

## 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

|                |                       |                 |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Loose          | Presbytery: \$232.60- | Parish: \$90.00 |
| Planned Giving | Envelopes 2020/21:    | \$2104.50       |

**Parish of Gordon Update** – On Thursday 14 October, Bishop Bird announced two parish appointments in the Diocese that will take effect on January 10, 2022

**Fr Justin Driscoll will become Parish Priest of the Creswick, Daylesford and Gordon Parishes.** Fr Justin has served as Administrator of the Cathedral Parish for the past 14 years. I offer my thanks for his outstanding ministry in this role. I pray for blessings upon him as he moves into the new role of care for the people of Creswick, Daylesford and Gordon.

**Fr Ed Moloney will become Administrator of the Ballarat Cathedral Parish.** Fr Ed has served on the staff of Corpus Christi Seminary in Melbourne for the past 6 years. I thank Fr Ed for his dedication throughout this time in guiding seminarians on their journey towards priestly ministry. I pray

for blessings upon him as he moves back to our Diocese to care for the people of the Cathedral Parish.

**COVID** As of 29 October, and based on 80% vaccination rate, we will return to the density quotient of 4 square metres for church attendance, with all attendees fully vaccinated as of 5<sup>th</sup> November. After checking in via QR Code (or sign-in register), the COVID Safe Marshall will ask to see your **COVID-19 Digital Certificate** (paper copy or mobile phone) or your **medical exemption**.

**COVID-19 vaccination certificate** The Australian Immunisation Register can post immunisation history statements for those having difficulty accessing a digital copy (it may take up to 14 days to arrive). Phone 1800 653 809, Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm. Officeworks are offering to downsize and laminate vaccination certificates for \$4.00. You need to provide a copy of the printed certificate.

## 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: \$434.00 | Parish: 160.00\$ |
|----------------------|------------------|

**COVID** The Victorian Government has announced that COVID restrictions will ease further, as the state records an 80% vaccination rate. The limit of 20 persons per mass will no longer be followed. Instead attendance caps have been re-introduced based on a density quotient of one person per 4 square metres. All parishioners attending weekend masses after 5<sup>th</sup> November will be asked to show their vaccination status (**COVID-19 Digital Certificate**) or your **medical exemption**, to the designated COVID Safe Marshall at the

time of sign-in to mass. Remember to wear your facemask indoors.

**COVID-19 vaccination certificate** The Australian Immunisation Register can post immunisation history statements for those having difficulty accessing a digital copy (it may take up to 14 days to arrive). Phone 1800 653 809, Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm. Officeworks are offering to downsize and laminate vaccination certificates for \$4.00. You need to provide a copy of the printed certificate.

|                       | READER/INTERCESSIONS  | OFFERTORY | WEEDKDAY MASSES                                    |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|--|
| <b>30/31 October</b>  | <b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Deut 6: 2-6; Heb 7: 23-28</b>      |           |  |
| Springbank-6.30pm     | Liz O'Loughlin  |           | Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree (30 persons only)        |
| Bungaree-8.45am       | N Jeffrey   |           | Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree                        |
| Ballan-10.30am        | Margaret Green  |           | Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree                         |
| <b>6/7 November</b>   | <b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kings 17:10-16; Heb 9: 24-28</b> |           |  |
| Dunnstown-6.30pm      | Trish White   |           | Friday – 9.30am Bungaree                           |
| Gordon-8.45am         | Marie Conroy  |           | Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree                         |
| Ballan-10.30am        | Julie Dargan  |           | Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each Month |
| <b>13/14 November</b> | <b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Dan 12:1-13 Heb 10:11-14, 18</b>   |           |  |
| Springbank-6.30pm     | Donna Simpson   |           | Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass             |
| Gordon-8.45am         | Kerryn Taylor   |           | Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass          |
| Ballan-10.30am        | Rosemary Carnavan   |           |  |

## LITURGIES / WEEKDAY MASSES

| Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 9.30am All Welcome! |  |                        |                        |                        |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday                                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday | 5 <sup>th</sup> 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 |                        |                        |                        |                        |

**Anniversaries:** Reg Mullane, Desmond Kane, Philip Calilleri, Kathleen Kennedy, Martin Seiger, Bronislaw Blazek, Richard Keating, Catherine Hayward-Brown, Brian Britt, Leo Leonard, Eileen Ryan, Patrick Elliot, Alma Holloway, Allan Dixon, Noel Torpy & Ronnie Spratling

**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, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Eileen Haintz.

**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 supporting children from vulnerable & disadvantaged backgrounds through the Kindergarten Centre. For more information go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/catholic-mission-launches-world-mission-month-appeal>

**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 & asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope & 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](http://www.thepopevideo.org). Pope's intention for October: **Intention for evangelisation - Missionary Disciples:** *We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.*

**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 & character. Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD reflects on "St Joseph - A Hidden Life" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

### Upcoming Forum: Listening, learning... change

*Cry of the Earth Cry of the Poor* – a Ballarat response to the Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 10.00am – 3.00pm. This free event can be attended via some parish hubs (COVID restrictions depending) or independently via the Zoom platform. Register through Eventbrite [https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/listening-learningchange-tickets-185567857457?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch&keep\\_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/listening-learningchange-tickets-185567857457?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch&keep_tld=1). Brochures are available through your parish or can be downloaded from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/>

### The National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPRI) marks 25 years of service to the Church

To acknowledge this significant anniversary, Bishop Michael McKenna of Bathurst, who was General Secretary in 1996 when the then Pastoral Projects Office (forerunner to the NCPRI) was established, will deliver a lecture, 'How do we know what we don't know?' The lecture will look at how research and analyses undertaken by the NCPRI have informed the planning for parish, school and other ministry developments, and have supported major Church initiatives, including the Plenary Council. The lecture is hosted by ACU and will be held online on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 5.00pm (AEDT). There is no cost to attend. To register go to <https://www.acu.edu.au/ncpr25>

**Thank You** On behalf of the Parish of Gordon, we wish to acknowledge and thank all the volunteers who have contributed to the great work that has been done at the Gordon Cemetery during recent months. We are very appreciate of this wonderful community spirit that recognises and commemorates the generations who are no longer physically in our midst but have left their imprints on our lives.



### Cemetery Visits during November

November is the month when we particularly remember All Souls. It is a time for families and friends to gather and remember our deceased family members.

Fr Sajan will visit the **Gordon Cemetery** on Sunday afternoon 7 November at 3 pm

On Sunday 14 November mass will be held at the **Pootilla Cemetery** at 8.45 am

Fr Sajan will visit **the Ballan Cemetery** on Sunday afternoon 28 November at 3 pm

Attendance is based on vaccination status (fully vaccinated) and density quotient of 2 sqm with 500 capacity limit for outdoor events. Please bring your **COVID-19 Digital Certificate or your medical exemption** with you on the day, as COVID Safe Marshalls will check your **COVID-19 Digital Certificate** at the gate. (In order to have a crowd of more than 30, attendees must be double vaccinated). Remember to bring a facemask, just in case you are unable to maintain the 2 sqm rule.

Spread the word; let family members and friends living outside the parish know the day, place and time.

### PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

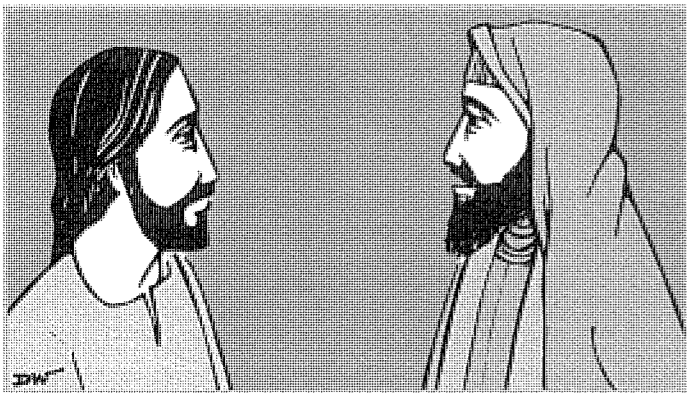
*Remember O Most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them, Amen.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

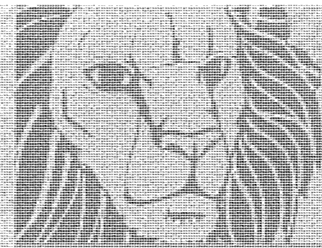
#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2021. No 1902. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

31 OCTOBER 2021

## GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER

All too often Christians fall into the trap of characterising the Jewish faith as being legalistic. It is a judgement that is both unfair and inaccurate. It is true that Jesus engaged in sometimes heated debates with other interpreters of the Jewish Torah (Law), and this is reflected in the gospel tradition. At the same time, the gospel tradition attests that, apart from the regulations concerning ritual purity, Jesus agreed with many of his contemporaries about the key values that lay at the heart of their religion.

Poised to enter the promised land after forty years of wandering in the desert Moses takes the opportunity to remind the people what will be required to flourish in the future. Their loyalty to God will be measured by the degree to which they write God's law in their hearts. This is the compass that will guide them in the years ahead and nurture their relationship with the living God.

The great first-century Rabbi Hillel was challenged to explain the Torah while standing on one foot. His reply was "Don't do to others what is repugnant to you. All else is commentary." Asked by a scribe to articulate his view of the greatest commandment Jesus highlights Moses' instruction to love God with all one's heart, mind, and strength adding the command to love our neighbour as ourselves. Hillel, like the ten commandments, focused on avoiding harming others. Jesus' genius can be seen in phrasing it positively in terms of love – our best compass and guide.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

## FIRST READING

Deut 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy  
*Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord with all your heart.*

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. I love you, Lord, my strength; / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / he has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. R.

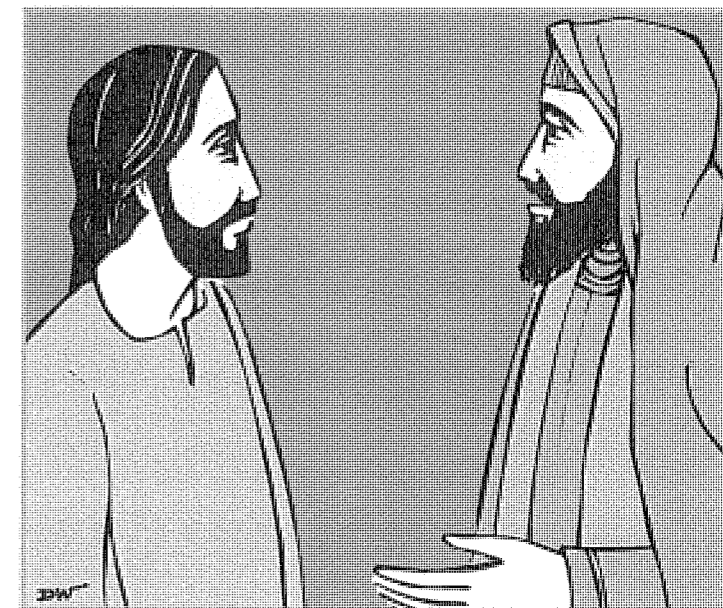
## SECOND READING

7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.*

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ,



because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 14:23

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them, and we will  
come to them.  
Alleluia!**