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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

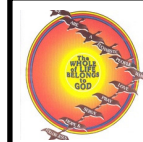
Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

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 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 2pm Funeral Mass
(Maurice Cowie)

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 No Mass
Friday No Mass

Readings for Next Weekend:

2 Kgs 5:14-17
Ps 97:1-4, R. see v.2
2 Tm 2:8-13
Lk 17: 11-19



2nd October 2022 ~ 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Focus on the Scriptures

The advent of yet another La Niña is testing the faith of those whose lives have already been affected by devastating flood waters. It is testing the faith of those who have devoted their energy to speaking truth to power about the need for action to mitigate the effects of climate change. The strength to remain faithful in the face of adversity, the capacity to forgive, and the courage to do what we ought to do without seeking recognition or reward are perennial challenges for most people. And yet so many remain steadfast, finding the strength to forgive those who fail to listen and the courage to do what must be done for the sake of our common home.

Today's gospel reading brings to closure the central section of the long journey narrative that recounts the teaching of the Lukan Jesus on his way from Samaria to Jerusalem. The "apostles" ask Jesus to increase their faith. Their request is in itself an act of faith. Jesus has been telling them to be on their guard. He has been emphasising the importance of endless and unconditional forgiveness. These disciples are well aware that to keep on forgiving those who offend repeatedly is not easy: it is in this context that they ask him to increase their faith. Jesus responds by insisting that even the smallest amount of faith can work wonders. His metaphorical language stretches the imagination. Even transplanting a mulberry tree from land to sea becomes possible through the power of a faith-infused word! They have no answer to this.

Luke seems to be invoking "faith" in much the same way as does Habakkuk in today's first reading which closes with a comparison between the proud whose "spirit is not right" and the just who "live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). The Hebrew word for "faith" in this passage is probably better translated as "fidelity" or "faithfulness". For the Lukan Jesus, a little fidelity or faithfulness goes a long way. Among other things, it enables us to keep on forgiving even wilful ignorance and to keep on acting for justice.

Finally, Jesus puts a number of questions to his disciples, questions that align their status with that of slaves in the service of a master. His questions provide a stark contrast with an example he has offered earlier in the gospel where the slave master serves the faithful slaves (12:37). These questions are consistent, however, with his insistence that true disciples do not seek the reward of honour or recompense for their service. Jesus' followers must admit that their service is "unprofitable" in that it is no more than is required of them. Power, status, wealth acquired at the expense of others, refusal to forgive, all run counter to the path of gospel fidelity. To live by faith in our times is to be humble, forgiving, just and unremittingly attentive to the cry of the earth: some thoughts to take with us from Season of Creation 2022.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Kerry Mullane, Marie Linane, Maurice Cowie

Anniversaries: We remember: Fr John Keane, Jan Mullaly, Phillip Hart, Mary Quarrell, Margaret Butler, Kevin Dower, Tim McKeegan, Carmel Mitchell, Thomas Rush

We pray: for all who are sick and those in need of our prayers.

National Catholic Men's Gathering 2022 menALIVE to the MAX is a national catholic gathering of men to be held from October 7-9, 2022 in Sydney. The theme this year is RENEW/REFRESH/RECONNECT. After several years of almost no live events, we are looking forward to gathering together to listen, learn and long for the fullness of life. More information available at <https://www.menalive.org.au/menalive-to-the-max/>

CTC "Engaging Your Faith" online series Engaging Your Faith is a series of short online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics including Theology, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Pastoral Studies, *Laudato Si'*, Christian Meditation, *Lectio Divina*, Future Technology, and Science and Religion. Choose from 12 online sessions from October 10-28, 2022. Cost is \$25 per session or \$40 per session for teachers. More information available at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=954030&>

ACU Public Lecture - Catholic Sacrament of Marriage The ACU Centre for Liturgy is very pleased to host an upcoming public lecture on the future of the Catholic sacrament of Marriage on October 10, 2022 from 10.00am - 11.30am AEDT to be presented by Professor Julie Hanlon Rubio, an expert in marriage theology, from the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, Berkeley CA, USA. More information and booking details at <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources>

Sing Assembly Sing – Saturday 8th October, St Patrick's Cathedral. 10.00 am – 4.00 pm. This day is bringing to our diocese expert presenters Rev Dr Kevin Lenehan, Dr Paul Taylor and Ms Sophy Morley for a colloquium open to all parishes across the diocese. The subject for the day is the important role played by the Assembly (Congregation), particularly in the area of music. If the Assembly is not participating in the liturgical music, then the music may not be achieving its objective. This day aims to guide those preparing Liturgy in gaining knowledge and understanding in order to assist the engagement of the Assembly. As well as keynote speakers a number of workshops will be offered. Bookings open Wednesday 28th via Trybooking, with a link once it is verified.

St Columba's 9th October (next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR	Ruth Marquand
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Anthea Hinchey
COMMUNION MINISTER	Kaye Merbach
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN	Josie Crowe

Collections Last week at St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 326.00 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,240.00

Reunion of past students of Sacred Heart College Ballarat (Class of 1965+) Reunion will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2022. The event will commence with a campus tour of Damascus College, to be followed lunch at the Golden City Hotel. The campus tour commences at 10.00am and lunch at 11.30am. To attend, please contact Lois Knights, email loisknights345@hotmail.com or phone 0419 902 538.

Reunion of past students of St Vincent's College Bendigo (1955-77)
 On Saturday, October 15, 2022 there will be a celebration of Sports Hall of Fame/Reunion Dinner at the Bendigo Club, Park Street, Bendigo. If you would like to attend please contact Tim Coates, ph. 0407403574 or email timohtycoates@gmail.com

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 October 24. 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 djurja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

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 October: A Church Open to Everyone:** We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

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.

Season of Creation: September 1 – October 4 Welcome to the Season of Creation. "Listen to the voice of creation" is the theme and invitation of this year's Season of Creation. The ecumenical phase begins on September 1 with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and concludes on October 4 with the feast of Saint Francis. It is a special time for all Christians to pray and work together to care for our common home. If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a sweet song in praise of our Creator God; along with an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this, our common home. Our Earth weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Our children plead with us to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet's ecosystems and to preserve the ancestral lands of our first nations peoples. During this 2022 Season of Creation, let us pray that the human family can work effectively in confronting the double crises of climate change and the reduction of biodiversity. May we respond in prayer and action so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in God's creation. Resources for the celebration of the Season of Creation 2022 are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2022/>

Pakistan Flood Crisis appeal The devastating floods in Pakistan have left a trail of destruction across the country, claiming the lives of more than 1100 people. The United Nations estimates that around 33 million Pakistanis have been affected by the flooding. More than one third of the country has been completely submerged by the heaviest recorded monsoon rains in a decade. There are fears that the death toll will continue to rise. Caritas Australia's partners are responding to support flood-affected communities who need immediate assistance. Your generous support can help provide emergency support to help families recover and rebuild from disaster. Donate now by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pakistan-floods>

Centralised Baptism Preparation Session The next session will be held at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall 3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat on **Thursday 6th October 2022 at 10.00am & 5.30pm.**

OLHC 8th October (next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG	Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Volunteer please
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Zeena Lazarus & Harry Kennedy
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Harry Kennedy & Trish Lawson
SACRISTAN	Geoff & Marg McLean

Collections Last Week at OLHC Thank you for your contributions
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