

# First Sunday of Advent (Year C): ~ 27/28 November 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, 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

Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth  
Principal: Mr Paul McDowell

☎ 5368 1015  
☎ 5368 9495

[www.sballan.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sballan.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.spagordon.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spagordon.catholic.edu.au)

### Collections in Church last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$371.10-	Parish: \$131.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$4517.40

Holy Souls donations as of 26 November - \$150.00

**COVID** Copies of Bishop Bird's letter of 18 November 2021 have been placed next to the sign-in sheet.

### Liturgy Readings:

With Advent approaching, the Parish is inviting all parishioners – young and old – to consider volunteering for liturgy readings this coming year. The Parish is especially supportive of family groups who wish to participate.

Coordinators of the liturgy roster are Monica Eastwood (Gordon), Anne Eskdale (Ballan) and Donna Simpson (Springbank), or contact the Parish Secretary at: [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### Cemetery Visits during November

Fr Sajan will visit the **Ballan Cemetery** on Sunday afternoon 28 November at 3 pm. 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 50, attendees must be double vaccinated).

## 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](http://www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au)

### Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$452.00	Parish: \$175.00
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**COVID:** Please read Bishop Bird's letter to parishioners dated 18 November 2021 (attachment).

### Newsletter Mailing List:

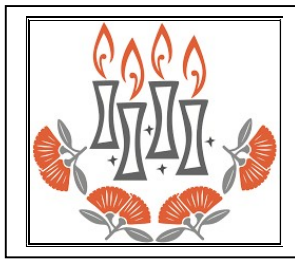
A recent computer software upgrade inadvertently removed the mailing list for the Combined Newsletter. It has now been restored and updated. If you did not receive your e-copy of the newsletter last week or would like to receive an

e-copy in the future, please forward your email address to: [bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### Thank you:

A very special thank you to Fiona Loader, Kayleen Faull, Majella Muller, Mary Slater and Pat Prendergast who sang so beautifully during mass on the 14th November at St Michael's Church.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEDKDAY MASSES
<b>27/28 November</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent Jer 33:14-16 1 Thess 3:12-4:2</b>		
Clarkes Hill-6.30 pm	Con Powell		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45 am	Beth Calleja		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	Lloyd Lamb		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>4/5 December</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11</b>		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Chris Leonard		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon- 8.45am	Kerryn Taylor		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Lin Bowers		Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each Month
<b>11/12 December</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4: 4-7</b>		
Springbank-6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree-8.45 am	A Elliot, O Elliot		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan-10.30 am	Catherine Green		



## 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
<b>Sat 6.30pm</b>	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarkes Hill	Springbank
<b>Sun 8.45am</b>	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
<b>Sun 10.30am</b>	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
	Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am				

### Diocesan Masses:

There are many opportunities for all who wish to attend mass regardless of their vaccination status. Where vaccination status is not being checked, attendance has been increased to 50 people. Please note that for these Masses, attendees are required to pre-book; wear a mask whilst indoors, check in via QR Code, and use hand sanitiser.

Mon-10 am	St Patrick's Cathedral	5331 2933
Tues 9.30 am	St Michael's Bungaree	5334 0450
Wed 9.30 am	St Aloysius' Redan	0455 212 123
Thurs 10 am	OLHC Wendouree	5339 2302
Sat 9.30 am	St Alipius' Ballarat East	5332 6611
Sun 5.00 pm	St Alipius' Ballarat East	53326611

**Recent Deaths:** Leelamma Mathew, Kevin Hanrahan

**Our Sincere Condolences:** Fr Sajan received the sad news that his mother, Leelamma Mathew, passed away on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November. We offer our sincere condolences and prayers for Fr Sajan and his family. *May Christ welcome Leelamma into eternal life and May the Lord comfort all the family.*

**Anniversaries:** John (Jack) Glenane, Frances, Maher, Ed McDonald, Tommy McGuane, Kevin Glenane, Peter McDermott, Winnie Leonard, Bob Frawley, Michael Frawley, Maurice Kelly, Bishop James O'Collins, James Conlan, Sarah Franklin, Mary Molloy, Tray Toohey, Joe Fitzpatrick, Mary O'Leary, Fredrick Giles, Frank O'Loughlin, Mick O'Loughlin, Harry Hooker & James (Jimmy) Simpson.

**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.

**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). The Pope's intention for November: **Universal intention – people who suffer from depression:** We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support & a light that opens them up to life.

**Ordination to the Diaconate:** Seminarians Matthew Restall and William Lowry will be ordained Deacons for the Diocese of Ballarat on Friday, December 10, 2021 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Attendance requirements for the Cathedral is QR code or registration upon entry and full vaccination status needs to be provided to the COVID check-in Marshalls.

**Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal:** This Christmas donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness this Christmas and your help can provide them with much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to call home. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

**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. Fr Paul Nulley is a priest of the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn and has been parish priest of St Joseph's, O'Connor since 2017. He also serves as archdiocesan vocations director and chaplain of Australian Catholic University's Canberra campus. Fr Paul reflects on "St Joseph – A Powerful Intercessor" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

**A Day of Prayer for Myanmar:** Pax Christi and friends invite you to remember Myanmar in a Day of Prayer on Sunday, November 28, 2021. Suffering and trauma have accompanied the people of Myanmar for decades. On February 1 the military government was reimposed. This day is an opportunity to pray with Myanmar in its yearning to be free. An online prayer service is being organised for Advent Sunday, November 29 at 7.30pm. To register for this service and receive the link, email Harry Kerr, [ahmkerr@hotmail.com](mailto:ahmkerr@hotmail.com). If you want to know more, pick up a promotional flyer (placed near the sign-in sheet).

**CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal:** Your generous donation to this year's Giving Tree Appeal will provide practical and financial support for struggling Victorian families - from three square meals a day to help with utility bills... every gift you choose helps. To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/14/giving-tree-appeal>

**Christmas Dinner – 7<sup>th</sup> December:** This year's Christmas Dinner will be held Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec at Donegan's Farm. The meal will be \$30/pp. Drinks at bar prices. If you wish to attend, please sign the booking form placed next to the sign-in registry or contact the Parish Secretary on 0492 903 409 or [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

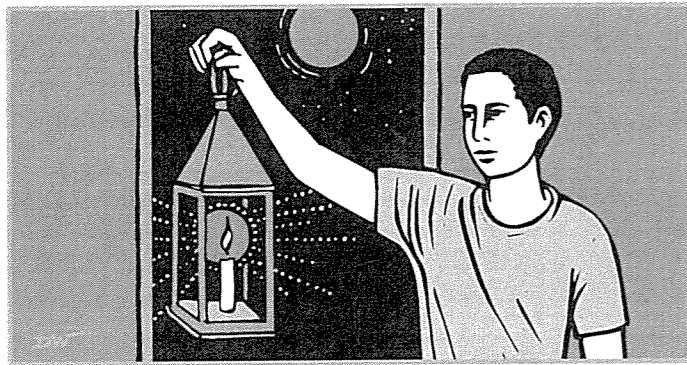
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Your redemption is near at hand.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

28 NOVEMBER 2021

## FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISE

The Portuguese have a proverb that 'God writes straight with crooked lines.' We know that it is not always easy to discern what God is writing. Our world, indeed our own lives, can be marked by so many contradictions and tensions. Can there be faith in the midst of disappointment? Can there be hope in the face of suffering? The readings for today agree in proclaiming that the answer is 'yes' for the person of faith.

Jeremiah writes words of hope and promise in the midst of the massive upheaval and loss of faith that accompanied the people of Israel going into exile in 587BC. To speak words of faith in the face of such horror and disappointment would have required a great deal of faith indeed.

Paul's letter to the Thessalonians was written only some twenty years after the death of Jesus at a time when the earliest Christians believed that the Lord Jesus would return at any moment. Paul advises them about how best to prepare and encourages them to keep their vision and commitment while they are waiting.

Some twenty years later Luke's Christians ran the risk of being discouraged due to the delay in the return of the Lord. They found themselves fearful of that day when the Lord Jesus would return and needed encouragement and consolation. Luke reminds them of Jesus' words, to give them hope so that when he returns, he will find them confident and hopeful, ready and waiting.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

## FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

*I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David. See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:*

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

**R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. R.

2. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. R.

3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for those who keep his covenant and will. / The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; / to them he reveals his covenant. R.

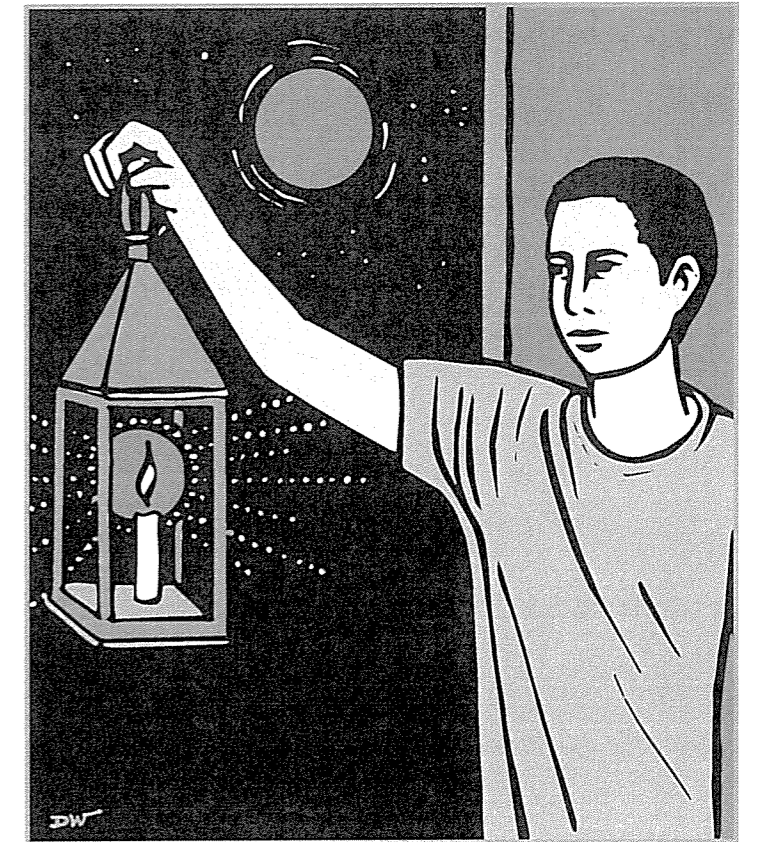
## SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

*When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the



whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.**

**Alleluia!**