

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, Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth



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
St. Patrick's Primary School

A/Principal: Jayne Bosworth:
Principal: Mr Paul McDowell

☎ 5368 1015
☎ 5368 9495

www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections in Church last weekend & Parish Office Drop-Off

Loose	Presbytery:	Parish:
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	

Looking Forward:

The Diocese of Ballarat recently released the draft version of the *Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025* document for discussion. The document details the challenges facing parishes, & outlines proposals for restructuring parishes. The proposed restructure will directly affect the Parish of Gordon. The Gordon Parish Leadership Team invites all parishioners to carefully read & review the draft *Looking Forward* document. By the end of next week, the document will be uploaded on to the Parish webpage, forwarded to subscribers of the Parish Bulletin, & printed as an attachment to the 18/19 September & 25/26 September copies of the Combined Newsletter. Because of COVID restrictions, copies of *Looking Forward* will also be

placed in the bins/boxes at all churches for pick up. Copies will also be available from the Parish Office. Members of the Parish Leadership Team are seeking further clarification with respect to the proposed changes & will continue to keep the parish community informed.

COVID - Mass Attendance

Attendance is capped at 20 persons. Bookings will be coordinated via the Parish Office. Please email or ring the Parish Secretary on 0492 903 409 to book attendance at all forthcoming masses. Remember to leave your name, contact phone number and preferred mass time/place. The booking register will close every Friday at 3pm. If you have said you will attend mass & cannot go, please inform the Parish Secretary. On arrival, sign-in with the QR code, sanitize your hands and wear a facemask.

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
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

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$	Parish: \$
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COVID Due to COVID restrictions, attendance is capped at 20.

Looking Forward

The Diocese of Ballarat recently released the draft version of the *Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025* document for discussion. The document details the challenges facing Parishes, & outlines proposals for restructuring parishes. The proposed restructure will directly affect the Parish of

Bungaree. The Bungaree Parish Leadership Team invites all Parishioners to read & review the document. By the end of next week, the document will be uploaded on to the Parish webpage, forwarded to contributors on the Planned Giving Program & printed as an attachment to the combined notice sheet in the coming weeks. Procedures for forwarding your comments on the proposed changes will be detailed on next week's combined notice sheet. Members of the Parish Leadership Team are keen to hear your feedback.

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
11/12 September	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Isa 50: 5-9; James 2: 14-18		
Springbank-6.30pm	Sue Daly		Tuesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree-8.45am	D Rix		Wednesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Bert Jarvis & Lin Bowers		Thursday - 9.30am Bungaree
18/19 September	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 2: 12, 17-20; James 3: 16-4:3		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Dominic Hanrahan		Friday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Beth Calleja		Saturday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Catherine Green, Sandra Miller		Holy Hour - 1 st Thursday of each Month
25/26 September	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Num 11:25-29; James 5: 1-6		
Clarkes Hill-6.30pm	Tim Bennet		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon-8.45am	Joan Bourke		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan-10.30am	Marie Shanahan, Julie Dargan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

<i>Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 9.30am All Welcome!</i>					
	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarks 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 Walsh

Anniversaries: Noel Kelly, Katherine Maher, Paul (Cheeks) Maher, George Richardson, Jeanette Pearse, Danny Frawley, Peg Shanahan, Peter Duffy, Eileen Prendergast, John Meiklejohn, Elspeth Eastwood, Emily Green, James Cummins & Jack Nunn.

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

Safeguarding Sunday – September 12

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday this Sunday - the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

Catholic Mission Month

Catholic Mission Australia has launched its annual World Mission Month Appeal, focusing on the work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand For more info go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/catholic-mission-launches-world-mission-month-appeal>

Mercy Education in Catholic Education 2021 marks the 140 year anniversary of Damascus College. Veronica Lawson RSM, past student, teacher and College leader shares a reflection from her time at Sacred Heart College, St Martin's in the Pines. Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRCfBurBvx0>

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. Pope's intention for September:

Universal intention – an environmentally sustainable lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Season of Creation – September 1 – October 4, 2021 runs annually from Sept 1 to Oct 4 – the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Dedicated to prayer, reflection & celebration of God as Creator, it also reflects prayerfully on the gifts of creation & the mission given to us by God to care for creation & respond to its needs & crises. This year our theme is 'A Home for All? Renewing the oikos (Greek: home) of God'. Oikos is a home for all but our common home, the Earth, is now in danger. For info go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2021/>

Study and Mentoring (SAM) Program applications invited

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) Program offers financial assistance for women undertaking tertiary studies at a recognised theological institution. Core components of the program include opportunities for spiritual direction, mentoring and dialogue with like-minded women. For more information go to <https://www.goodsams.org.au/2021/08/17/study-and-mentoring-leadership-program-focuses-on-womens-gifts/>

Hello Everyone,

As you may have seen, the Victorian Government has announced an easing of COVID restrictions for Regional Victoria from Thursday September 9. This easing of restrictions will apply throughout our Diocese of Ballarat.

Religious gatherings and ceremonies will be permitted for up to **20 people** per venue (plus those required to conduct the ceremony).

Funerals (indoor and outdoor) will be permitted with up to **20 people** attending, plus those necessary to conduct the funeral. Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.

Weddings (indoor and outdoor) will be permitted with up to **10 people** attending, plus those necessary to conduct the wedding. Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.

Masks must be worn indoors and outdoors except if at home or if an exception applies.

I thank everyone who has helped to contain the pandemic in our region so that we can begin to gather again in person for Mass and other celebrations. While the number who can gather is still small, I pray that this might be the first step towards further easing of limits so that soon we will be able to come together in greater numbers. Thank you for supporting one another through these trying times. God bless you all. Bishop Paul

Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday

Gracious God, you love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed. Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

You are the Christ . . . The Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

12 SEPTEMBER 2021

PATHWAY TO LIFE

In Caesarea Philippi as Jesus prepared to take the dark road to Calvary he asked his disciples whether they really understood his mission and the fearful fate that awaited him in Jerusalem. Not surprisingly, their understanding was limited and their vision clouded by hopes and dreams of an earthly kingdom and release from foreign oppression and domination. Peter was correct in identifying Jesus as the Christ, the anointed king, but completely misguided in thinking that Jesus could avoid the passion. It was precisely by this means that he would open a pathway to the glory of the resurrection. After the resurrection the early disciples came to understand that the mystery of the identity of the suffering servant of Isaiah was now revealed. Jesus was the one who was able to endure the shame and suffering of the cross with confidence and courage because he knew that the love of God would always be there to sustain him.

Jesus was clear that those who want to follow him must be prepared to courageously set out on the same path. The mystery of the paradox of losing our lives in order to find them is one that each disciple must embrace. The letter of James reflects on how this can be lived out at the most practical level by giving of oneself and what we have for the good of those less fortunate than ourselves. Acknowledging that Jesus is the Christ is one thing, putting it into practice is another. Our actions will speak louder than our words.

FIRST READING

Isa 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

*I gave my body to those who struck me.
The Lord has opened my ear.*

For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone
start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?

■ The word of the Lord.

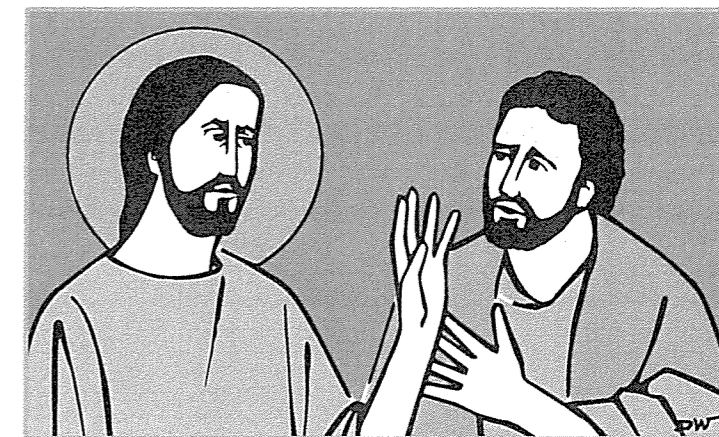
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 114:1-6, 8-9. R. v. 9

**R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living. (or Alleluia!)**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard / the cry of
my appeal; / for he turned his ear to me / in
the day when I called him. R.

2. They surrounded me, the snares of
death, / with the anguish of the tomb; / they
caught me, sorrow and distress. / I called on
the Lord's name. / O Lord my God, deliver
me! R.

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; / our
God has compassion. / The Lord protects the
simple hearts; / I was helpless so he saved
me. R.



4. He has kept my soul from death, / my eyes
from tears / and my feet from stumbling. /
I will walk in the presence of the Lord / in the
land of the living. R.

SECOND READING

James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James.

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gal 6:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross
of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies
the world to me and me to the world.
Alleluia!**