

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C): ~ 11/12 December 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
www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections in Church last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$317.85	Parish: \$144.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$4746.40

St Brigid's Church - Sunday, December 19: Cuppa and Christmas Cheer after mass. All Welcome.

Anointing Mass – December 22 at 10.30 am

Fr Sajan will celebrate an anointing mass for the parishioners of Bungaree and Gordon at St Brigid's Church, Ballan on Wednesday, 22 December at 10.30 am.

Liturgy Readings:

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

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: \$417.00	Parish: \$115.00
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Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Keep up-to-date with the latest COVID-19 restrictions at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony-regional-victoria>. Updates available from <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/coronavirus-the-churchs-information-and-advice-2/>. Mask requirements, density limits and caps in place for weddings, funerals, places of worship and other settings apply if the vaccination status of attendees is not being checked. The usual exceptions will apply.

Columban Art Calendar-2022

If you wish to receive a copy of the 2022 Columban Calendar, please contact the Parish Secretary.

Anointing Mass – December 22 at 10.30 am

Fr Sajan will celebrate an anointing mass for the parishioners of Bungaree and Gordon at St Brigid's Church, Ballan on Wednesday, 22 December at 10.30 am.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
11/12 December	Third Sunday of Advent Zeph 3: 14-18; Phil 4: 4-7		
Springbank-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree (50)
Bungaree-8.45 am	A Elliot, O Elliot		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	Catherine Green		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
18/19 December	Fourth Sunday of Advent Micah 5: 1-4; Heb 10: 5-10		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	Katrina Griffiths		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45 am	Kate Carey		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	Julie Dargan		Holy Hour – 1st Thursday of each Month
1 January	Mary, the Holy Mother of God Num 6: 22-27; Gal 4: 4-7		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
2 January	The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60: 1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6		
Gordon-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan-10.30 am	To be Arranged		

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				



Anniversaries: Peter Quinlan, Maurice Torpy, Maureen Frawley, Ron Devlin, John Senserrick, Raymond Butler, Jessie Robinson, Bill Maher, Margaret Clifford, Ronald Graham, Margaret Fuller and Brian Shanahan.

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 and Eileen Haintz.

Baptisms: We welcome Billy Rix who will be baptised this weekend at St Michael's Church, Springbank and Leo Crough who will be baptised at St Peter's Church, Clarkes Hill into our faith community. We also celebrate the anniversary of Toby Quinlan, Nellie Rix and Penny Rose Martin who were baptised during the month of December. *Lord God, strengthen your spirit in them, so they may walk in the newness of life.*

OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch: OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers will be preparing free, hot Christmas meals for people to collect on Christmas Day. This is the 30th year the parish has provided Christmas lunch for those in need. Bookings are essential, ph. 0419 975 914 or email christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com. Arrangements can be made for those unable to collect meals.

St John of God Healthcare Ballarat - Pastoral Associate Role

The hospital has exciting opportunities available for dedicated and committed Pastoral Associates to join the Pastoral Services team in promoting the Mission and Values of St John of God Health Care. To view the job description and/or to apply, go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>

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, clothes and a place to call home. Go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

Making a Scene at Christmas: A display of over 500 nativities from more than 60 countries will be held in the Bridge Mall Ballarat on December 4 & 5, 11-20 2021. Entry by gold coin donation. All welcome. More info available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/making-a-scene-at-christmas/>

Praying with Pope Francis: Each month the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks all Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. Pope's intention for December: **Evangelisation-Catechists:** *Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God. May they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the spirit.*

Christmas Mass Times:

Friday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

The Nativity of the Lord Isa 9: 1-7; Titus 2: 11-14

St Peter's Clarkes Hill	6 pm	Fully Vaccinated	St Michael's Springbank	6 pm	Fully Vaccinated
St Michael's Bungaree	8 pm	Fully Vaccinated	St Patrick's Gordon	7.30 pm	Fully Vaccinated

Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

The Nativity of the Lord Isa 52 :7-10; Heb 1: 1-6

St Brendan's Dunnstown	9.30 am	Fully Vaccinated	St Brigid's Ballan	9 am	Fully Vaccinated
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Sunday, December 26

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 1 Sam 1: 20-22, 24-28

St Brendan's Dunnstown	8.45 am	Fully Vaccinated	St Brigid's Ballan	10.30 am	Fully Vaccinated
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Fully Vaccinated – You must be able to show proof of double vaccination if asked by a COVID Safe Marshall

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

12 DECEMBER 2021

PREPARE WELL

All of us have been involved at one time or another with preparing to meet a special guest. It is often a time of mixed emotions as excitement and joy vie with some measure of anxiety about the quality of our preparations.

As Paul's Christians at Philippi waited for the return of the Lord, he knew that it could be for many a time of anxiety; would they find acceptance on his return? Would they find a place in his kingdom? It was a time of trepidation because it was feared that he would return unexpectedly, like a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:2), and find them unprepared. In the face of such anxiety, Paul encourages them to put their trust in the Lord who loves them. Even now they are called to experience the Lord's peace and joy as they wait for his return. Especially, they are called to pray with confidence and trust.

John the Baptist knew that the Messiah was soon to be among us, and we see how he calls those who listen to his message to prepare by taking a hard look at themselves and how they live. In order to be ready when the Messiah comes he calls for a concern for others that expresses itself in generosity, fairness, and compassion.

As we prepare for the Lord's coming among us, today's readings call us to make ready with the confidence of Zephaniah, the peacefulness of Paul, and the justice and compassion of John the Baptist.

FIRST READING

Zeph 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isa 12:2-6. R. v. 6

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for
among you is the great and Holy One of
Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, / I trust,
I shall not fear. / For the Lord is my strength,
my song, / he became my saviour. / With
joy you will draw water / from the wells of
salvation. **R.**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name! / Make his mighty deeds known
to the peoples! / Declare the greatness of his
name. **R.**



3. Sing a psalm to the Lord / for he has done
glorious deeds, / make them known to all the
earth! / People of Zion, sing and shout for
joy / for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:4-7

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

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the
Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness.
Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the
Lord is very near. There is no need to worry;
but if there is anything you need, pray for it,
asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God, which is so much greater
than we can understand, will guard your hearts
and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.