

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 29/30 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: \$259.15	Parish: \$140.00
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Thank You:

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

Welcome: We welcome Fr Sajan who will celebrate the 10.30 am Mass at St Brigid's Church this Sunday.

10.30am Weekday Masses this coming week:

Wednesday, August 2nd Daylesford
Thursday, August 3rd Ballan (Anointing Mass)
Friday, August 4th Creswick

Sacramental Program – Update:

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.

Forthcoming:

Feast of the Assumption of Mary – Tuesday, August 15th

St Patrick's Church Gordon at 9.15am
St Brigid's Church Ballan at 10.30am
St Michael's Church Springbank at 5.30pm

Happy Birthday Celebrations

Lyla Geary turns 100 on Sunday 13th August. There will be an "Open House" at the Ballan Golf Club from 2-5 pm on Sunday 13 August. No presents please.



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: \$NA	Parish: \$NA
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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.

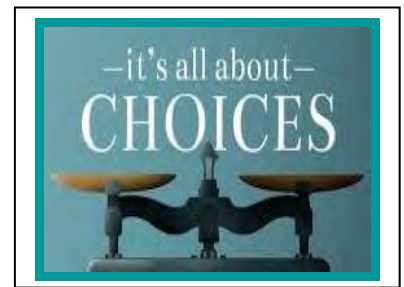
Diocesan e-News:

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
29/30 July 2023	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Rom 8: 28-30		
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	Lloyd Lamb	Tony & Edith Paarhammer	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
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 – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Tania Hoffman	Rosemary & Michael Canavan	
12/13 August 2023	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13; Rom 9: 1-5		
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	Mark Conlan	Jum Leahy & Julie Dargan	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					



<https://fadasly.org/2020/07/25/all-about-choices-17th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/>

Recent Deaths: Peter Nihill (Ouyen)

Anniversaries: Patrick Maher, Marie Britt, James Glenane, Ted Ryan, Tim Devereux, Kevin Leonard, Mervyn Britt, Tom White, Margaret Maher, John Fuller, Josephine Borg, Angus Finlayson, Mary Flynn, Patrick Hodgson, Robert McGiffin.

We offer our prayers for the sick: 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.*

World Youth Day 2023: August 1-6, 2023

More than 3000 Australian pilgrims will attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. We pray for the five people from the Diocese of Ballarat attending:

- Grace Doherty and Anna Whiting (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill students);
- Gerry Vytilingam (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill staff member);
- John-Paul Walker (Linton & Sebastopol Parishes);
- Laura Bruty (Linton Parish & Australian Catholic University Ballarat Campus).

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>

NCLS Research Webinar "Thriving and Resilient Leadership"

This free webinar will be held on Wednesday, August 2 at 7.30pm and will explore recent findings and reflections on how Australian church leaders are coping and what factors contribute to their resilience. Findings are based on the results from the 2021-22 NCLS Leader Survey by NCLS Research. Tickets available at <https://events.humanitix.com/ncls-thriving-and-resilient-leadership>



Vinnies Winter Appeal:

The St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Winter Appeal will focus on the number of older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Vinnies are also experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal> on 13 18 12 and at all Vinnies Shops. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

Evangelisation: Encounter, Discipleship, Mission

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has published "Evangelisation" that offers a spiritual and theological reflection on the proclamation of the Gospel through the lenses of encounter, discipleship and mission. Download at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/faith-formation-and-spirituality/>

Applications invited for Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program

The Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program offers both financial and personal support to mature-aged Catholic women as they undertake undergraduate or postgraduate theological/spiritual study at a recognised theological Institution. Applications close September 6, 2023. More information available at <https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/applications-invited-for-womens-study-and-mentoring-program-2/>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 JULY 2023

FINDING OUR TREASURE

As a young king, Solomon knew that he had much to learn to be the ruler the people of Israel needed him to be. When God invited him to ask for whatever he needed he asked for the gift of discernment between good and evil. Wealth might come and go, but the treasure he needed most of all was the gift of wisdom.

Matthew concludes the parabolic discourse with four parables that emphasise the wisdom that is required to not only recognise what is of lasting value but to hold on to it when we find it. It can be that what is of value is often hidden like the treasure in the field, or needs to be discovered like the pearl, or sorted like the catch that the dragnet brings in. While Jesus spoke of the treasure of the kingdom of God, Matthew has come to see that the pearl of great price is Jesus himself who is the source of our hope and the wisdom we need to live life to the full.

Throughout the eighth chapter of the letter to the Romans, Paul encourages his readers to take heart during the struggles and difficulties that they face as Christians. Our faith itself is a pearl of great price, a gift and treasure that gives us the strength to deal with the struggles and complexities of our lives. God can transform even the darkest moments and our faith helps us to live with hope in the future glory God has prepared for us.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this', the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. R. v. 97

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, / is to obey your word. / The law from your mouth means more to me / than silver and gold. **R.**
2. Let your love be ready to console me / by your promise to your servant. / Let your love come to me and I shall live / for your law is my delight. **R.**
3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts: / I hate false ways. **R.**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

■ 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!