

The Epiphany of the Lord (Year A): 7/8 January 2023



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll - ☎ 5368 9280

Parish Leadership Team: Sue Daly, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Nola Kersley

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey

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)

PARISH VISION: That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ

We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

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 last week

Presbytery:	Parish:
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Thank You: We sincerely thank all parishioners for their generous contributions towards the support and wellbeing

of our parish, and their recognition of the importance of the Bishop's Appeal this year.

2023 Columban Art Calendar: Cost: \$10. Calendars will be available in the New Year.

Parish Office Closed: The Parish Office will be closed during the first and second weeks of January. The Office will re-open on Tuesday, 17 January 2023.



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 Leadership Team: Damien Ryan, Barry Sheehan, Dianne Reynolds, Dom Prendergast, Marty Forbes, Chris Frawley & Inez French.

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Thursday 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5334 0450 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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We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery: N/A	Parish: N/A
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Christmas Dues: N/A **Bishop's Appeal:** N/A

Thank You: We are extremely appreciative of your generous donations to the Parish, and contribution to the Bishop's Appeal.

2023 Columban Art Calendar: Cost: \$10. Calendars will be available in the New Year.

Thank You: I wish to extend my sincere thanks to you for all the good wishes, gifts, assistance and support that I have received from everyone over the Christmas season. Fr. Sajan Mathew

Parish Office Hours: The Parish Office will be closed during the first and second weeks of January. The Office will re-open on Thursday, 19 January 2023

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
7/8 January 2023	The Epiphany of the Lord Isa 60:1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Julie Dargan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
14/15 January 2023	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1: 1-3		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Winnie Zammit		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
21/22 January 2023	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 8:23 – 9:3, 1 Cor 1:10 – 13, 17		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Winnie Zammit		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree

LITURGIES / WEEKLY MASSES					
	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
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 6.30pm - 1st Sunday ~ Daylesford 6.30pm - 3rd Sunday Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am - 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday; Daylesford 10.30 am - 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday					

Adoration of the Shepherds by Guido Reni Public Domain

Anniversaries: Frank Fuller, Fr Patrick Culligan, Francis Thyne, Joseph Palfi, Katalin & George Dusa, Margaret Conroy, Gwen Shanahan, Brian (Mick) O'Neil, Maisie Carey, Jack Shanahan, Patricia Coulson, John Thomas, Joseph Maher, Teresa Dridan, Stephan Haintz, Susan McDermott, Maurine Kiely, Henry Spratling, Patrick Moran.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Lyla Geary, Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Moira Myers, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Chaiel Balcombe Jackson and John Healy.

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 January - For educators:** *We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.*

RCIA for Children: We are inviting expressions of interest from parents who seek baptism for their children who are 7 years and older who have not yet been baptised. *Expression of Interest Forms* have been placed in the churches or ring the Parish Office (mobile: 0492903409).

2023 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Expressions of interest are invited to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, June 11th - 24th 2023 - Jordan, Petra, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Mt of Olives, Jericho, Qumran. Fully escorted, all-inclusive pilgrimage accompanied by Fr Justin Driscoll and arranged through Lifestyle Travel in Ballarat. Contact Fr Justin for further information (Daylesford 0448 220 685) or info@lifestyletravel.com.au

Helping those affected by floods: St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions: Call 13 18 12 or visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>. Make a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

Advance Notice:

Rite of Election 2023: Saturday, February 25 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

Mass of the Oils 2023: Monday, April 3 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall.



Pope Benedict XVI (1927-2022)

“Benedict XVI did theology on his knees in prayer. His explanation of matters of faith was carried out with the devotion of a man who totally surrendered himself to God and, who under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, sought an ever-greater understanding of mystery of Jesus, who fascinated him from his youth.

Benedict XVI reminded us by word and example that the fullness of our existence is found only in the personal encounter with Jesus Christ, the Living One, the incarnate Logos, the full and definitive revelation of God, who in Him manifests Himself as love to the end.” (Pope Francis)

In a personal recollection of the late Pontiff, Cardinal Fernando Filoni describes him as a “prophet of our time”. “It seems to me that Benedict XVI was indeed a prophet of our time, because he felt the vocation of bringing the world, which was rapidly changing and was forgetting God, to meet His presence”.



‘Where is the infant king of the Jews?’ they asked. ‘We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.’ When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in Judaea,’ they told him ‘for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders
of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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QUEST FOR TRUTH

Truth, like greatness, can come to us in a variety of ways. Some search for it and others have it thrust upon them. What brought the wise men from afar on such a journey of great adventure, risk and discovery? They were indeed people seeking the truth, and even more importantly, they were open to the new and unexpected ways in which that truth came to them. As they brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, the vision of that great prophet Isaiah is fulfilled. He knew that the call that Israel had received was one destined to be shared by all humanity, united in its worship of the living God. As a reward for their tireless quest for the truth, the wise men receive the gift of knowledge and understanding. It is not so with Herod. The truth is most unwelcome and is thrust upon him. The message of the astrologers from the East is decidedly unsettling for Herod: if this child is the newborn king of the Jews what will be Herod’s status in the future?

Paul too has travelled, searched and wrestled with the truth that God wishes to be proclaimed to the world. It is a message that has the power to both liberate and discomfort. Gentiles who accept Jesus now share the same promises and inheritance as the people of Israel. They are part of the same body. Jewish Christians had to deal with the fact that what had been their exclusive privilege was now extended to the Gentiles and that this too was part of God’s plan to be graciously accepted.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-13 R.v.11

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,/ to a king’s son your justice,/ that he may judge your people in justice/ and your poor in right judgement. **R.**
2. In his days justice shall flourish/ and peace till the moon fails./ He shall rule from sea to sea,/ from the Great River to earth’s bounds. **R.**
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts/ shall pay him tribute./ The kings of Sheba and Seba/ shall bring him gifts./ Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,/ all nations shall serve him. **R.**
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry/ and the needy who are helpless./ He will have pity on the weak/ and save the lives of the poor. **R.**



SECOND READING

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

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

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

We have come from the East to worship the King.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east.