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Child Safe Church The Parishes of St Columba's, St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat and St John the Baptist Beaufort 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 Diocesan or Parish website or on the foyer notice board. If you have any concerns whatsoever—please contact the Parish Offices, one of our priests or Safe Guarding Officers at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/>

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.



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Parishes of St Columba's and St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat

Communities of Ballarat North, Ballarat Cathedral, Beaufort

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (select Parish)

Office: 306 Gregory St, Ballarat Nth Phone: 5331 1012

Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office: 3 Lyons St South, Ballarat Phone: 5331 2933

Email: ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

School Co-Principals: Shaun Mohr & Bambi Afford

School Phone: 5332 4894

Staffing

Administrator:

Fr Edward Moloney

Assistant Priests:

Fr Francis Kureeckal MST

Fr James McKay

Finance Officer:

Bernadette Prestwood

St Columba's

Parish Coordinator:

Lia Andanar Yu

Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm

Safeguarding Officer:

Peter Marquand

MASS TIMES (This week)

St Columba's

Sunday 10.00 am

Wednesday 10.00 am

Beaufort

2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am

Readings for Next Weekend

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Ps 22. R. v.2

Ephesians 2:13-18

Mark 6:30-34



14th July 2024 ~ 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Focus on the Scriptures

The Value of Travelling Light To be a disciple of Jesus is to experience a call. It is also to be sent on a mission in partnership with others, a mission invariably expressed in terms of preaching, teaching, healing, and/or driving out of demons or unclean spirits. In other words, it is to be authorised to do what Jesus did and to proclaim what he proclaimed. When we hear of Jesus casting out demons and telling his disciples to do likewise, we tend to think that whatever they did is something that belongs to another time and has little to do with our contemporary society.

In the cosmology of the time, there was a realm between the divine and the human that was inhabited by good and evil spirits (angels and demons). The divide between these realms was conceptualised as porous so that humans could be protected by the angels or "possessed" by the demons. While the cosmology of the twenty-first century has no "place" for such beings, the contemporary imagination allows space for a metaphorical engagement with the angelic and demonic. When we speak of "demons" now, we are talking about something recognisable in human experience, even if somewhat removed from the "demons" that beset the poor in the Roman imperial provinces of the first century.

Today's parents spend much of their time metaphorically "casting out the demons" that beset their children, as do our friends when they sit and listen to the pain in our hearts and help us to let go of the "demons" that so often inhabit our psyches. Many health professionals are paid to heal the hurts as well as the cuts and burns. They drive out the demons of fear and hate and prejudice and of paralysing mental illness. Educators also, aware that learning occurs only when students are relatively free from fear and anxiety, know what it means to drive out the demons. The recent experience of pandemic and of violence in its many forms has unleashed new "demons" of fear and distrust. We are called to be attentive to the pain in the hearts of those affected in these ways.

It is significant that Jesus instructs the disciples to travel light. They need the basics to live and to do their job, but if their mission is to be effective, they must be free from the anxiety that comes from excess. Psychologist and social critic John F. Schumacher suggests that societies with the most material goods tend to be the most anxious. "Mutual respect, community-mindedness, an eagerness to share, reverence for nature, thankfulness and love of life", it seems, are the major ingredients for a stress- or "demon"-free personal and community life. There would be no need to shake the dust from our feet for want of hospitality if that were the way we all chose to live. What's more, if we travelled light there would be enough for all on our planet, the human and other-and-human, to live in dignity and peace.

~Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

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

Anniversaries: We remember: Ron Rix, Linda Gregory, Maurie Murphy, Veronica Flynn, Marj Murtagh

We pray: for all in areas of conflict, war, natural disasters, for those who are sick and all in need of our prayers.

Baptism

This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the sacrament of Baptism: **Ellie Jayne Jenkins** daughter of Mitchell and Krystal.

Ava Neve Doyle, Jonathan Joseph Doyle, Logan Gregory Doyle, Julia Maeve Doyle children of Matthew and Shenon.

May **Ellie, Ava, Jonathan, Logan and Julia** grow in faith with the support of their families and our Catholic Community.

Jubilee Year 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope” Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, with the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”. It will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis. In the lead-up to the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be marked as a Year of Prayer, to promote the centrality of individual and community prayer. The Dicastery for Evangelisation has made some useful resources available to help people to better understand and rediscover the value of prayer. In addition to the 38 catecheses on Prayer that Pope Francis himself presented, a series of booklets entitled, “Notes on Prayer” is being published by the Vatican publishing house. In addition, a pastoral aid is available online, in a digital version, to help parish communities, families, priests, cloistered nuns and young people to become more aware of the need for daily prayer. To access resources and find out more about the Jubilee Year, go to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

Try Alpha Alpha is a safe space to explore life, purpose and the Christian faith, ask questions and share your point of view. Thursdays from July 11 to September 5, 6.30pm – 8.00pm at St Patrick’s Cathedral Presbytery, 3 Lyons Street South Ballarat. Alpha is free and everyone is welcome. To find out more about Alpha, go to [Explore Life, Faith & Meaning in Community | Alpha](#)

St Columba's July 21	(next week) Sunday 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR	Vicki Moroney
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Min Myers
COMMUNION MINISTER	Gina Hinchey
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe

Collections last two weekends Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 948.50 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 717.65

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Parish of St. Columba's Ballarat North recognises the traditional owners of parish lands. We acknowledge their ancestors with respect and we are committed to working for justice and reconciliation.

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, August 1, 2024**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat – Formation In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together clergy, representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Clergy in parishes, Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience. Fr Justin Driscoll will facilitate the formation sessions.

Dates are:

Ballarat- August 4 – 10.30am – 4.00pm

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Buninyong

Ballarat- August 13 – 5.00pm – 8.30pm

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Wendouree

New Ministry District

Invitations have been forwarded to those involved in current parish council leadership, finance and schools of Beaufort, North Ballarat and Cathedral parishes for a combined meeting to be held on Wednesday 17th July at 6.30 pm. This meeting will continue the process of forming our new ministry district . Please keep this process in your prayers .



Tea and Coffee after Mass every first Sunday of the month at St. Columba's Looking forward to having a cuppa and catch up with you after mass on August 4. Until then, keep warm and God bless!

St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal The theme of the appeal this year is the “Working Homeless”, focusing on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Between May 2023 to May 2024, St Vincent de Paul provided material household assistance to the value of \$730,000 across greater Ballarat. Envelopes are available here at the church for donations today, **July 14**, and next Sunday, **July 21**, and can be placed on the collection plate. Please write your name and address if you require a receipt.

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible. You may also donate online, please go to www.vinnies.org.au or call 131812.

Planned Giving Envelopes are ready for you to collect at the church foyer. Many thanks for your continued generosity to our parish community.

Sport can lead the way to Christ Like many other countries, Australia is passionate about sport. But how are the Church, faith and sport connected and why should they be? Whether competing, supporting or encouraging play for health, sport is part of our family and social life. In sport we experience community and teamwork, sacrifice and dedication, the benefits of rules and fair play, the highs of success and the learnings that come with defeat. We learn from coaches, parents and friends as we put in the extra effort to train or to attend games. Sport forms us not only in the skills of play or competition, but in life experiences that form our personal human development. The Church and sport can learn from each other in many ways. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has published a new document that explains how sport is a gift that can draw people closer to Christ. More information available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/sport-can-lead-the-way-to-christ/>

Petition to Retain the Lord's Prayer in Parliament You are invited to sign a petition to retain the saying of the Lord's Prayer at the start of sittings of the Victorian Parliament <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/retain-the-lords-prayer-in-legislative-council-proceedings/>

St Columba's July 28	Sunday 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Terry Ranger
COMMENTATOR	Anthea Hinchey
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Tom Keogh
COMMUNION MINISTER	Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Kathleen Keogh
SACRISTAN	Barb Brown / Norah Moloney / Josie Crowe