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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](mailto:wendouree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Our Diocesan Community** Please feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

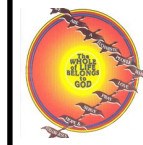
**Aboriginal Stations of the Cross available for purchase**

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](http://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

**Staffing**

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Marcello Colasante

**Finance Officer:**  
Bernadette Prestwood

**St Columba's**  
Parish Co-Ordinator:  
Lia Andanar Yu  
Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

Safeguarding Officer:  
Peter Marquand

**Our Lady Help of Christians**  
Parish Co-ordinator and  
Safeguarding Officer:  
Maree Roache

Wed-Friday 9:00am -1:00pm

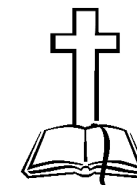
**MASS TIMES (This week)**

**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(Vigil) 6.00 pm  
Thursday 10.00 am  
Friday 10.00 am

**Readings for Next Weekend**

Jer 20:10-13  
Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 R. v.14  
Rom 5:12-15  
Mt 10: 26-33



**18th June 2023 ~ 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

On May 14 this year, a category five cyclone made landfall along the coasts of Myanmar and Bangladesh, with devastating consequences for two of the world's most vulnerable nations. In Bangladesh, which houses the world's most populous refugee camp, over a million Rohingya refugees were once more displaced from their temporary and disease-ridden shelters. Images of this event and its aftermath dominated the news for a few days so that the plight of those affected touched the hardest of hearts. Although the aid agencies are responding, the "harvest" of suffering humanity remains overwhelming and the "labourers" are ever so few.

Compassion is an anticipated human response in the face of such tragedy. Not everyone, however, moves from the feeling of compassion that such events elicit towards action for transformative change. With so much suffering across the globe, those of us with access to food and shelter and clothing can easily lose perspective. Matthew has recounted story after story of the compassion in the heart of Jesus of Nazareth who never lost perspective in the face of suffering. His compassion poured itself out in restoration to community life for a leper, in healing for a centurion's servant, in return to health and a call to ministry for Peter's mother-in-law, in a practical response to hunger ("You give them something to eat") and much more. He was "moved with compassion" (esplanchnisthē) and to be "moved with compassion" in the biblical tradition is never just a feeling. It is always expressed in action. The Greek verb means to be moved in the depths of one's being, one's innards or guts. It implies a physical reaction in the face of suffering. It translates the Hebrew raham, to have "womb compassion". Like the Greek, its Hebrew antecedent has elements of deeply experienced emotion expressed in action to alleviate suffering. Compassion, womb love, gut love, parental love and pity all communicate something of the meaning of this concept. Compassion is a key value in Matthew's gospel, a key value of God's empire or kin-dom.

The compassion of Jesus signals nearness of God and of God's reign. The work must continue and a structure is needed if that is to happen. Twelve male disciples are named as the core group invited to carry forward the work of Jesus, although other references in this gospel suggest that discipleship is by no means limited to the twelve. They are given authority to preach and to heal. For the present, their mission is restricted to "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Jesus reaches out beyond his own people. His disciples, women and men, will do so only after they have walked the whole journey to Jerusalem in his company. The "harvest" is no less demanding in our times and our mandate is no less compelling than that of our first century counterparts. We seek out the ways that are possible for us, always with compassion in our hearts.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

**Responsorial Psalm:(R.)** We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near; repent and believe the Good News! Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** all who have died recently.

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Philomena Cobb, Fr. Kevin Condon OP, Sr Rosemary Kelly RSM, John Madigan, Geoff Nott, Dorothy Williams, Sal O'Donoghue, Dot Keys, William Constable, Kath Leonard, Theo Wilkes, John Rieniets, Bill McNamara, Frances (Theo) Harry, William Dower

**We pray:** for those in need, all who are sick, and for the people of Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

**Refugee Week 2023 - Finding Freedom Luncheon** The House of Welcome Ballarat which assist Refugees, Asylum Seekers, students and those in need are holding a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June from 12:30pm at the Uniting Church Hall, 107 Lydiard St Sth., Ballarat. There will be stalls, competitions and great company. Cost: \$25pp. To book, please text your name to 0401 175 045 or email [annekav1234@gmail.com](mailto:annekav1234@gmail.com). Donations can be made to **House of Welcome Ballarat**, Bendigo Bank BSB: 633-000 Account No: 1440 44963.

**Refugee Week Program for Ballarat, June 18-24, 2023** Please view the program at the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Centre website <https://www.brmc.org.au/refugee-week-2023-ballarat-program/>.

### Prayer for Refugee Week

*Lord, no one is a stranger to you  
and no one is ever far from your loving care.  
In your kindness watch over refugees and asylum seekers,  
those separated from their loved ones, those who are lost,  
And those who have been exiled from their homes.  
Bring them safely to the place where they long to be,  
And help us always to show your kindness to strangers  
and those in need.*

- Australian Catholic Social Justice Council

**ACU Centre for Liturgy launches Australian-first liturgy podcast** which has an exciting array of local and international experts who explore a wide range of liturgy-related topics. The podcasts feature thought-provoking discussions on Catholic liturgy, liturgical music, art, architecture, liturgy in Catholic schools, preaching and more. Listen at <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/the-liturgy-channel>

St Columba's 25th June	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR		Peter Marquand
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Geraldine Mugavin
COMMUNION MINISTER		Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN		Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

**Collections Last Weekend St Columba's** Thank you for your contributions  
Presbytery: \$ 508.15 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$1,615.00

*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.*

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, July 2, 2023** "A new life in Christ...." Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church. Resources available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2023-atsi-sunday.html>

**NATSICC launches new website on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament** The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has launched a new website called "One Journey, Together" for Catholics to learn about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The website hosts stories and anecdotes from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations, Catholic figures and Catholic organisations.

**St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal** The annual Vinnies Winter Appeal will focus on the number of older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Vinnies are also experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal> on 13 18 12 and at all Vinnies Shops. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

**Praying with Pope Francis** The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. **Pope's intention for June - For the abolition of torture:** We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families. Lord, hear us.

**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.

**Annual Collection for the Pope** will take place on the weekends of 2nd and 9th of July. Through this collection we have the opportunity to support the Pope's pastoral care for people around the world.

**Next Centralised Baptism Preparation Sessions** Parents planning to have their child baptised are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Next sessions are at the MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms, St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat, **Thursday, 6th of July 2023**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

**Celebrating Clergy Jubilees of Ordination** Mass to acknowledge priests celebrating a Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood this year will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 5.00pm. Bishop Paul will be the main celebrant and concelebrants will be priests of the diocese. All are welcome to attend. You are invited to join the Choir for this Mass, which will be downstairs. Practice prior to Mass at 4.30pm.

**St Patrick's Cathedral Choral and Organ Scholarships** St Patrick's Cathedral is establishing Choral and Organ Scholarships. The program will provide an opportunity for children with an aptitude and interest in music to sing regularly at Cathedral Masses. The children will receive annual scholarship payments towards their general education in return for their participation in the Cathedral Choir. They will benefit from vocal and musical tuition, and develop skills in teamwork, time-management, professionalism and discipline. Children in Grades 3-6 are welcome to audition for the choir, which will have a gender balance. The safety of the children will be of the highest priority, following the *Safeguarding Children, Young People and at Risk Adults* policies - <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/professional-standards-2-professional-standards/professional-standards/>.

**St Patrick's Cathedral Choral Scholarships Information Session** An information session will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 3rd of August in the Mackillop/Glowrey room at Saint Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat. Copies of the Choir Handbook, Audition Form or further information can be obtained by contacting the Choir Director, Mr Vincent Sully, on 0407 310 115 or [vincenzo101923@gmail.com](mailto:vincenzo101923@gmail.com).

OLHC 24th June	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Paul Hogan
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Volunteer please
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Sue Calistro & Harry Kennedy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Helen Feely & Jennifer Adams
SACRISTAN		Kath Leonard & Anne Slattery

**Collections Last Weekend** Thank you for your contributions  
Presbytery: \$ 198.95 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 665.00