliation ceremonies held to accommodate our lovely cohort of over 80 candidates and their families last 1st and 2nd of August at St. Columba's Church. This Family Based, School Supported and Parish Coordinated program will conclude with three Sundays of First Eucharist celebrations on the 4th, 11th and 18th of September. Let's keep all the children in our prayers as they continue their faith journey.



Celebrating a Return to Global Mission Once again Australian Catholics are being offered deep re-engagement with our sisters and brothers globally. Covid challenged our ability to reach beyond but now you can again consider Mission opportunities abroad. If you respond to the call to share your skills; to mentor those with little other opportunity, you will be prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961. Enquire online at palms.org.au/current-opportunities/assignments-abroad/ or Ph: 0422 742 567 about a placement to engage your skills.

Volunteer Workers needed urgently The Diocese of Broome, WA, urgently requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church on Aboriginal Missions. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months plus. In return for being part of the team, we offer accommodation, living expenses and an allowance. For further details, and an application form, please contact: Volunteer Coordinator, Janet Ryan: 08 9192 1060 Email: volunteers@broomedioocese.org Web: www.broomedioocese.org Mail: PO Box 76, BROOME WA 6725

Pastoral Practitioner vacancy at St John of God Hospital, Ballarat The hospital has an exciting opportunity available for a dedicated and committed Pastoral Practitioner to join the Pastoral Services team in promoting and providing holistic pastoral services to patients and clients. Position description and application details are available at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>. Applications close August 17, 2022.

OLHC 13th August	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG	Corrie Harbour	
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Volunteer please	
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Sue Calistro & Harry Kennedy	
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Pat Dillon & Pauline Newman	
SACRISTAN	Lyn Gray & Kylie Gray	

Collections Last Week at OLHC Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 241.30 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,265.00