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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.



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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

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]

Beaufort
2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am

Readings for Next Weekend
1 Kings 17: 10-16
Ps 145: 7-10 R. v. 2
Hebrews 9: 24-28
Mark 12: 38-44



3rd November 2024 ~ 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Focus on the Scriptures

Listen, Listen Again and Keep on Listening A dear friend of mine used to say that the first rule, the first commandment, is to listen, that the second rule is to listen again and that the third is to keep on listening. Today's gospel would seem to confirm that insight. It is in being heard that broken spirits are healed and that peace reigns in the hearts of those who have been hurt. Love of God and love of neighbour come from being attentive to God and from being attentive to God's presence in all that is.

Jesus is presented in today's gospel as a Jew who knows and observes the Law of Moses. He wins the respect of a scribe, a specialist in the Law, who has overheard him debating with the Sadducees. Jesus recognises the sincerity of the scribe and takes seriously the question that this teacher of the Law puts to him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" He prefaces his response with the words of Deuteronomy 6, "Hear/listen O Israel."

While love of God is said to be the first commandment, there is no love without the prior disposition to hear, to listen, to pay attention. It is a love that derives from attention to and gratitude for God's liberating action in the lives of God's people. Israel has known the unconditional love of God. Those who know anything about human behaviour would probably agree that the experience of unconditional love engenders an increased capacity for love. For the Jews, including those who throw in their lot with Jesus the Jewish Galilean, to love one's neighbour is to keep the second commandment of Leviticus 19:18, "...you shall love your neighbour as yourself".

In the Markan schema, goodness and fitness for the "kin-dom" or "empire of God" are never guaranteed by status or position or call or ethnicity or gender or by any other contingency of existence. Everyone has choices. In first-century Judaism, love of God was expressed in worship and in the prayers and rituals of daily life. Love of others likewise found expression in action, not only in care of family and close friends, but also in support of "the poor and the needy and the stranger." To seek peace was also a feature of neighbourly love, a feature that is so desperately needed at this time of widespread conflict. To accept and follow such a program of peace is to be, with the scribe, "not far from" God's kin-dom or empire.

Contemporary sensibilities might lead us to include the other-than-human among the neighbours or "kin" we are called to love. If we learn to pay loving attention to the earth and all that inhabits it, the whole human community, the birds and the beasts, the plants and the soil, the sky and the sea, then the words of Jesus might truly find a home in our hearts: "You are not far from the kin-dom of God". -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: David Charlton

Anniversaries: We remember: Rod Stott, Mary Cullinan, Des Heenan, Margaret Haintz, William O'Loughlin, Raymond Jackson, James Walters

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 A reminder that Safetrac training for those parishioners/volunteers who have been nominated by parishes as having particular ministries in the parish, was to be completed by October 31, 2024. For further queries, you can contact our Diocesan Professional Standards coordinator, Mr Michael Myers, by email at 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.

Welcome, Jackie! We warmly welcome our new Finance Officer Jackie Wrigglesworth. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the hard-working and dedicated members of our Parish Finance team for their generous sharing of their time and talents to take care of everything finance related at St Columba's Parish. May God continue to bless you all!

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.

Prayer for November: For those who have lost a child: Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation. Lord, hear us.

Diocesan e-News The latest edition of e-News has been published and is available 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 10	(next week) Sunday 10.00 am
LEADER OF SONG	Tony Beggs
COMMENTATOR	Fiona Newton
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Mitch Chalmers
COMMUNION MINISTER	Colleen Wakefield
DIGITAL PROJECTOR	Bruce Chapman
SACRISTAN	Norah Moloney

Collections Sep 15 to Oct 27, 2024 Thank you for your contributions
 Presbytery: \$ 3,354.25 Parish: (Env, loose, DD, CC etc) \$ 8,143.50

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.

Tea and Coffee after Mass every first Sunday of the month at St. Columba's Our next tea and coffee is today. Please come and join us after mass. It will be lovely to catch up!

Our Diocesan Community – Issue 3 The final edition of ODC 2024 is available at our church foyer. Please feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

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.

Laudato Si': Everything is connected The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT) is an initiative that strives for an international agreement to phase out fossil fuel while ensuring a just global transition for workers, communities, and countries.

- * Science speaks clearly: The Earth faces the impact of climate change, which is closely tied to carbon dioxide emissions linked to fossil fuels;
- * Fossil fuel industries often prioritise greenwashing efforts over actively supporting the transition away from fossil fuels, despite scientific warnings and the needs of vulnerable communities;
- * We trust divine guidance in our pursuit of equilibrium between urgency and enduring transformation.

Raise awareness about FFNPT. To help people of faith understand the need to phase out fossil fuels and engage in the campaign for the FFNPT, raising awareness is crucial. Communities are encouraged to hold talks and sign-up events to help people understand what FFNPT is. For more information go to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Fossil-Fuel-Non-Proliferation-Treaty-FFNPT-from-SOC.pdf>



It can be said that many problems of today's world stem from the tendency, at times unconscious, to make the method and aims of science and technology an epistemological paradigm which shapes the lives of individuals and the workings of society. The effects of imposing this model on reality as a whole, human and social, are seen in the deterioration of the environment, but this is just one sign of a reductionism which affects every aspect of human and social life.
 (Laudato Si' 107)

reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose

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) at the Cathedral.

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/>