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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 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:

Is 2:1-5
Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9
R. v.1
Rom 13:11-14
Mt 24:37-44



20th November 2022 ~ Christ the King Year C

Focus on the Scriptures

Sadly, there have always been those who scoff at others or make fun of them, generally because they themselves feel inadequate or threatened in some way. Those who suffer such bullying behaviour often feel powerless and demeaned. There may be some comfort for such people in today's gospel. We find here a serious case of bullying and two dignified responses that undermine the destructive power of those who taunt or deride.

The first response is that of Jesus who refuses to retaliate when the soldiers mock him or when another convicted criminal ("one of the criminals hanging there") derides him. Another dignified response comes from "the other" criminal. This man has the insight to recognise that Jesus is innocent. He also has the courage to challenge the injustice of what is going on around him. Having offered his challenge, he then turns to Jesus and addresses him by name: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kin-dom." His request reveals his faith in Jesus as the human face of God. It also reveals his knowledge of Jesus' mission, first announced in Galilee: "I must proclaim the good news of the kin-dom of God"

Jesus points to God and God's reign or empire. Jesus' criminal companion points in his turn to the reign or empire of Jesus. The reign of God and the reign of Jesus are one and the same. In turning to Jesus and putting his request, this criminal becomes a disciple and receives the assurance of a share in Jesus' life with God: "Today you will be with me...." "Jesus, remember me" is a fitting prayer in the face of all life's struggles. It is a prayer for mercy. Next time we sing these words or pray them in our hearts, we might spare a thought for the one who first uttered them, a convicted Jewish criminal who had the courage to rise above his own suffering and to challenge the unjust oppression of an innocent neighbour. Like Jesus, this criminal was and continues to be an instrument of God's reign. His capacity to challenge the injustice of Jesus' execution might be a source of inspiration for us as we struggle to find mercy and justice for the Earth as well as for the innocent ones who seek asylum only to find themselves subjected to the torture of exile and hopelessness.

The title of today's feast reminds us of the boundless nature of God's rule or reign: we celebrate Christ Jesus as ruler of the universe, of all that is and of all that will be. As our understanding of the universe expands, we find ourselves caught up in the ever creative and saving presence of a compassionate, merciful God who has been revealed to us in Jesus of Nazareth. This feast might serve as a reminder to allow the peace of Christ to reign in our hearts even in the face of derision.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Connor Prunty, Leondis Dean, Desmond Burke, Gerard McCarty

Anniversaries: We remember: Barry Mitchell, Pat Hogan, Barry James, Yvonne Keating, Leelamma Mathew, Kevin Duggan, Bernard O'Callaghan, Mary Gercovich, Sr. Kate McGrath RSM, Sr. Connie Walsh RSM

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



Centralised Baptism Preparation Session Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session will be held at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St Sth, Ballarat on **Thursday 1st December 2022**. You may attend either the **10.00am** or **5.30pm** session.

East Timor Knitting Program This program is continuing and we would be very grateful for any of the knitted sets or 80cm rugs. There is a set pattern available if you would like to take part. If you do not knit or crochet you can still participate by supplying 8 ply acrylic yarn, buying baby singlets or face washers which are also included in the baby bundles. Donating money to buy the above would be gratefully accepted. Please contact Laureen 0405277778 or Margaret 53314032. We hope you will consider being part of this project. Finished garments can be left at St Columba's Church, the Sew and So group or OLHC. We can also arrange collection if required.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre(MMHC) 'Cuppa with Mary': The Mary MacKillop Museum tells the story of Mary and the SOSJ's. Entry is free. While in Melbourne, walk the Mary MacKillop Heritage trail and see Mary's place of birth. Consider organising a Parish group and have a 'Cuppa with Mary'. Group bookings which include a presentation, tour of Museum and prayer reflection in the Chapel where Mary prayed, cost \$15.00 per person. Contact Kate, ph. 9926 9300.

Mary MacKillop Gift shop: Consider supporting the work of the Sisters of St Joseph by purchasing a present from the Museum Gift Shop or a 2022 Josephite Calendar, order at <https://www.mmhc.org.au/2023-josephite-calendar>. The shop stocks communion and confirmation gifts, devotional items, Vatican pieces, rosary beads, holding crosses, candles, cards, statues, crucifixes, books and Peruvian handmade items.

Accommodation@MMHC : When in Melbourne book your next stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre - accommodation in the heart of Melbourne. Contact Kate, ph. 9926 9300.

St Columba's 27th Nov	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR		Min Myers
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Peter Marquand
COMMUNION MINISTER		Judy Brown
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN		Volunteer please

Collections Last Weekend St Columba's Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 306.30 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 2,165.00

Today is World Children's Day, November 20, 2022 Discover what's happening this World Children's Day – UNICEF's annual day of action for children, by children. From climate change, education and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future. Kids are standing up for a more equal, inclusive world <https://www.unicef.org/world-childrens-day>

Gordon Parish Cemetery Mass The Parish of Gordon will be celebrating Mass for the commemoration for all the faithful departed at the Gordon Cemetery on Sunday, November 27 at 11:00 am. All welcome.

YCW Cricket Club get together Former players, supporters and families of the Y.C.W. cricket club are invited to a get together on Sunday 4th December 2022. It is proposed to hold a luncheon at 12 noon at the Robin Hood hotel on Peel St North. All welcome. For further details or bookings contact Terry on 0401 730 670 or John on 0409 864 080.

Roll up your sleeves; make a difference overseas Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge? Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more. Imagine yourself re-engaging your vocational passion in Africa, Asia or the Pacific. Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home. Communities in American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia are seeking to fill a variety of roles. Enquire about those roles via www.palms.org.au or by calling 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

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 November:** For children who suffer: Let us pray for children who are suffering, especially for those who are homeless, orphans and victims of war. May they be guaranteed access to education, and may they have the opportunity to experience family affection.



OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers are hosting lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, 482 Gillies Street, Wendouree from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. The team is delighted that after two years of takeaway Christmas lunches because of COVID restrictions, this year we are able to have a sit-down meal. This fulfils one of the key reasons for the lunch which is to provide a community experience for those who otherwise will be spending Christmas Day alone. Bookings are essential as seating is limited. Phone 0419 975914. Transport to the Hall is available. If you are able to volunteer on this day, please phone the number listed to register your availability.

St Vincent de Paul Flood Appeal The St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by calling 13 18 12; Visiting <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022> or you can also make a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase and via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS at Bridge Mall, December 3 Saturday and December 10 to December 23, 2022 A display of over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries. You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh and see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. There will be hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America and Europe (and one that went to Antarctica). Entry is by gold coin donation. All welcome.

The Victorian State Election and the Common Good The Bishops of Victoria have written to the Catholic community in Victoria to provide an election guide designed to help Catholics consider and navigate key issues of significance, particularly those related to the common good. The documents are available at <https://melbournecatholic.org/>

OLHC 26th November	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Vin Dillon
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Trish Pora & Pauline Newman
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Bev Hayward & Frank Hogan
SACRISTAN		John & Sue Calistro

Collections last Weekend OLHC Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 254.70 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 1,030.00