

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year C): ~ 26 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
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Collections in Church last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$496.75	Parish: \$749.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$5,737.40

Christmas Dues as of 19 December \$285.00.

We thank all who give generously to each of these collections. Donations to the Parish are vital to the sustainability of our parish community.

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
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Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	\$417.00	Parish:	\$115.00
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Ministry and Cleaning Rosters for 2022 - St Michael's Bungaree:

The Parish is inviting all parishioners – young and old – to consider volunteering for the ministry and/or the cleaning roster this coming year. The Parish is especially supportive of family groups who wish to participate. Coordinators of the Ministry roster is Leah

Hanrahan on 0411 859 544 and cleaning roster is Deb Ryan on 0417586107.

Columban Art Calendar-2022:

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

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEDKDAY MASSES
1 January	Mary, the Holy Mother of God	Num 6: 22-27; Gal 4: 4-7	
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree (50)
2 January	The Epiphany of the Lord	Is 60: 1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6	
Gordon-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	To be Arranged		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
9 January	The Baptism of the Lord		
Springbank-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	To be Arranged		Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of each Month
16 January	2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
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: Fr Stephen O'Rourke, Annie Prendergast, Roy Tynan, Pleasance Conroy, Marie Graham, Jack Geary, James Toohey and Eddie Mullane.

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 and Leon Burvill.

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.*

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 apply, go to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study: Our partner, Dayton University, offers low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes. Study cycles are over 3 or 5 weeks. The first Cycle of 2022 begins January 17. Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

Synod of Bishops: Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Job Opportunity – Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission with responsibility for the Dioceses of Ballarat and Sandhurst (West Victoria): For a position description and short video on what it is like to work at Catholic Mission, go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission>. If you are interested, please submit a cover letter of 1 page and a resume no longer than 3 pages to employment@catholicmission.org.au.

Pathways Response Victoria: The Victorian Catholic Bishops launched Pathways Response Victoria this week, which will provide a further way of responding to those who have suffered abuse in the Catholic community. Pathways Response Victoria will be the successor to Towards Healing and The Melbourne Response from the start of 2022. More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pathways-response-victoria/>

All Things New Ignatian Gathering 2022: The Society of Jesus (Australian Jesuits) invites you to its Ignatian Gathering for Young Adults (18-30 years) to take place in Melbourne from January 17 – 21 2022 at Newman College. This gathering is a chance for young people to 'reset, reconnect and re-engage' through building friendships, sharing values, celebrating gratitude, offering service. As implied by the theme, 'All Things New - 2022: spirituality + service + wellbeing', the gathering will focus on these three areas. Cost is \$320.00 plus \$8.50 trybooking fee. Price includes all meals, program activities and individual rooms. Participants will need to comply with the venue's COVID-safe and vaccination requirements at the time of the event. For more information, contact magisaustralia@sjasl.org. To register: <https://www.trybooking.com/BUNRC>

Are you a Spiritual Leader? The Spiritual Leaders Program is an online (via Zoom) one-year, part-time program and will be a mix of selected Thursday evenings, Saturdays, and a 3-day Intensive. The program, which commences in March 2022, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Closing date for applications is 28 January 2022. Places are limited. Apply to Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation in Malvern, VIC. Fee-Help is available to qualifying participants. Telephone 03 9890 1101 or go to: www.heartoflife.melbourne

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men listening to them.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

THE SAVING WORD

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH / C

26 DECEMBER 2021

HOW LOVELY IS YOUR DWELLING PLACE!

Have you ever felt a yearning to visit some special place? Perhaps the place of your childhood that you have not seen for many years. Or perhaps some country that has always fascinated you. Imagine how excited you would feel if you were about to set out on a journey to this place. Or perhaps you have been longing to meet some special person, and the opportunity will soon happen. What joy you would feel.

These are the kinds of emotions the Jewish pilgrims experienced as they journeyed to Jerusalem to visit the great temple. As they made their pilgrimage to Jerusalem filled with longing and joy they sang hymns to God including today's responsorial psalm.

The temple was very special for the people because it signified that God was dwelling in their midst, that God was among them. Our churches and cathedrals have a similar role: they are signs that God is with us in our towns, communities and countryside.

God does not dwell in sacred buildings only. The boy Jesus did not remain in his Father's house in Jerusalem but returned with Mary and Joseph to their humble home in Nazareth, and Jesus continues to dwell with us in our homes. With all their struggles and imperfections our homes are indeed dwelling places of God.

We can sometimes search everywhere for Jesus only to find that he has been with us, in our homes and communities, all the time.

FIRST READING 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my Lord. As you live, my Lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10. R. v. 5

R. How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

1. How lovely is your dwelling place, / Lord, God of hosts. / My soul is longing and yearning, / is yearning for the courts of the Lord. / My heart and my soul ring out their joy / to God, the living God. **R.**

2. They are happy, who dwell in your house, / for ever singing your praise. / They are happy, whose strength is in you; / they walk with ever growing strength. **R.**



3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, / give ear, O God of Jacob. / Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, / look on the face of your anointed. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St John.

He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

■ **The word of the Lord.**