

St. Mary of the Cross (Year B): ~ 7-8 August 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, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Gabrielle Driscoll and Paul McDowell

Supervising Priest: Fr Ed Moloney 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

Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015

www.sballan.catholic.edu.au

St. Patrick's Primary School

Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495

www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections in Church last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$381.15	Parish: \$160.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$532.00

COVID – Mass Attendance

The number of persons wishing to attend week-end masses will be restricted due to COVID density quotients. If you have any queries please contact the Parish Secretary on 0492903409.

For those parishioners unable to attend mass this week-end, copies of this week's Combined Newsletter will be placed outside of St Michael's Church Springbank and St. Brigid's Church Ballan for pick up.

For parishioners who do not receive the Combined Newsletter via the Parish Bulletin email, copies of the 18 July and 25 July

newsletters will be available for pickup before the regular weekend masses during August.

COVID-19 Safe Guidelines:

All parishioners are requested to follow COVID-19 Safe Guidelines:

- Always wash your hands before, and when you return home
- Keep at least 1.5 metres between yourself and others
- Never, ever go out if you are unwell unless it is to get tested
- Get vaccinated if you are eligible
- FACE MASKS ARE MANDATORY INSIDE THE CHURCH

Remember to check-in using the Service Victoria QR Code app or complete the sign-in register.

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

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

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



Parish Schools

St. Mary's School, Clarkes Hill

Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280

www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au

St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown

Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604

www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$306.00	Parish: \$385.00
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	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
7/8 August	St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop) 1 Kings 17: 8-16; Col 3: 12-17		
Springbank-6.30pm	Sue Daly		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree-8.45am	Julie & Sophie Boyd		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Catherine Green, Sandra Miller		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
14/15 August	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Apoc 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10; Lk 1: 39-56		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Hugh Ryan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Maria Donegan, Eddie Davis		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Marie Shanahan, Julie Dargan		Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of each Month
23/24 August	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Josh 24: 1-2, 15-18; Eph 5: 21-32		
Clarkes Hill-6.30pm	Marty Forbes, Helen Mahar		Friday- Benediction after each 9.30 am mass
Gordon-8.45am	Therese Winter, Debbie Goldie		Saturday- Reconciliation after 9.30 am mass
Ballan-10.30am	Margaret Green, Mark Conlan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 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	Clarkes 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 Deaths: John Green, Tom White

Anniversaries: Vince O'Neil, Carmel Grano, Clare Creaney, Frank White, Jack Everard, Brendan Nihill, Michael Patmore, Joseph Gerada, Maureen Rolls, Sam Galea, Scott Dupoy, Eily Mahoney, Celie Mullane, Margaret Frawley, Bidy Murphy, Patrick McDermott, Barry Duffin, Rene Hanrahan and Marie Leonard.



Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ
(15 Jan 1842 – 8 Aug 1909)

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

Baptisms: We welcome Zoe Maher who will be baptised this weekend at St. Patrick's Church, Gordon into our faith community. We also celebrate the anniversary of the following recent baptisms: Lacey Toohey and Millicent Simpson. *Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflection

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. Lara Kirk, Marriage, Family and Relationships Co-ordinator for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, reflects on "The Holy Family" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Social Justice Sunday – August 29, 2021

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching and from the wisdom of the world including First Nations. Download the statement from the ACBC Office for Social Justice website: <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>

Plenary Council Prayer Campaign - Fan the Flame: Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

A national campaign has been launched to support a prayerful build-up to the first assembly of the Plenary Council. The "Fan the Flame" campaign is offered as resources for individuals and groups of various sizes and contexts who are providing essential support by praying for the Council journey and specifically for the Council assemblies. Resources are available from <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/>

'Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready' John 6:1-15. *How does God's people to ask questions grounded in the call we received at Baptism: How do we better nourish, accompany, give witness, support, invite, welcome, engage and be present to others, such that we all grow in holiness? (Prayerful and Eucharistic – Discernment Paper p. 6)* www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria delivers counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, support for separating families, homelessness support and pastoral care. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities, to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help the vulnerable and marginalised in our community and empower everyone to reach their full potential. You can donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

Mary MacKillop Prayer

Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop
We ask that you grant our request
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.
Ever generous God hear our prayer. We ask this through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia! Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 6: 25-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Do not worry about your life.

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown in the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

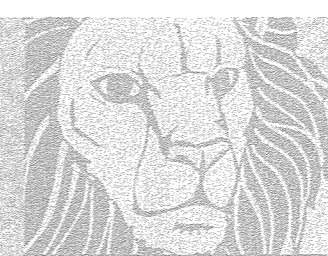
■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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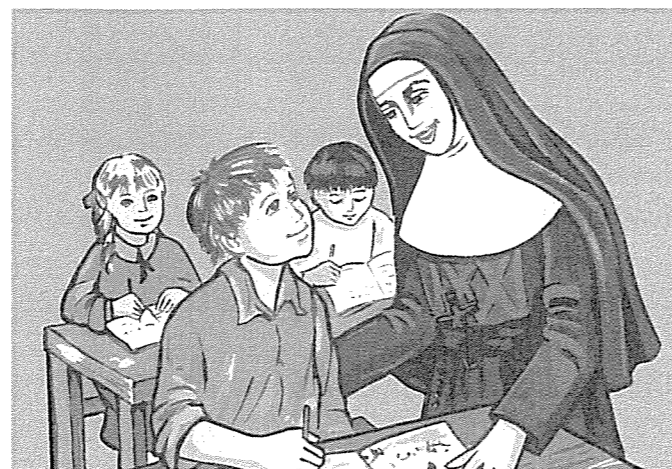
Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (MACKILLOP), VIRGIN / B

08 AUGUST 2021



POVERTY AND TRUST

Two themes, 'poverty' and 'trust' leap out from the readings for St Mary MacKillop's feast day, both befitting Australia's first saint.

Poverty in itself is a lack, a harsh suffering, even a death sentence for those like the widow of Zarephath mentioned in today's first reading, as well as many families that Mary MacKillop served in 19th century Australia. From another perspective, poverty can be embraced as a gospel path, as a way to draw close to the poor and to God who loves the poor.

This path refers not only to the vocations of people like Mary MacKillop, but to an attitude to life itself: the willingness to trust not in material possessions but in the steadfast love of God (Gospel), the decision to let go of personal security in order to reach out to others (second reading).

Mary MacKillop lived life on all these fronts. She knew the bitterness of material impoverishment, she embraced God's love for the poor, and she boldly trusted in God to use her life and gifts in the service of the gospel.

As she assured her family, and the sisters in her congregation, on many occasions, and often in the face of material impoverishment, 'God will take care of us all'.

Teresa Pirola

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17: 8-16

A reading from the first book of Kings.

The jar of meal shall not be spent . . .

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please', he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

*Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth.'*

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 63: 1-8. R. v. 8

R. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry weary land without water. / So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see you strength and your glory. **R.**

2. For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. / So I will bless you

all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

3. On my bed I remember you, / on you I muse through the night / for you have been my help; / In the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 3: 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Bear with one another, forgive each other.

As the chosen of God, the holy people whom he loves, you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion, in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience.

Bear with one another;

forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another.

The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.

Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond.

And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,

because it is for this that you were called together in one body.

Always be thankful.

Let the Word of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you.

Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom.

With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God;

and whatever you say or do, let it be in the name of the Lord Jesus, in thanksgiving to God the Father through him.

■ **The word of the Lord.**