

# Third Sunday of Lent (Year A): 11/12 March 2023

We are child safe  
Parishes, committed to  
safeguarding children,  
young people &  
vulnerable adults.

## 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, Brendan Maher, Nola Kersley, Mark Conlan  
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

Parish Schools	St. Brigid's Primary School St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth: Principal: Mr Paul McDowell	☎ 5368 1015 ☎ 5368 9495	<a href="http://www.sbballan.catholic.edu.au">www.sbballan.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="http://www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au">www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au</a>
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### Collections last week

<b>Presbytery:</b> \$494.00	<b>Parish:</b> \$386.00
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**Ballan Mass:** Thursday 10.30am Mass and Biblical Formation continues at St Brigid's Ballan on March 18<sup>th</sup>. All welcome!

**Gordon Mass- St Patrick's Day:** Fr Justin will celebrate mass on Friday at St Patrick's Church on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am (see notice on adjoining page)

**Request for Assistance:** Last Sunday, a member of our Planned Giving Program pledged \$50 to the parish. However, no identification /reference number was written on the Planned Giving envelope. If you think this may be your donation, please contact Aileen at the Parish Office, so that your contribution can be recorded correctly.

**Change of Mass times- March 19<sup>th</sup>:** Change of mass times for Gordon & Ballan due to the Ballan Autumn Festival Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>. **Reconciliation Dismissal** to be held at 8.45am Mass at Ballan for Children enrolled in the Parish Reconciliation Program

Our Parishes  
acknowledge this land's  
traditional owners and  
custodians and pay our  
respects to Elders past,  
present, and emerging.

## 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	<a href="http://www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au">www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="http://www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au">www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au</a>
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### Collections last fortnight:

<b>Presbytery:</b> \$835.00	<b>Parish:</b> \$1435.00
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**'School Enrolments:** Enrolments are now open at St. Brendan's, Dunnstown and St. Mary's, Clarkes Hill. Please contact the schools for a personalised tour. All welcome!

**Bungaree Sacramental Program:** If you wish your child to be part of the Bungaree Parish Sacramental program this year, please ring or email St. Mary's, Clarkes Hill by Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> of March and leave your phone number, child's name, age and let us know which sacrament/s they will be preparing for and receiving this year. Alternatively, ring the Parish Office on 0492 903 409 or email: bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au and leave your

details with Aileen. Reconciliation is offered for Year 2 children and older and children from Year 3 upwards are invited to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Once we have the numbers and set dates, we will be in contact. Ph 53345280 or email- [principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)

**Diocesan e-News:** The diocesan e-News has been published with stories of news and events in the diocese. Go to: <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/> The Pastoral Office invites parishioners to forward ideas for articles, photographs or stories related to Bungaree parish events (historical and current).

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEDKDAY MASSES
<b>11/12 March 2023</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Rom 5:12, 17-19</b>		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	N. Jeffrey		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Catherine Green		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>18/19 March 2023</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent 1 Sam 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5: 8-14</b>		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>Ballan – 8.45 am*</b>	Bert Jarvis	Brigit Sims Family	Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>Gordon – 10.30 am*</b>	To be Advised		
<b>25/26 March 2023</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Ezek 37: 12-14; Rom 8: 8-11</b>		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Dom Prendergast		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Ballan – 6.30 pm (new time)	Julie Dargan	Tony & Edith Paarhammer	Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month

## LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES

	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 / Ballan	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	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					



[https:// https://stjameschurch.ws/sermons/third-sunday-lent-2/](https://stjameschurch.ws/sermons/third-sunday-lent-2/)

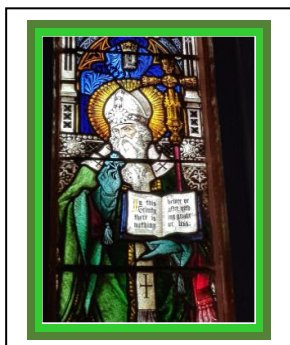
**Anniversaries:** Kath Squire, Albert Small, John (Bernie) Ryan, Frank Sims, David Carton, Margaret O'Regan, William Dridan.

**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. **Pope's intention for March** - For victims of abuse: *We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church. May they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.*

**Lenten Biblical formation with Rosemary Canavan:** Thursdays after 10.30am Mass in Ballan on 16th, 23rd and 30<sup>th</sup> March. Participants will have the opportunity to explore with Rosemary for the Gospel used at Masses on the following Sunday. All are welcome.

**St Patrick's Day Celebrations, Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>**



**11.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church Gordon** for all parishioners and friends (including parishioners from Ballan, Bungaree, Clarks Hill, Dunnstown and Springbank) where we will be joined by the Year 3 & 4 children from St Patrick's Primary.

**Lunch** to follow at the **Wallace Hotel**. All welcome! A booking has been made.

If anyone requires assistance with transport to St Patrick's Church or to the Wallace Pub, email the Parish Office at [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or text/phone 0492 903 409. You can also leave a message on the landline at 53689280.

**A special prayer initiative for the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' pontificate:**

Pope Francis will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> year of his pontificate on March 13, 2023. To highlight this milestone anniversary in a "viral" manner, the Digital Synod has launched a special online map featuring virtual lighted candles representing the prayers of the faithful worldwide for him. Anyone who wishes to join the initiative will find an invitation on the website to pray one or more Hail Mary's <https://www.decimus-annus.org/site/index>. The map with the 'little candles' which represent the Hail Mary's that are prayed for him will be sent to Pope Francis.

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

**Choir for Mass of the Oils 2023:** Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 3, 2023. Practice times are Sunday, March 19, Sunday, March 26 and Sunday, April 2 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest [julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7159.

**Project Compassion Third Sunday of Lent – March 11-12, 2023:** Every week during Lent, Project Compassion shares with



us the experiences of those they have assisted. *Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.* Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their

challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. Donation boxes and envelopes available from all churches, call 1800 024 413 or visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion>

**Vinnies (Victoria) Back to School Appeal:** More than 1 million Victorian students headed back to – or started – school this year. For a rising number of their families, it's getting harder to find the funds to ensure that their children have everything they need in order to learn and grow. Vinnies Education (Back-to-School) Appeal is needed now more than ever. Go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/back-to-school-appeal-vic-2023>



**Lent resources:** <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>





will never be thirsty again:  
the water that I shall give  
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up  
to eternal life.’  
‘Sir,’ said the woman, ‘give me some of that  
water, so that I may never get thirsty and never  
have to come here again to draw water. I see you  
are a prophet, sir’ said the woman. ‘Our fathers  
worshipped on this mountain, while you say  
that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to  
worship.’ Jesus said:

‘Believe me, woman, the hour is coming  
when you will worship the Father  
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.  
You worship what you do not know;  
we worship what we know;  
for salvation comes from the Jews.  
But the hour will come – in fact it is here  
already –  
when true worshippers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth:  
that is the kind of worshipper  
the Father wants.  
God is spirit,  
and those who worship  
must worship in spirit and truth.’

The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah  
– that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes  
he will tell us everything.’ ‘I who am speaking to  
you,’ said Jesus ‘I am he.’

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in  
him on the strength of the woman’s testimony  
when she said, ‘He told me all I have ever done,’  
so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they  
begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two  
days, and when he spoke to them many more  
came to believe; and they said to the woman,  
‘Now we no longer believe because of what you  
told us; we have heard him ourselves and we  
know that he really is the saviour of the world.’

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

*Longer form 4:5-42*

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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## LIVING WATER

Despite the floods of recent years, Australians  
more than many people appreciate just how  
precious a resource water is. There would  
be very few of us who would not be able to  
remember living through some period of  
drought or scarcity of water. Our experience  
places us in a good position to appreciate the  
problem faced by the people of Israel. Having  
been rescued from the oppression of the  
Egyptians the people of Israel felt betrayed  
– had they been saved from Egypt only to  
perish in the desert by thirst? Despite their  
lack of faith God reached out through Moses  
and provided them with water in the desert.

When the Samaritan woman came to the  
well searching for water she could barely have  
imagined where her encounter with Jesus  
would lead. She came seeking water but left  
having come to terms with her past, and having  
led others to Jesus, the source of living water.  
As is so often the case, personal experience is  
the best teacher and having heard Jesus for  
themselves her fellow Samaritans come to  
see Jesus as their saviour and source of living  
water.

When Paul reflected on salvation history he  
came to see that despite the hardness of the  
human heart God has always been as he was  
with the people in the desert. The life-giving  
love of God has been poured into our hearts to  
quench our thirst and bring us to life. This love  
has always been freely given and undeserved.  
The most powerful proof of this is that Jesus  
died for us while we were yet sinners.

## FIRST READING

Ex 17:3-7

**A reading from the book of Exodus**

*Give us water to drink.*

Tormented by thirst, the people complained  
against Moses. ‘Why did you bring us out of  
Egypt?’ they said. ‘Was it so that I should die of  
thirst, my children too, and my cattle?’ Moses  
appealed to the Lord. ‘How am I to deal with  
this people?’ he said. ‘A little more and they will  
stone me!’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Take with  
you some of the elders of Israel and move on to  
the forefront of the people; take in your hand the  
staff with which you struck the river, and go. I  
shall be standing before you there on the rock, at  
Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will  
flow from it for the people to drink.’ This is what  
Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The  
place was named Massah and Meribah because of  
the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because  
they put the Lord to the test by saying, ‘Is the  
Lord with us, or not?’

## ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not  
your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the  
rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving  
thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us  
kneel before the God who made us / for he is  
our God and we / the people who belong to his  
pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! /  
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on  
that day at Massah in the desert / when your  
fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me,  
though they saw my work.’ **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Romans**

*The love of God has been poured into our hearts by  
the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.*

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are  
judged righteous and at peace with God, since  
it is by faith and through Jesus that we have

entered this state of grace in which we can boast  
about looking forward to God’s glory. This hope  
is not deceptive, because the love of God has been  
poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which  
has been given us. We were still helpless when  
at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful  
men. It is not easy to die even for a good man  
– though of course for someone really worthy, a  
man might be prepared to die – but what proves  
that God loves us is that Christ died for us while  
we were still sinners.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 4:42, 15

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus  
Christ! / Lord, you are truly the Saviour of  
the world; / give me living water, that I may  
never thirst again. / Glory to you, Word of  
God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## GOSPEL

Jn 4:4-5, 19-26, 39-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
John.

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of  
eternal life.*

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar,  
near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.  
Jacob’s well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey,  
sat straight down by the well. It was about the  
sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to  
draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’  
His disciples had gone into the town to buy  
food. The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘What?  
You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for  
a drink?’ – Jews, in fact, do not associate with  
Samaritans. Jesus replied:

‘If you only knew what God is offering  
and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink,  
you would have been the one to ask,  
and he would have given you living water.’

‘You have no bucket, sir,’ she answered ‘and the  
well is deep: how could you get this living water?  
Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who  
gave us this well and drank from it himself with  
his sons and his cattle?’ Jesus replied:

‘Whoever drinks this water  
will get thirsty again;  
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give