

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 8/9 July 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; Out-of-hours: 0448 220 685
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
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Collections last week

Presbytery: \$362.00	Parish: \$1422.00
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Welcome: We welcome home Fr Justin from his journey to the Holy Land, and Fr Sajan who will celebrate mass at St Brigid's Church Ballan at 10.30am this Sunday.

10.30am Weekday Masses this coming week:

Wednesday 12th Daylesford
Thursday 13th Ballan
Friday 14th Creswick

Sacramental Program – July 12th: Meeting for parents who have enrolled their children for the Eucharist preparation on Wednesday July 12th at 7.00 pm, St Brigid's Primary School Ballan.

Parish Leadership Team Meeting-July 12th: This Wednesday evening, 7.30pm Gathering Space, Ballan.

Planned Giving Program 2023/2024: Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection at the back of the churches. We sincerely thank all parishioners who continue to support our pastoral activities, and the care and upkeep of our churches.



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
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Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery: \$621.70	Parish: \$440.00
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Thank You: Your contributions are sincerely appreciated.

Closure of St Brendan's Primary School, Dunnstown

Dear Everyone
The staff and community received the news 2 weeks ago that St. Brendan's would be closing at the end of the 2023 school year. The children, parents, staff and wider community are all very sad. St. Brendan's have served the community of Dunnstown with Catholic education for over 160 years. Many families have had up to 4 generations go through the school. Our numbers would be 8 next year with no children in prep, years 1, 2 and 6. The VRQA

standards require no less than 11 children for a nongovernment school so the low numbers of students are the reason the decision by DOBCEL was made. When we all process the news over the holidays, we will move forward to focusing on the celebrations towards the end of the year that will be about reflecting on the past 160 years and all that has been achieved. We will recognise the valued contributions of past and present families and staff. Further details will follow.
Mrs Inez French
Principal,
St Brendan's Dunnstown and St Mary's Clarkes Hill

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
8/9 July 2023	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Zech 9: 9-10; Rom 8: 9, 11-13		
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	Julie Dargan	Lorraine DeSpirt & Vikki Boka	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
15/16 July 2023	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Isa 55: 10-11; Rom 8: 18-23		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Liz Hanrahan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Winnie Zammit	Eddie & Mary Cassar	
22/23 July 2023	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 12: 13, 16-19; Rom 8: 26-27		
Ballan – 6.00 pm	Rosemary Canavan	Bridget Sims & Family	Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Marty Forbes		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		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					

Stained glass, Our Lady Star of the Sea, St Michael's Church Springbank. Photo A Toohy

Recent Deaths: Taylor De Spirt

Anniversaries: Ronald (Ronnie) Rix, John Galea, Hector Papworth, Paul Nihill, Tom Blood, Lucy Fitzpatrick, Jack Moloney, Brian Foley, Lois Wheelahan, Loretta Ryan, Jack Maher.

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.

Sea Sunday - July 9, 2023: Today is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. The Appeal today is for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. Go to <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) and Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) are pleased to invite you to a series of webinars to discuss the upcoming referendum on Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the Voice to Parliament on Thursday, July 27 from 4.00pm - 5.00pm via zoom. Cost is \$12.00. Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1052799?eid=1052799&>. Enquiries: email office@css.org.au



Synod on Synodality "Instrumentum Laboris"

On June 20th the Secretariat of the Synod published the *Instrumentum Laboris*, or working document, for the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (known as the Synod on Synodality). Read it at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/>

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 cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. **Pope's intention for July – For a Eucharistic Life:** We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and be opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters. Lord, hear us.

Prayer for Sea Seafarers from Pope John Paul II

*Mary, Star of the Sea, light of every ocean,
guide seafarers across all dark and stormy seas
that they may reach the haven of peace and light
prepared in Him who calmed the sea.
As we set forth upon the oceans of the world
and cross the deserts of our time, show us, O Mary,
the fruit of your womb, for without your Son we are lost.*

*Pray that we will never fail on life's journey,
that in heart and mind, work and deed,
in days of turmoil and in days of calm,
we will always look to Christ and say,
"Who is this that even wind and sea obey him?"
Our Lady of Peace, pray for us!
Bright Star of the Sea, guide us!
Our Lady, Star of the Sea, pray for seafarers, pray for us.*

In the footsteps of Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage:

October 17-28, 2023

This Australian Pilgrimage will take you on a journey to places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. The pilgrimage is operated by the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place. It will be led by Sr Anne Bond RSJ, a Sister from the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and Mr Garry McLean, the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre.

The pilgrimage will begin in East Melbourne on October 17 and conclude at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on October 28. Pilgrims will visit historic sites and towns including Portland, Penola, Robe and the Mary MacKillop Chapel in North Sydney. Register at <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/>

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

9 JULY 2023

THE GOD OF SURPRISES

In a time of rapid change in the Church one of our community members lamented the fact that 'Just as I got it all worked out, they changed what it was!' Often the word of God has a way of turning our world and expectations upside down. After the exile, the hope for a king from the line of David was rekindled. Zechariah agrees with this hope but his vision of the kingdom that God will establish would have come as a surprise to his contemporaries. Peace will come, but not through the force of arms.

Jesus' own life and message were no less paradoxical. Those who would have been expected to understand were left floundering and confused by his message. On the other hand, those open to the surprising ways of God find in Jesus the one who will gently carry their burdens if they will take on the task of becoming disciples.

Much of Paul's energy was devoted to the formation of Christian communities and it was not uncommon for them to become discouraged when they failed to live up to the demands of the gospel. In the coming weeks, the readings taken from Romans 8 show how Paul both challenges and revitalises the Christian community of Rome. He calls them to live spiritual lives, while also making sure they hear his message of encouragement. There is a firm basis for hope since the Spirit is in us, empowering, enlivening, and transforming us.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Zech 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1

R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. *(or Alleluia!)*

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, / I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their blessing. / They shall speak of the glory of your reign / and declare your might, O God. **R.**

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports all who fall / and raises all who are bowed down. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

■ **The word of the Lord.**