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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/>

**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 (details overleaf).
- 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.

**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!



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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](http://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

**Finance Officer:**  
Jackie Wrigglesworth

**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]  
Saturday Nov 2 10.00am  
[All Souls]

**Beaufort**  
2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am

**Readings for Next Weekend**  
Deuteronomy 6:2-6  
Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51 R. v. 2  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 12: 28-34



**27th October 2024 ~ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**Focus on the Scriptures**

**What are we Failing to See?** Today's gospel reading brings to closure a long section of Mark's gospel that focuses on the journey of Jesus and his disciples from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Jericho in the south. Jericho is the final staging point in the journey to Jerusalem where the final act of the gospel drama will be played out. This section of the gospel (8:27-10:52) is prefaced by the story of a blind man who comes to sight in stages. It ends with the story of another blind man, Bartimaeus, who comes from blindness to sight, from insight to greater insight, and who joins Jesus on the journey to Jerusalem. On the intervening journey, Jesus endeavours to lead the Twelve out of their metaphorical blindness into an understanding of what it means to follow a suffering messiah. They remain for some time in their blindness, as subsequent events will demonstrate.

The narrator creates an impression of urgency at this point in Mark's gospel. "They" come to Jericho and then leave. The intervention of Bartimaeus, who tries to attract the attention of Jesus by calling out from the roadside, threatens to delay the journey. When he cries out for "mercy", many try without success to silence him. The "many" are people in the crowd who neither share the depth of Bartimaeus' faith nor grasp the nature of Jesus' mission of gathering in "the remnant of Israel, among them the blind and the lame" (Jeremiah 31:8). Those who try to silence Bartimaeus are a bit like the family of Jesus who tried to protect him from himself (Mark 3:31).

When it is clear that the perception of the "many" is not shared by Jesus who tells them to "call him", we have an almost comical scene in which they do a complete about-face. It seems they want to please the authority figure no matter what. Bartimaeus offers a stark contrast to these people. He knows that Jesus has the power to bring the mercy of God into his life and the lives of those who wait by the roadside with faith in their hearts. He receives the assurance from Jesus that his faith has made him well or, more literally, has "saved him". Having heard the "call", he follows Jesus "on the way", the journey of faith.

At times we, like Bartimaeus, are aware of our blindness and wait desperately by the roadside for the right person or circumstances to come along and give us the heart to rise up and live the journey of faith. At times, we are like the "many" who think we know what is best for others and who try to silence the voices of those who interfere with our plans. At other times, we, like Jesus of Nazareth, respond to the cries for mercy and stretch out our hands to gather in those whose disabilities might otherwise leave them by the side of the road in the journey of life. **-Veronica Lawson RSM**

**Responsorial Psalm: (R.)** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Kathleen Hayes

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Kath Kenna, Jack Scanlon, Brian Howlett, Jack Curran, Joan Talbot, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Katherine Spratling

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

**Safetrac Training Reminder** A reminder that Safetrac training for those parishioners/volunteers who have been nominated by parishes as having particular ministries in the parish, is to be completed by October 31, 2024. To clarify how to complete the training online or on paper, you can contact our Diocesan Professional Standards coordinator, Mr Michael Myers, by email at [michael.myers@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:michael.myers@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or by phone on 5337 7121.

**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.

**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](http://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.

**Diocesan e-News** The latest edition of e-News has been published and is available to view at <https://mailchi.mp/1cc27b72fe24/edition-119-february-15-14187629>.

You can also view this edition at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/> or you can subscribe on this page to receive future editions straight to your email address.

St Columba's Nov 3	(next week) Sunday 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Terry Ranger
COMMENTATOR	Bruce Chapman
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Sr. Geraldine Mugavin
COMMUNION MINISTER	Tim O'Farrell
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Fiona Newton
SACRISTAN	Josie Crowe

**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.*

### Let's build Respectful Church Communities-Brochure Launch CSSV

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) has developed a brochure and poster as resources for parishes and the wider Catholic community to raise awareness and work to prevent family violence. Parishioners are invited to join the launch on Thursday, October 31, 2024 from 1.45pm – 3.00pm via zoom. Please RSVP by 30 October 2024 at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1294275>. Enquiries to Kate Stilwell, email [office@css.org.au](mailto:office@css.org.au)



**Baptism** This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the sacrament of Baptism: **Bonnie Joan Smith**, daughter of Molly and Sam.



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

*- Pope Francis*

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

**National Children's Week: October 19-27, 2024 concludes today** Children's Week is a national celebration which recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children. The theme for Children's Week 2024 is "Children have the right to a clean and safe environment". The Victorian Government supported more than 200 free Children's Week events and activities for Victorian families with children aged up to 12 years. More information is available at <https://www.vic.gov.au/childrens-week>

**Prayer for children in our parishes** That we may all work collaboratively to ensure the happiness and confidence of every child and foster an environment of safety and protection where children flourish. Let us pray to the Lord.

**All Souls Day Mass on November 2, St Columba's Church** Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 2 at St Columba's Church.

**Chorus Ecclesiae** is pleased to have received special permission from the National Library of Czech to perform as an Australian premiere their published transcription of Heinrich Isaac's recently discovered Missa Presulem Ephebeatum. Performed will also be other motets for St. Martin and the Blessed Virgin Mary, featuring composers such as Fawknyer, Marenzio, de Monte and Phillips. With the generous support of the Robert Saltzer Foundation, we are excited to bring this wonderful concert with some of Melbourne's finest talent to the lovely St. Patrick's Cathedral in Ballarat. To purchase tickets, please visit [www.chorusecclesiae.org.au](http://www.chorusecclesiae.org.au)

**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



**Reflections on Communion from the Chalice** Bishop Paul has prepared some reflections on the communion with Christ that we celebrate in the Eucharist under the appearances of bread and wine. This document is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/reflections-on-communion-from-the-chalice/>

**Clergy Jubilarians Mass 2024 Choir** Mass to celebrate the Clergy Jubilarians will be held on **Thursday, November 14, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm**. The 2024 clergy Jubilarians are: 50 years- Frs Eric Bryant, Paddy Mugavin & Michael O'Toole, 25 years- Fr Ed Moloney. All welcome to attend. Members of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to join the choir for this Mass. Choir practice will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass) in the Cathedral.