

4th Sunday of Easter (Year A): 29/30 April 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 (Wednesday/Thursday 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

www.sballan.catholic.edu.au

www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last week

Presbytery: \$362.65	Parish: \$193.00
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Welcome: We welcome Fr Barry Ryan to the Parish of Gordon. Fr Barry will be celebrating mass at St Brigid's Church, Ballan at 10.30 am.

Mass at Ballan: Mass this Thursday, May 4th at 10.30am.

Sacramental Program: Enrolment mass and Dismissal will be held at St Brigid's Ballan this Sunday at 10.30am.

Mass Counts start on weekend May 6-7:

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over 4 weekends in May. Counting begins on May 6-7 and continues each weekend until the end of May. Counting forms will be placed in the Churches. Please nominate parishioners who will record the count for every Mass held in the parish on each of the four weekends. The completed forms will be collected after the weekend mass.



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 (Tuesday 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

Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery: \$428.00	Parish: \$280.00
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Easter Dues: \$270.00 **Caritas:** \$355.00

Thank You: We thank all parishioners and visitors for their generous contributions to these collections.

Welcome: We welcome Fr Barry Ryan to the Parish of Bungaree. Fr Barry will celebrate this Sunday's mass at St Michael's Church, Bungaree at 8.45 am.

Fr Sajan – On Leave: Fr Sajan has returned to India for one month. We wish him an enjoyable holiday with his family and friends. While Fr Sajan is on leave, our regular

weekend masses will be celebrated by supply priests. Please note: No weekday masses will be held at St Michael's Church Bungaree while Fr Sajan is on leave.

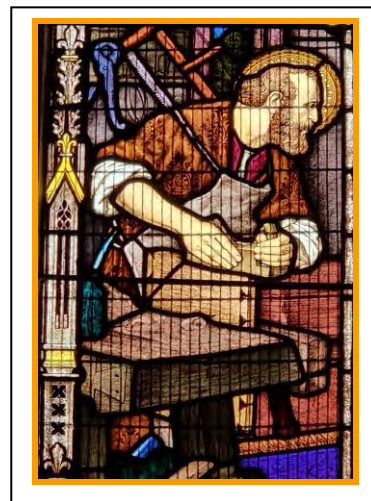
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	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
29/30 April 2023	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2: 14, 36-41; 1 Pet 2:20-25		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Mark Conlan	Ciaran, Janine & Connor O'Donohue	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
6/7 May 2023	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pet 2: 2-9		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Jane Bosworth	Lorraine deSpirt & Vikki Boka	
13/14 May 2023	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3: 15-18		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Margaret Green	Eddie & Mary Cassar	Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of every month

LITURGIES / WEEKLY MASSES

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6pm* 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Ballan* Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan		Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 5 pm ~ 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					

Feast Day – St Joseph the Worker, Stained Glass, St Patrick’s Church, Gordon. Photo, AT, 27 April 2023



Anniversaries: Johanna Corbett, Jessie Baynes, Giuseppe Spataro, Shelia Patmore, Kath Moloney, Teresa Fogarty, Jeffrey Micallef, Philip and John Camilleri, Reginald Haintz, Len Maher, Kath O’Keefe, Mary Howard, Mervyn Howard, Patrick Leonard and Carole Steenhuis.

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, John Healy and Elaine Conlan.

Our Diocesan Community – Issue 1 2023: The first edition of ODC 2023 has been published. Feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

Praying with Pope Francis: Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions encourage faith, renew hope and call us to loving service. The Pope’s monthly video forms part of the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope’s intention for April - For a culture of peace and non violence: *We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.*



Thank You from Caritas Australia:

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or the set of envelopes at home, please **BRING THEM TO CHURCH NEXT WEEK**, or contact the Parish Office 0492 903 409 to arrange a collection date.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: Sunday, April 30, 2023

World Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, April 30 and is also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday."

The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2).

We remember young women and men throughout our country and diocese and pray they may be open to hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to marriage, the single life, the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

Palms Australia - Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions at <https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/>. On the website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know, ph. 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

Vocations Prayer

Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the single and married life, consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood and permanent diaconate.

Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability.

Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.

Inspire parents, families and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.

Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about vowed and associate commitment in apostolic life, cloistered life, evangelical life, lay ecclesial ministers, missionary life, monastic life and societies of apostolic life.

Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for all the baptised to live their vocation in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized.

Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come
so that they may have life
and have it to the full.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

30 APRIL 2023

FULLNESS OF LIFE

The readings for today invite us to reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus and its consequences for us. As Peter concludes his preaching on the day of Pentecost, he reminds the pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem that Jesus' brutal and wrongful death has been reversed by God raising him as Lord and Christ. That is not all, because the resurrection provides them with the possibility to think again and so accept the gracious forgiveness that God is unexpectedly offering. In the midst of human frailty, misunderstanding and violence God's love will find a way to bring life out of death.

In the second reading the focus shifts as Peter pays close attention to Jesus' manner of dealing with his own suffering and death as a model for disciples as we confront suffering and injustice. As the shepherd, Jesus goes before us carrying our weakness and brokenness on the cross, transforming them by the power of his healing love. In our turn, we are called to follow his example of forgiving and life-giving love.

The Gospel today invites us to accept Jesus as the Good Shepherd who calls, protects, and enlivens us. Jesus is the Shepherd who gave himself for the sake of the sheep, the one who still calls us to hear his voice and follow. He has come so we might have life and have it to the full. In Jesus, we have the sure hope that whatever struggles lie before us he will lead us safely home if we listen to his voice and follow where he leads.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-6. R. v. 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want. (or Alleluia!)**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd,
says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine
know me. Alleluia!**