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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/>

Catholic Theological College – Engaging your Faith Online Series Engaging Your Faith is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Topics include the following: Scripture, Synodal Church, Lay and Ordained Ministry, Spirituality, Religion and Ethics, Science and faith issues. Cost is \$25.00 per session or \$40.00 if seeking teacher accreditation. For more information and to register go to <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>



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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 Abraham Thomas MST
Fr James McKay

St Columba's Parish Coordinator:
Lia Andanar Yu

Wed-Friday 10:00am –2:00pm
(closed on school holidays)

Safeguarding Officer:
Anthea Hinchey

MASS TIMES (This week)

St Columba's
Sunday 10.00 am
Wednesday 10.00 am
[Reconciliation 10.30am]

Beaufort
2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am

Readings for Next Weekend
Isaiah 53: 10-11
Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22 R. v. 22
Hebrews 4:14-16
Mark 10: 35-45



13th October 2024 ~ 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Focus on the Scriptures

Taking the Risk of Sharing our Goods Not too many of us commit murder or adultery. Not too many take hostages or give false testimony in a court of law. Most are ready to honour and care for their parents in their old age. In other words, most of us are basically decent and honest and could make the same claim as does the wealthy man who runs up to Jesus, namely that we have kept the commandments from our youth. The man's question is actually a strange one. He wants to know what he must do in order to inherit eternal life. He seems unaware that inheritance depends, not on what one does, but on who one is. Jesus responds to the greeting, "Good Teacher", with a reminder that God is the source of all goodness, and then lets his questioner know that keeping the commandments is not enough. Interestingly, Jesus adds a commandment that is not actually numbered among the "ten" but is to be found in an Essene document from Qumran: "You shall not defraud". This prepares the way for what follows.

First-century Mediterranean societies were "limited goods" societies. If a person acquired wealth, it was invariably understood to be at the expense of others. The wealthy were therefore looked upon with suspicion. Although Jesus looks at the man lovingly, he may nonetheless be hinting that this person's wealth has been acquired fraudulently. Jesus offers a challenge that the man is unable to meet: to sell what he has, give the proceeds to the poor, have "treasure in heaven", and "follow" him. The man retains his possessions and acquires a burden, the burden of sorrow. Jesus admits that sharing one's goods with those in need is too hard for some, but not for those who are open to the power of God at work in their lives.

The concluding verses are puzzling. In declaring that those who have left everything and followed him are to have an abundance of this world's goods as well as eternal life, is Jesus modifying his earlier position? Is he reverting to a tradition that saw wealth as God's reward for righteous living? Is he suggesting that those who share their goods find they have more than enough? It is hard to know. The twist in the tale is that they will do it hard: "not without persecution". It is likely that Mark is describing his own experience within a persecuted community of believers some forty years after the death of Jesus. The happy ones were doubtless those who took the risk of sharing their goods with those in need. Our privileged country has still to learn that lesson, even with respect to ensuring a roof over every head. In our society, shareholders' gains generally come before societal justice. Welcoming the stranger and sharing our wealth with the dispossessed may demand of us a simpler way of life. Who knows what blessings might come to the many if we dare to take up the challenge?
-Veronica Lawson RSM

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Graeme Spittle, Denis Monaghan, Helen Yates

Anniversaries: We remember: Josephine Reilly, Connie Rice, Win Towns, Rumar Tan Andanar, Tom Prendergast, Steve Martin, Margaret (Peg) Nijam, Nell Bourke

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: **Violet Edith Chappell**, daughter of Sophie and Ryan.

"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...."

- Pope Francis



May Violet grow in faith with the support of her family and our Catholic Community.

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 7, 2024**. You may attend either the 10.00 am or the 5.30 pm session.

Upcoming events at Catholic Theological College

- Information Session for Educators
- Information Session for Prospective Students
- Engaging Your Faith Online Sessions

For more information go to <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/> or <https://ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/>

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.

For a shared mission: Let us pray that the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, communion and mission shared by priests, religious and laity. Lord, hear us.

St Columba's Oct 20	(next week) Sunday 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Terry Ranger
COMMENTATOR	Tom Keogh
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Jo-anne van der Voort
COMMUNION MINISTER	Bruce Chapman
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Vicki Moroney
SACRISTAN	Fiona Newton

Collections last week Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ To be confirmed Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ TBC

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.

October is World Mission Month Pope Francis has recently published his World Mission Sunday message with a key theme from Matthew 22:09 of "Go and invite everyone to the banquet." Catholic Mission invites us to celebrate World Mission Month: "Together, we have the power to create change and build a more just world for people everywhere. By supporting missionaries in their work, we can create life-changing opportunities for countless children, families, and communities worldwide. Join us in making a difference for our sisters and brothers." Pope Francis has recently published his messages for World Mission Month and World Mission Sunday, which will be celebrated next Sunday, October 20. Read both of these messages at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/worldmissionmonth>

Focus for this week: In Mongolia, Chuluunbaatar suffered a life-altering injury while trying to rescue a submerged vehicle, leaving him unable to work and reliant on scarce support services for basic needs. Without shelter and food, Chuluunbaatar faces the real risk of freezing to death. Resources are limited, but the Church in Mongolia is working hard to provide essential services to people in need.



Advance Notice: Ordination to the Priesthood Mass & Thanksgiving Mass: Cay Trinh

- Deacon Cay Trinh will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. A light lunch will follow in the Hall. For those not able to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed. People of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to form the choir for this Mass (further details to come).
- Cay will celebrate his **Mass of Thanksgiving** on Sunday, November 24, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral at 5.00pm. All welcome to attend. A light supper will follow in the Hall.

Position Vacant - Archivist The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat requires an appropriately skilled individual to manage its extensive archives collection and take carriage of the historical engagement program across the diocese, which includes liaising with the Professional Standards team and other diocesan leadership to identify and appropriately secure historical records and artifacts throughout the diocese. There will be a requirement to travel regionally from time to time to engage with venues and artifacts of significance within the diocese and promote the significance of the collection broadly. More details at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>

Communion from the Chalice Bishop Paul has informed parishes of the option of reintroducing communion from the chalice in parishes in the Diocese of Ballarat.

Dear People of the Diocese,

In the early days of the Covid pandemic, one of the adjustments made was suspending the practice of sharing communion from the chalice. As Covid restrictions have been lifted, some have asked me about reintroducing the option of communion from the chalice in our diocese of Ballarat.

When I wrote about this in April this year, we were actually facing a surge in Covid cases in hospitals in our diocese and medical advisors were concerned because of the greater risk of various infections in winter. So, even though some other dioceses in Australia had reintroduced communion from the chalice by then, I indicated that we would wait a while longer. However, now that we are looking towards the warmer months of the year, I consider that it is time to reintroduce the option of communion from the chalice.

In the diocese of Ballarat, communities may reintroduce the option of communion from the chalice from November 1 this year.

From All Saints Day, local communities will be free to offer communion from the chalice to any of the faithful who wish to take this option. I leave it to the judgment of the Parish Priest or Administrator in each place to arrange when and how communion is offered from the chalice. The practices may vary from place to place. However, the common aim is to allow the faithful to receive Christ under the appearance of wine as well as under the appearance of bread, following the words of Jesus "Take and eat" and "Take and drink". In this way, communion is more clearly a sign of sharing in Christ's heavenly banquet.

In making the chalice available, care should be taken to follow good hygiene practices. The person ministering the chalice should wipe the rim of the chalice inside and out with a purifier before offering the chalice to the next communicant. Anyone who is feeling unwell should refrain from taking the chalice. After Mass, it is good to wash chalices in hot water.

From All Saints Day, communicants in our diocese will again have the option of communion from the chalice. May the revival of this practice enrich our celebration of communion with Christ and with one another.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Paul Bird CSsR
 Bishop of the Diocese of Ballarat

Tea and Coffee after Mass every first Sunday of the month at St. Columba's Our next tea and coffee is on **November 3, 2024**. Until then, keep well and God bless!

Synod on Synodality – Second Session The Second Session of the XVI General Assembly of the Synod is currently underway in Rome. This session runs from October 2-27, 2024. Keep updated with the Synod at the diocesan website-<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/>

