

2nd Sunday of Lent (Year B): ~ 27/ 28 February 2021

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

The Gordon Parish is a supervised, community-led parish ~ Parish Leadership Team: Sue Daly, Lin Bowers, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Aileen Toohey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Gabrielle Driscoll and Paul McDowell

Supervising Priest: Fr Ed Moloney Visiting Priest: Fr Sajan Mathew

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5368 9280 or 0492 903 409

✉ gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals and Maintenance: contact Parish Secretary ~ Safeguarding Officer: Lin Bowers

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

Parish Schools	St. Brigid's Primary School St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015 Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au
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Collections last weekend

Thanks to all who give generously to each of these collections:

Loose	Presbytery: \$424	Parish: \$176
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21: \$24,961 to date	

Gordon Sacramental Program 2021

Sunday, Feb 28 – Enrolment Mass – Reconciliation
 Gordon – 8.45am / Ballan – 10.30am

Thursday, March 25 – Reconciliation Ceremony – 4pm - St Patrick's Church, Gordon

St Patrick's Day Celebrations: Students from Gordon & Ballan schools will gather together at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Thursday, March 18 for 11am mass with Bishop Paul Bird. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ BUNGAREE

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree

Parish Administrator: Fr Sajan Mathew ~ ☎ 5334 0450 ~ C/- Post Office, Bungaree Vic 3352

✉ bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

Parish Schools	St. Mary's School, Clarkes Hill St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown	Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280 Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604	www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au
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Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	\$281	Parish:	\$390
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Victorian Child Safe Standards

Our parish's Child Safety Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct are available on the parish webpage of the diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links.)
 Parish Safeguarding Officer: Leah Hanrahan.

Bungaree Sacramental Program 2021 (Year 2 and above)

Tuesday, April 27 – Parent Information Night – 7.30pm
 Bungaree Parish Centre - Reconciliation

Enrolment Masses – Parish Masses (TBC) - May 1st 2nd

Tuesday, June 8 – Reconciliation Ceremony – 5.30 – 7pm
 St Michaels Church, Bungaree

Parish Leadership Team:

There are currently two vacant positions each from Dunnstown and Bungaree on the Parish Leadership Team. If you would be interested in filling any of these roles or would like some more information, please contact Damian Ryan - ryandjr@bigpond.com

Working With Children Check: Is your WWC check up to date? Currently, we are reviewing our data base, so it is important that all parishioners who assist with parish ministries hold valid and current WWC cards. Please contact Leah Hanrahan for more details if you are unsure of your status. (lg3@optusnet.com.au or 0411 859 544)

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	
27/ 28 February	2nd Sunday of Lent – Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Rom 8: 31-34 Mk 9: 2-10		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30pm	Joan Powell	Kate Bennett	
Gordon – 8.45am	Maria Donegan / Eddie Davis	Michael & Therese Winter	
Ballan – 10.30am	Winnie Zammit / Lloyd Lamb	Cairan & Janine Donohue	
6 / 7 March	3rd Sunday of Lent – Ex 20:1-17 1 Col 1:22-25 Jn 2: 13-25		
Dunnstown – 6.30pm	Mary Hanrahan	Declan Hanrahan	
Gordon – 8.45am	Kate Carey / Marie Durham	Mark & Narelle Conroy Family	
Ballan – 10.30am	Bert Jarvis / Lin Bowers	Eddie & Mary Cassar	
13 / 14 March	4th Sunday of Lent – 2 Ch 36: 14-16 19-23 Ep 2: 4-10 Jn 3: 14-21		
Springbank– 6.30pm	Kath O'Neil	Molly Ronan	
Bungaree – 8.45am	D. Rix	Frank Hanrahan	
Ballan – 10.30am	Catherine Green / Sandra Miller	Binks Family	

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) in Bungaree at 9.30am – all welcome!

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarke's Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am					



Recent Death: Monica Murphy

Anniversaries Arthur Jones, Louise Tubbs, Joan Arnel, Maria Steenhuis, Liam Begbie, Harry Parkin, Kathleen Leonard, Jack O'Donohue, Maureen O'Halloran, Cecelia Haintz, Ellie Walsh, Diane Johnson, Tom O'Loughlin, Brian Boyle, Kevin McGuigan, Con McTigue, Lil Wickson, Con Carey, Willian Rosenow.

We offer our prayerful support for the sick Anna Bartaska, Mitchell Prendergast, Michelle Hall, Mary Cassar, Moira Myers, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Alice Gardiner, Stan Mahar, Lore Winter, Noel Craven, Christine Hall, John Ryan, Thelma Keating, Lyla Geary and Anne Micallef.

Music Ministry Volunteers for Bungaree: We are seeking volunteers to join the music ministry roster at Bungaree. You will only be rostered on a few times a year. If you are able to assist, please contact Julie Boyd - boydh.1@bigpond.com.au



Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

The latest updates regarding COVIDSafe practices are available from the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Project Compassion Virtual Immersions – Week 2

Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. **Week 2: Margaret's Story (Solomon Islands)** on Tuesday, March 2 at 7.30pm (VIC). You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to <https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions>.

Lenten Resources - Week 2:

The Sandhurst Diocese kindly shares their Lent 2021 leaflets which invite reflection on excerpts from Pope Francis' "Let us Dream", together with insights and suggestions for action from one of the Australian Plenary Council Thematic Discernment papers. The leaflets are for individual reflection or small group reflection and discussion. The theme for week 2 is, "How do we find the way of mercy and love that can usher forth a revolution of tenderness?" These leaflets are available for download from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

Lent Resources

Lent resources are available from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

Year of St Joseph - Monthly Reflections:

Each month during the year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will publish a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character. The February reflection, written by Scripture scholar Sr Michele Connolly RSJ, explores the many ways in which St Joseph was "Attentive to the Word of God" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

World Day of Prayer – Friday, March 5

St Brigid's Church, Ballan – 10am / St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat 10am
St James Sebastopol 2pm

Ballarat South Uniting Church 7pm Buninyong
St John's Anglican church, Creswick 7pm

Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 29 St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat 6.30pm.

2021 National Mass Count of Attendance

The National Centre for Pastoral Research advise that the 2021 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over the first four weekends in May (starting May 1, 2021). More details later.



Loving God, as we begin our Lenten journey we pray that the mists that can cloud our vision may lift so that we may see the road that lies before us and so come with open hearts to you the source of living water. Melt what is frozen within us, warm our hearts and lift our spirits that we do not lose heart in our capacity to grow or in your desire to lead us safely home. Amen

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! / From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: / this is my beloved Son, hear him. / Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Mk 9: 2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'. Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

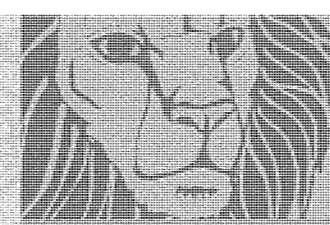
■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT / B

28 FEBRUARY 2021

LIVING IN FAITHFULNESS AND HOPE

There are few moments in the scriptures as dramatic as when Abraham has steered himself to seize the knife that will take the life of his son Isaac. In that moment on the mount Abraham revealed once again his true quality and the depth of his trust in the word of God. Years later, on a mountain God will reveal the glory and grandeur of the greatest gift of all, the presence of Jesus among us, the living word. As Abraham listened to the voice of the Lord God, so too the disciples of all ages are called to listen to the words of Jesus, the beloved Son. His words promise us a life that awaits us beyond death, and his presence will enable the disciples to move on with him to the cross. On a mountain a son's life was saved. Centuries later on a rocky outcrop, scorned and ridiculed, God will give what he did not take from Abraham so that all of us might be saved.

In many ways Paul reflects on what has been gained for us all by that sacrifice on Calvary. Like Abraham, God does not withhold even what is most precious. The glory and promise of the Transfiguration have their fulfilment in Jesus' victory over death, a victory which now enables us to live our lives in faithfulness and hope. Paul is concerned to share the certainty of his belief that, with Jesus pleading our cause, there is no need for fear.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son', God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

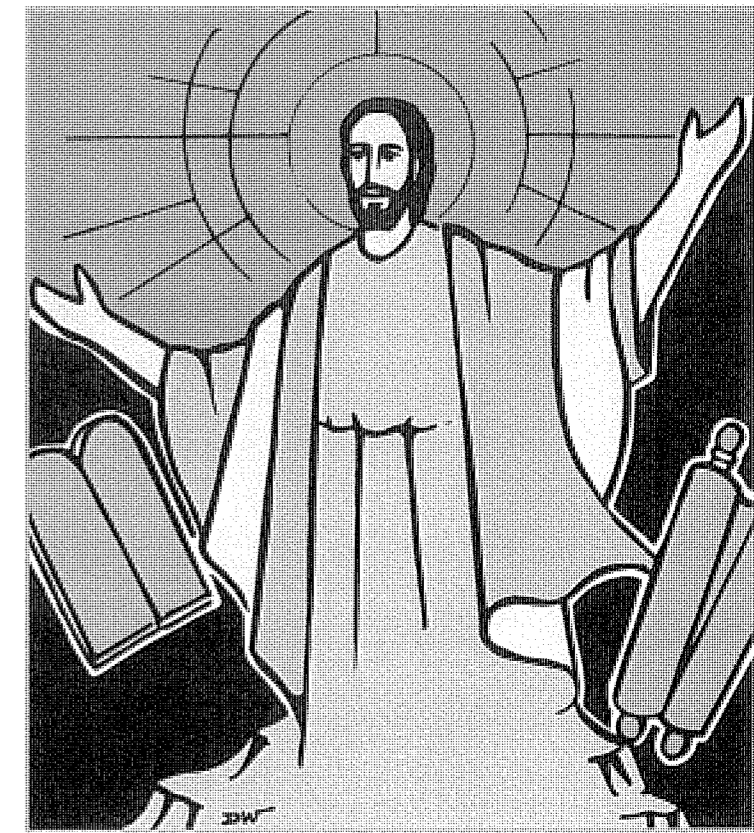
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PS

Ps 115: 10, 15-19. R. 114: 9

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord / in the land of the living.

I. I trusted, even when I said: / 'I am sorely afflicted.' / O precious in the eyes of the Lord / is the death of his faithful. **R.**



2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; / you have loosened my bonds. / A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: / I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**

3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil / before all his people, / in the courts of the house of the Lord, / in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8: 31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

■ **The word of the Lord.**