

First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

30th November | 1st December 2024

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF BUNGAREE AND GORDON

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree
St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

Our Parish acknowledges this land's traditional owners & custodians and pay our respects to Elders past, present, & emerging.

We are child safe Parishes, committed to safeguarding children, young people & vulnerable adults.

Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll, **Assistant Priest:** Fr Matt Restall

Parish Secretary and Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey

Parish Office attended Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.30am–2.30pm.

Contacts: 0492 903 409 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Schools & Principals

St. Brigid's Ballan: Mrs Jayne Bosworth 5368 1015 www.sballan.catholic.edu.au

St. Patrick's Gordon: Mr Paul McDowell 5368 9495 www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

St. Mary's Clarkes Hill: Ms Clare Scanlon 5334 5280 www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au

Parish Leadership Teams

Bungaree Parish: Damian Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown), Dom Prendergast, Maurice Ryan & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill).

Gordon Parish: Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke & Shane Carey (Gordon), Mark Conlan & Jim Leahy (Ballan).

PARISH VISION: That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 3 rd	5.30pm	Ballarat East
Wednesday 4 th	9.30am	Ballarat East
	11.00am	Mercy Place
Thursday 5 th	9.30am	Ballarat East
	10.00am	Ballan
Friday 6 th	9.30am	Ballarat East
Saturday 7 th	9.30am	Ballarat East

2024 Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve	4.00pm	Mercy Place
	5.30pm	Ballan
	6.00pm	Ballarat East
	6.30pm	Clarkes Hill
	7.00pm	Gordon
	7.30pm	Buninyong
Christmas Day	9.00pm	Ballarat East
	9.00am	Dunnstown
	9.00am	Ballarat East

December dates – Advent!

- Combined Parishes Pre-Christmas event Sunday evening December 1st @ Donegan's Farm 6.00pm
- St Brigid's School Ballan end of Year Mass, Wednesday December 11th 9.15am
- St Mary's School Clarkes Hill end of Year Mass Wednesday December 11th 5.30pm (Church)
- St Patrick's School Gordon end of Year Mass Wednesday December 11th 5.45pm with picnic tea and Christmas Carols to follow.
- Ballan Aged Care Ecumenical Service Thursday December 19th at 10.00am
- Anointing Mass at St Brigid's Church Ballan, Thursday December 19th 11.00am
- Anointing Mass at St Michael's Church Bungaree, Friday December 20th 9.30am

MASS DATES & TIMES	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY
30 November/1 December 2024	First Sunday of Advent: Jer 33:14-16, 1 Thess 3:12-4:2	
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan	
Gordon – 9.00 am	To be Advised	
Ballan –10.30 am	Catherine Green	Jim Leahy & Julie Dargan
7/8 December 2024	Second Sunday of Advent: Bar 5:1-9, Phil 1:3-6, 8-11	
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised	
Bungaree – 9.00 am	To be Advised	
Ballan –10.30 am	Jayne Bosworth	Rosemary & Michael Canavan
14/15 December 2024	Third Sunday of Advent: Zeph 3:14-18, Phil 4:4-7	
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan	
Gordon – 9.00 am	To be Advised	
Ballan –10.30 am	Margaret Green	Kelly Hunter and Family

WEEKLY MASSES					
	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Saturday 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sunday 9.00am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sunday 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Ballarat East 6pm; Sunday ~ Ballarat East 9am ; Buningyong 10.30 am (1st & 3rd & 5th Sunday) Vigil Mass ~ Ballarat East 6pm; Sunday ~ Buninyong 9am ; Ballarat East 10.30 am (2nd & 4th Sunday)					

Recent Deaths: John McCarthy, Qld (brother of Gwen Murphy), Margaret Mary Mullane (Funeral Prayers 2.00pm Tuesday December 3rd St Brigid's Ballan)

Anniversaries: James Conlan, Doreen Conroy, Sarah Franklin, Bob Frawley, Michael Frawley, Maurice Kelly, Frank O'Loughlin, Mick O'Loughlin, Margaret Price, Nonie Price, Jimmy Simpson, George Smith, Mary Toohey, Fr Justin Woodford.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Ray Broach, Pat Burvill, Karem Chiparra, Elaine Conlan, Evelyn Farrugia, Patricia (Patty) Gannon, Christine Hall, Michelle Hall, (baby) Mia Hanrahan, John Healy, Thelma Keating, Barry Mullane, Owen Widdison.

Baptisms: We welcome, Angus Muldeary fully initiated into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist as well as Alyssa Josephine and Felicity Jane Muldeary, baptised at St Brigid's Ballan this Sunday, children of Daniel and Jo.

Meeting to celebrate Parish of Gordon 150th anniversary: A meeting will be held at St Patrick's Primary School Gordon on Wednesday 4th December at 4.00pm to plan the Parish's 150-year anniversary. All welcome to attend.

Anniversaries at St Alipius' Ballarat East: All are welcome to gather at St Alipius Church for 6.00pm Mass on Saturday evening December 14th to acknowledge 170 years since Eureka and 150 years since St Alipius Church was opened. Following the Mass all are invited to stay in the Church grounds for a byo picnic tea. Contact the Ballarat East Parish Office on 5332 6611 ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au For catering purposes, please RSVP no later than December 7th.

Ecumenical Service Remembering Victims and Survivors of Family Violence

The Catholic Social Services Victoria ecumenical service, "Holding the Light" offers an opportunity to remember and mourn those who have been killed as a result of domestic violence, to stand in solidarity with victim survivors and to reflect and commit ourselves to addressing the causes of violence in our communities. The service will be held on Wednesday, December 10th at 5pm at St Alipius Church, Ballarat East.

From the Diocesan Assembly:

A formal report on the Assembly held at Federation University Mt Helen on Leadership and Governance for a Missionary Synodal Church will be released in the coming weeks. In the meantime, our newsletters for the coming weeks will include reflections from parishioners in attendance as either delegates or facilitators.

Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown, Bungaree Parish) Delegate

From the Murray to the Sea; we came together at Federation University, on the weekend of 15th – 16th Nov., as a community from the Diocese to listen and discern – How does God want us to Lead and Govern for a Missionary Synodal Church. The structure of the Assembly was divided into several sections- each started with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to intercede, silence, listening and then giving time to hear what those at our table had to say. The sessions started with big ideas- What do we hope for? What are the challenges? Then moved onto Mission and Identity – Relationships, inclusivity and hospitality were most important. And lastly, we were asked to some artwork or words that described our Parish. I had to say we were aging, but also a welcoming and inclusive Parish community. What resonated with me came from the younger people at the Assembly. They were very passionate, trusting in the Holy Spirit, they were confident that although the church has been through turbulent times, it may be restructured but will continue. It is people not buildings that are important!

Have you ever thought of the Holy Spirit as a Wild Goose? Fr Justin presented us with this image. The Wild Goose of Iona, to the Celts is the name for the Holy Spirit, known for its passion, noisiness and courage. This symbol reminds us that God's spirit cannot be tamed or contained. Let us remember this as we move forward. It will take passion, courage and noisiness! On behalf of the Parish community, I would like to thank Bishop Paul for instigating this assembly and Father Justin, who has put in an enormous amount of work travelling from one end of the diocese to the other, to plan and bring together a meaningful and thought- provoking insight into possibilities for Governance and Leadership of our Church. Thanks to Sr Karon Donnellon RSM for facilitating, her attention to detail and humour was appreciated. Not least, the work of Jane Collins and Pastoral team was exemplary and of course table facilitators who managed to bring all our thoughts together.