

Please support our loyal advertisers



Funeral Fund
Prepaid Funerals
Eliminate family stress
Details: 5337 7111



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



PPT
PROWSE PERRIN & TWOMEY
20 Lydiard Street Sth,
Ballarat
Ph: (03) 5331 3711
www.ppt.com.au



Pat Cashin Funerals
Ballarat
A.B.N. 28 007 228 757
Address: 1114 Doveton
Street North, Ballarat, 3350
Phone: (03) 5333 3911
All hours. Moderate cost



alliance PHARMACY
where local health matters
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



N.J. & A.M. HAINTZ
Building Contractors
Phone: (03) 5332 3069
Mobile: 0418 504 254



BALLARAT MEAT COMPANY
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

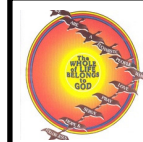
Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase

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

P O Box 192, Wendouree

School Principal: Leigh Bradshaw

School Co-Principals: Bambi Afford & Shaun Mohr

School Phone: 5332 4894

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

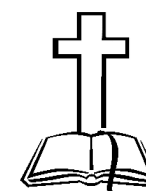
Readings for Next Weekend

Ex 17:3-7

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Jn 4:5-42



5th March 2023 ~ 2nd Sunday of Lent

Focus on the Scriptures

Last week's gospel invited us into a confronting habitat, namely the wilderness. This week, we follow Jesus and three of his companions to a high mountain, eventually a cloud-covered mountain. Both wilderness and mountain link Matthew's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites of old and, in particular, of Moses' and Elijah's encounters with God. Wilderness and mountain also remind us that God's creation is the locus of wonder and mystery. The world we inhabit has an integrity of its own. It is, in a very real sense, God's dwelling place. It is, in addition, the place of human-divine encounter and the place of human encounter with the other-than-human material world. Attention to habitat can lead us to a clearer understanding of our own place in the scheme of things and to ever deeper understandings of our relationship with God

The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he comes to terms with the fate he is likely to meet: if he confronts the forces of oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. Jesus has struggled with that realisation in the wilderness, at the outset of his ministry. On the mountain top, he comes to terms with what that involves. The disciples see Moses and Elijah, the key prophetic figures of Israel, speaking with Jesus, God's new and definitive prophet. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to a mission that elicits hostility. That is not, however, the way of discipleship. Rather, Peter and his companions are called to "listen" to Jesus, the beloved of God. In his 2023 Lenten message, Pope Francis draws attention to the upcoming Synod on Synodality. He calls for mutual listening as a focus of our faith journey: "mutual listening...remains always indispensable in the method and style of a synodal Church."

Matthew's account of the "transfiguration" is followed by a reminder that Jesus is soon to meet a violent death (17:23). Jesus' companions get a glimpse of God's glory shining on his face and penetrating even his clothing, a hint that God's grace is more life-giving than the forces of violence that oppose God's reign. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We need the good sense to listen and 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 experience from the most unexpected quarters. If we are to sustain the struggle for a healthy, safe, and peace-filled world, we have to resist the temptation to hold on to the moments of glory and come to terms with the personal cost of being faithful to the gospel mission of justice and compassion with all its painful demands.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm:(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
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: Mary Kelly, Helen Ross, Lorna Quinlan

Anniversaries: We remember: Paul Rhodes, Simon Scarff, James Petrie, Stephanie Carswell
Michael Mahar, Brian Perkins, Kevin Tradrew, Carmel Molloy

We pray: for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

Sew and So this Thursday, 9th March 2023, at 1.30pm in the foyer of St Columba's Church. Last month we had a really good roll up and everyone enjoyed themselves. I have great expectations for this month. Enquiries Margaret 53314032

Caritas Australia Turkey-Syria Earthquake Disaster Appeal A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Turkey and Syria, leaving thousands of people dead with this number expected to rise dramatically. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance. We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

Palms Australia Call to Mission: Change their lives ... and yours Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions on the Palms website www.palms.org.au and see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know. Please RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

Caritas Australia Prayer for International Women's Day. March 8, 2023

God, whose love and goodness gathers us in:
 we pray for women all over the world,
 especially those challenged by poverty and other injustice.
 Stir us to know women's dignity.
 Quieten us to listen to women's voices.
 Awaken us to see women's realities.
 Strengthen us to stand for women's rights.
 Fill us with hope to make a better future together. Amen.

St Columba's 12th March (next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Terry Ranger
COMMENTATOR	Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Min Myers
COMMUNION MINISTER	Kaye Merbach
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown/ Norah Moloney/ Josie Crowe

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

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Parishes of St. Columba's and Our Lady Help of Christians acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of the land.

Project Compassion Second Sunday of Lent – March 4 & 5, 2023 Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. 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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.

Centralised Baptism Preparation Session Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next session will be at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Thursday, March 9, 2023**. You may attend either the **10.00am** or **5.30pm** session.

Round Table Ecological Theology Sessions The recent Plenary Council committed the Catholic Church in Australia to developing and committing to a culture of life-long faith formation. For some years now, Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson have been offering regular adult theology classes. A new series of six sessions began on Wednesday, February 22 (1-3pm or 7-9pm) at Mercy Centre, 16 Gent St. Ballarat East. Then (March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26). For further information please send your mobile number and email to Sr. Veronica on veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2023 Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 3, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall. Choir practice times are on Sundays, March 19, March 26 and April 2 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass An invitation to people of the diocese to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre. Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice. Flyer is on the Ouyen Parish webpage <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ouyen/>

A special prayer initiative for the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' pontificate Pope Francis will celebrate the 10th year of his pontificate on March 13, 2023. To highlight this milestone anniversary in a "viral" manner, the Digital Synod has launched a special online map featuring virtual lighted candles representing the prayers of the faithful worldwide for him. Anyone who wishes to join the initiative will find an invitation on the website to pray one or more Hail Mary's <https://www.decimus-annus.org/site/index>. The map with the 'little candles' which represent the Hail Mary's that are prayed for him will be sent to Pope Francis.

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 victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church. May they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

World Day of Prayer Services 2023

5th March 2023 Sunday
 2.30pm Saints Peter & Paul's Catholic Church, 701 Fischen Street, Buninyong 3357

World Youth Day World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More information at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/youth-and-young-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

OLHC 11th March (next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG	Sue Searls
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	Kath Leonard
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Ena Bruty & Laureen Rhodes
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Jennifer Adams & Helen Rieniets
SACRISTAN	Tony & Pauline Newman

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