

Please support our loyal advertisers



ACDF Funeral Fund
Catholic Development 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



BALLARAT MEAT COMPANY
11 Neerim Crescent,
Wendouree Industrial Park
Ph: 5339 3122
Open Direct to the Public
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Prayer for Mental Health month

Lord God, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illnesses. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace in Ukraine: I ask you to pray the Our Father for peace in Ukraine, now and throughout this day. **Our Father...**

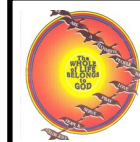
Let us ask the Lord to grant that the country may grow in the spirit of brotherhood, and that all hurts, fears and divisions will be overcome. We have spoken about the Holocaust. But let us think too that [in Ukraine] millions of people were killed [1932-1933]. They are a people who have suffered; they 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.

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

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 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 (Vigil) 6.00 pm
Thursday No Mass
Friday No Mass

Readings for Next Weekend

Malachi 1:14- 2:2, 8-10
Ps 130
1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13
Matthew 23: 1-12



29th October 2023 ~ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Focus on the Scriptures

This Sunday marks the final day of the 2023 Session of the Synod on Synodality. The Synod is about "enlarging the space of our tent" and discerning the call of the gospel in our times. It returns us to the foundations of our faith, to our communal and individual commitment to follow the way of Jesus of Nazareth.

Today's gospel has Jesus affirming the most central of Jewish traditions, namely the command of Deuteronomy 6 known as the Shema (so called from the first word in the statement meaning "hear"). The words of the Shema are recited repeatedly every day by every faithful Jew. Although not a prayer in itself, the Shema is an integral part of Jewish liturgy and prayer. It is a creedal statement that continues to function like an overture to Jewish life and practice. The doorpost at the entrance to a Jewish home generally features a tiny rectangular box known as a mezuzah. It contains a scroll bearing the text of the Shema. Those who enter touch the mezuzah with the greatest reverence. When I first encountered this practice, I was deeply affected by the power of the symbol to link one with the deep story of Judaism.

In Matthew's story, Jesus the Jew provides an honest response to the less than honest questioning of an expert in Jewish law. He overlooks the hostility of the lawyer and evokes the text of the Shema. Jesus thus invites the lawyer to return to the heart of their shared tradition. He links the teaching of the Shema on wholehearted love of God with a second commandment taken from Leviticus 19, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself". The lawyer's unfair "testing" of Jesus is evidence that this is precisely what he fails to do: he addresses Jesus as teacher, a term of respect, and yet fails to show him the respect due to him as neighbour.

For Jesus, the Law and the prophets can be summed up in the commandments to love God with all of one's being and to love one's neighbour as oneself. Not just love, but intensity of love is the issue here. One is to care for others as one cares for oneself. We saw such intensity of love in those who gave their lives to save those infected with Covid-19. Front-line health workers were three times more likely to contract the infection than others and yet few hesitated to turn up day after day to be there for their patients. WHO estimates that some 180-200K health professionals lost their lives to the virus. The commitment of those workers functions like the mezuzah in our lives: it draws us back into the heart of the gospel tradition and calls us to a deeper, more intense love. It might also help us to deal with the insincerity of those who seek to score points and undermine the dignity of others of those who work for justice.

- Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

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

Anniversaries: We remember: Brian Howlett, Jack Curran, Joan Talbot, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Katherine Spratling

We pray: for those in need, all who are sick and for the people of Ukraine, Syria, Morocco, Libya and Israel.

Next Centralised Baptism Preparation Session 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, November 2, 2023**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

OLHC Memorial Liturgy Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree Memorial Liturgy will be on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

October is World Mission Month Pope Francis reminds us through Luke 24:13-35, "hearts on fire, feet on the move", that the missionary journey of all disciples is that upon encountering Jesus, our hearts burn within, our eyes are opened and ultimately, our feet are set out on the way. Sr Carolina, who is the face of the awareness and fundraising campaign, is a great example of the devotion of missionaries, dedicating herself to providing critical healthcare services to the rural community of Venilale in Timor-Leste. **Thank you** to all who have already responded via the Catholic Mission World Mission month appeal envelopes. God bless!

Tea and Coffee after Mass every first Sunday of the month at St. Columba's You are all warmly invited to tea and coffee after mass every First Sunday of the Month. Looking forward to having a cuppa and catch up with you on **November 5, 2023**.

Liturgy Formation at Ballan – Sunday, November 5, 2023 The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is hosting a Liturgy Formation Session at St Brigid's Church Ballan Gathering Space on Sunday, November 5, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will celebrate Mass at 10.30am with the formation program beginning at 12.00noon on the topics of Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion and scripture reflection. All welcome. The program for the day and registration information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-formation/>.

St Columba's 5th Nov	(next week)	Sun 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG		Terry Ranger
COMMENTATOR		Maree Phelan
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Bruce Chapman
COMMUNION MINISTER		Gina Hinchey
DIGITAL PROJECTOR		Fiona Newton
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)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Parishes of St. Columba's Ballarat North and Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree recognise the traditional owners of parish lands. We acknowledge their ancestors with respect and we are committed to working for justice and reconciliation.

October is National Mental Health Month It is an important time where the Australian community comes together to raise awareness and promote better mental health for all. Mental Health Australia invites organisations to participate in the "Look after your mental health, Australia" campaign which will run throughout October.

Mowing of Church Lawns The Church lawns have been maintained by a team of volunteers over many years and we are now calling for more volunteers to come and join the roster. If you are interested in joining our team or need more information please call Helen on 0409501926.

Diocesan Business Manager Position The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat invites applications from appropriately qualified and experienced persons for the position of Diocesan Business Manager, who is responsible to the Bishop for the accounting and financial management of the various diocesan departments and commissions, investment and property management and advice to parishes, clergy and the Bishop on finance and administration matters. This is a full-time five year contract position (six month probationary period) with ongoing contract after review. Information about the position and how to apply can be accessed at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>, by emailing the bishop's office bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au or by phoning (03) 5337 7121. Queries can be directed to the Bishop's Office on 5337 7121. The closing date for applications is Friday, November 3, 2023 at 5.00pm.

Catholic Theological College Online Information Session for 2024 will be held on Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7.30pm (AEDT). Register via the website ctc.edu.au/information-session. For more information contact Dr Maureen Saclot ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/

Fr Marcello's holidays Fr Marcello is on annual leave and returning on Saturday 4th November. In his absence Fr Kevin Maloney will be celebrating the St Columba's and OLHC weekend Masses. If you require assistance, please contact St Columba's Parish Office. Should you require a priest, please contact St Patrick's Cathedral (ph: 5331 2933). We wish Fr Marcello a restful break and a warm welcome to Fr Kevin!

Pope's intention for October- For the Synod We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit toward the peripheries of the world. Lord, hear us.

Diocesan Youth Booklet The Ballarat Diocese has produced a booklet which outlines opportunities to assist young people on their faith journey. There is information about a variety of youth ministry and young adult activities, as well as details on faith formation, social justice and outreach initiatives. A range of social media networks and online forums offering choices for young people to connect with the wider Catholic community is also included. In addition, there are links to resources to support young people in prayer and spirituality. There is information about reflection days, festivals, immersions and pilgrimage experiences for them to take part in to grow in their faith, and qualifications available in theology, ministry formation, training and much more. With the support of Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, the booklet has been distributed to all secondary schools for Year 12 students and senior school leavers. For questions or copies, please contact the Pastoral Ministry Office at pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Celebrating the birth of Jesus: Do you have a Nativity scene which has a personal story? The first nativity scene recorded in history was in 1223. After visiting the Holy Land and birthplace of Jesus, St. Francis of Assisi was concerned that the meaning of Christmas was being forgotten. To highlight the importance of the birth of Jesus, St Francis obtained permission from the Pope to construct a nativity scene in a cave near Greccio, Italy. It was to include the people of the town and animals, making it a living nativity scene. Although this tradition still continues today, the 19th century saw the nativity scene gradually being replaced with static displays with baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph in a manger surrounded by richly robed figurines. The Diocesan archive is organizing an exhibit of Nativity scenes from the 20th November till late January 2024 and would like to include pieces from different Parishes within the Diocese. If you have a Nativity scene you would like to put on display either in the archives or via the online Nativity display please contact Samantha Fabry on archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish of Bungaree Cemetery Mass All are welcome to Mass at the Pootilla Cemetery on Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 9.30am.

OLHC 4th November	(next week)	Saturday 6.00pm
LEADER OF SONG		Paul Hogan
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL		Margaret White
MINISTER OF THE WORD		Zeena Lazarus & Harry Kennedy
COMMUNION MINISTERS		Frank Hogan & Helen Feely
SACRISTAN		John & Sue Calistro

Collections Last Weekend OLHC *Thank you for your contributions.*
 Presbytery: Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc)