

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 22/23 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: \$352.70 | Parish: \$1032.00 |
|----------------------|-------------------|

Thank You:

We sincerely thank all who parishioners who give so generously to these collections.

Welcome:

We welcome Fr Sajan who will celebrate the 8.45 am Mass at St Patrick's Church this Sunday.

10.30am Weekday Masses this coming week:

Wednesday 26th Daylesford
Thursday 27th Ballan
Friday 28th Creswick

Sacramental Program –Update: Dismissal Mass this Sunday at St Patrick's Church Gordon at 8.45am. Eucharist masses will be held at St Patrick's on 6th August at 8.45am and St Brigid's Ballan on 20th August at 10.30am.

Planned Giving Program 2023/2024:

If you have not yet received your Planned Giving envelopes for this financial year, or if you wish to become a member of the Planned Giving program, please contact the Parish Office at: gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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)

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|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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: \$676.20 | Parish: \$560.00 |
|----------------------|------------------|

Thank You:

We are extremely grateful to our parishioners and visitors to our parish for their donations to the Parish.

Sacramental Program Update:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was held on Thursday, 22nd June at St Michael's Bungaree at 5pm. Preparation for Eucharist and Confirmation will begin in Term 3 on Monday, 24th July, and will run for three consecutive weeks. The mass for Eucharist and

Confirmation will be held on Sunday, 13th August at 8.45 am at St Michael's Church, Bungaree.

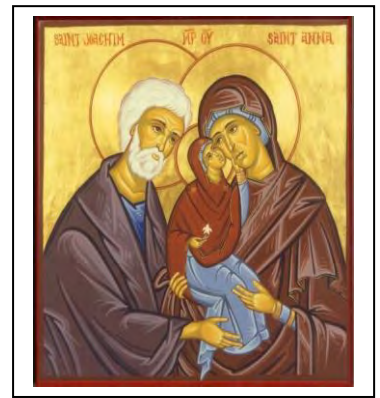
Diocesan e-News:

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 | WEEKDAY MASSES |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 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 | Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree |
| Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm | Marty Forbes | | Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree |
| Gordon – 8.45 am | To be Advised | | Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree |
| 29/30 July 2023 | 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 12: 13, 16-19; Rom 8: 26-27 | | |
| Springbank – 6.30 pm | To be Advised | | Friday – 9.30am Bungaree |
| Bungaree – 8.45 am | To be Advised | | Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree |
| Ballan – 10.30 am | Lloyd Lamb | Tony & Edith Paarhammer | |
| 5/6 August 2023 | The Transfiguration of the Lord Dan 7: 9-10, 13-14; 2 Pet 1: 16-19 | | |
| Dunnstown – 6.30 pm | Dorothy Sheehan | | Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass |
| Gordon – 8.45 am | To be Advised | | Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass |
| Ballan – 10.30 am | Tania Hoffman | Rosemary & Michael Canavan | 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 | | | | | |

Source: The Metropolis of Detroit of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
<https://www.pravmir.com/sts-joachim-anna-story-great-faithfulness-love/>



Recent Deaths: Margaret Parsons, Betty (Beth) Flynn

Anniversaries: Neil (Cornelius) Carey, Patrick John Rohan, Pat O'Neil, Jimmy Toohey, Joseph (Joe) Donegan, Clare Molloy, Edith Holmes, Patrick Maher, Robert Cahir, Margaret Flynn and Kevin 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.

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.

ACU Centre for Liturgy Public Lecture, "Women Deacons and the Synod: What Happens Now?"

You are invited to an online public lecture on Monday, August 7 from 10.00am -11.30am presented by Dr Phyllis Zagano (Hofstra University, New York) live via Zoom, on the topic of "Women Deacons and the Synod: What Happens Now?" Registrations close on August 4 at www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL. The zoom link to join will be sent out following registration. More information at available from <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources>



Copyright: Dicastery for Laity, the Family & Life

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Sunday, July 23, 2023

"His mercy is from age to age" (Lk. 1:50) is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

We pray for all grandparents and the elderly and thank them for their gifts to families and to our parish communities. Resources at diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly-sunday-july-23-2023/>

Prayer for the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023

*Virgin Mary, Mother of faith and hope,
 an example for this humanity bent by indifference,
 make me as willing as You to accept the will of God,
 to magnify and praise His Mercy.*

*Mary, Mother of fortitude, you who knows my heart,
 do not allow me to become discouraged.
 I confidently surrender my life into your hands.
 Heal my wounds. May your tenderness accompany me on the way.*

*Your presence, Mother of love, brings us to experience the joy
 of seeing our families united.
 Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God
 to the grandchildren and youth so that, in addition to praying for them,
 we can pray with them.*

*Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me:
 sustain my weakness; breathe into my heart the consolation
 that I may leave traces of faith among the young,
 bearing witness to the beauty of life,
 knowing that life has a limit and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace. Amen.*

a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

23 JULY 2023

THE SPIRIT COMES TO US IN OUR WEAKNESS

It has been said that nothing is as strong as gentleness and that nothing is as gentle as real strength. Oftentimes gentleness is interpreted as a sign of weakness or indecisiveness. If God is all powerful, how is it that God does not judge our world? The book of Wisdom gives a glimpse into how the people of Israel reflected on this question in the centuries immediately preceding the birth of Jesus. What the surrounding people saw as God's weakness they had come to see as God's gracious strength which provides a model for our own lives.

The parable of the darnel addresses a similar question for the community of Matthew. In a time of opposition, they may have impatiently wondered why God had not forcefully intervened to establish the kingdom on earth. Jesus' parable of the darnel calls them to understand that the time of judgement will come when each person receives what their actions deserve. In the meantime, the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast are timely reminders that while the kingdom's beginnings may be humble and hidden the final outcome is assured.

Like Matthew, Paul saw that the period between the resurrection of the Lord and his return at the end of time was a time of struggle between good and evil. This struggle continues, and Paul reminds Christians of every age that we are not alone in this struggle since the Spirit is the one who carries our prayers and pleas to our gracious and loving God.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Wis 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, / to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. / Your justice has its source in strength, / your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. / You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned / and you expose the insolence of those who know it; / but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, / you govern us with great lenience, / for you have only to will, and your power is there. / By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people / how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, / and you have given your sons the good hope / that after sin you will grant repentance.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. R. v. 5

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, / full of love to all who call. / Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer / and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you / and glorify your name, O Lord: / for you are great and do marvellous deeds, / you who alone are God. **R.**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, / slow to anger, O Lord, / abounding in love and truth, / turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts



knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

■ The word of the Lord.

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 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which