

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 2/3 September 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	\$254.10	Parish:	\$164.20
Financial Year to Date: Parish: \$7887.30			

Thank You: We are extremely appreciative of the generosity of all parishioners for their donations.

Mass at Ballan: This Thursday September 7th at 10.30 am.

Sacramental Program 2023 Update

The Sacramental Program for this year has now been completed. Masses to celebrate the baptism, confirmation and eucharist for those children enrolled in the RCIC who

have not yet completed the program, will continue to be held during the latter months of this year.

Planned Giving Program - July 2022 to June 2023 Update
Fr Justin has written to all members of the Planned Giving program who financially contributed to last year's program by email or by mail thanking them for their commitment to the Parish. A summary of the Parish's finances 2022/2023 was also included with his letter. Please contact the Parish Office if you have not yet received his letter by Tuesday September 12th. Thank you.



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:	\$766.00	Parish:	\$440.00
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Thank You: We are extremely grateful to our parishioners and visitors for their donations to the Parish.

Sacramental Program 2023:

The Parish of Bungaree thanks Fr Sajan, Inez French, Principal of St Mary's Clarkes Hill and St Brendan's Dunnstown, Louise Haintz, religious education leader, and Dianne Reynolds, member of the Parish Leadership Team who prepared and delivered the Sacramental Program for the parish. We thank the thirteen children – Jack, Adele,

Billy, Evie, Lucy, Charlotte, Abigail, Sophie, Felicity, Jai, Kamden, Eliza and Matilda - enrolled in the program, their parents, families and friends for making Sunday 13th August such a special day.

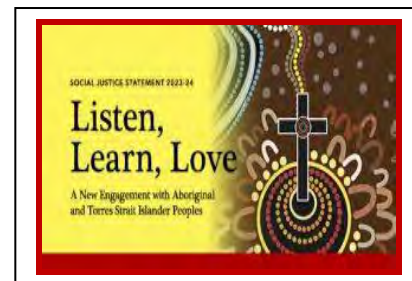
Parish Leadership Team Meeting Update:

The next Parish Leadership Team meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6th at 7 pm. Any items for inclusion in this meeting's agenda please forward to Damien at: ryandjr@bigpond.com/ or email the Parish Office at: bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au/

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
2/3 September 2023	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jer 20: 7-9; Rom 12: 1-2	
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Marie Shanahan	Lorraine DeSpirt and Vikki Boka	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
9/10 September 2023	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ezek 33: 7-9; Rom 13: 8-10	
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	Michael Ryan	Eddie & Mary Cassar	
16/17 September 2023	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sir 27: 30-28:7; Rom 14: 7-9	
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis	Bridget Sims Family	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					



Information about Social Justice Statement “Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples”
<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/>

Recent Deaths: Moira Myers

Anniversaries: Patrick Keating, Molly O’Loughlin, Malcolm McKenzie, Rita Fuller, Jack Mahoney, Peter Cefai, Frank Leahy, Rommy Sapuri, Tom McTigue, Irene Parkin, Dorothy O’Donohue, Sylvia Cahir, Elizabeth McDermott, Frank Cass.

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, Elaine Conlan, Belinda Riley, Paul Ronan.

RCIC Program: We pray for Jake Cabrie who will be completing the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (sacraments of baptism, confirmation and eucharist) at St Brigid’s this Sunday. We welcome him into our faith community.

Online launch of Season of Creation

Every year from September 1 - October 4, Catholic Earthcare Australia (Caritas and the Australian Bishops Conference) joins with Christian communities globally to celebrate the Season of Creation, to celebrate the gift of our common home. Caritas Australia will host an online launch of the Season of Creation on Monday, September 4th from 6.00pm – 7.00pm offering participants an enriching and informative experience through its Catholic Earthcare program. Scan or click the QR code for details and registration information.



Ballarat Clergy Support Fund: Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement and will also need to be supported by the fund. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you can and help us continue ‘caring for those who cared for us’. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week. A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. *Caring for those who care for us – the Church community’s responsibility.*



Bishop Paul and Fr Sajan with the thirteen children who celebrated their Confirmation and Eucharist mass on Sunday, August 13th at St Michael’s Church, Bungaree.

Synod on Synodality:

Room for everyone in our Church

The Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Yarra Theological Union and Garratt Publishing present “Synod on Synodality: Room for everyone in our Church” to be held on **Thursday, September 14th at 7.00pm via zoom.**

Leading the discussion is one of the ACBC’s representatives at the Synod, Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst.



The convocation will be recorded and made available the week following the event.

You must be registered to receive the link to the video.

For more details and to register, scan or click the QR code. This a free event.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

3 SEPTEMBER 2023

CHALLENGES OF DISCIPLESHIP

As we listen to Jeremiah pouring his heart out to the Lord, it is not unusual for us to be somewhat embarrassed by his candour. It is as though we are eavesdropping on a very personal and private conversation between the suffering prophet and the God who has commissioned him. There is an enormous battle in the heart of Jeremiah as he wrestles with the message he must proclaim and the impact his preaching has on his own life.

Last week Peter was praised because he had come to understand that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. Now he must learn what the consequences mean for Jesus and then for those who follow in his footsteps as disciples. His well-meaning attempt to protect Jesus is misguided and like Jeremiah, he must struggle to accept the paradoxical and costly ways of God.

The Christians of Rome are encouraged by Paul to continue with the struggle to live a life of faith in a world that did not share their values and vision. In a world where there were many temples, gods and sacrificial banquets, Paul goes to the heart of the matter when he calls for an offering of one's life as a living sacrifice to God.

All the readings for today converge in laying the challenge before us of not losing heart, even though at times the difficulties might seem beyond our strength. Making our own the mind of Christ is not easy, but then again, it never was.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; /
for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!

A decorative border of intricate snowflake patterns surrounds the text. The snowflakes are arranged in a repeating pattern along the top, bottom, and sides of the page.

Prayer for Father's Day

*God of kindness and compassion, we are your children and
you are Father to us all.*

We pray for all men who reflect your fatherly example:

Those who are dads and grandads;

step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-in-law;

those who embrace their role as father;

those who struggle with being fathers;

those who are distanced from their children;

those who have passed from this world;

those who are coaches, leaders and mentors;

those who are elders and wisdom-men of our communities.

Give them all strength, comfort and peace.

Amen.



2023 Season of Creation Prayer

Creator of All,

*From your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river
and the whole cosmos came into being.*

*On this Earth of overflowing love,
the Word was made flesh and went forth
with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice for all
creation.*

*You called human beings to till and keep your garden.
You placed us into right relationship with each creature,
but we failed to listen to the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most
vulnerable.*

*We broke with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you
by not safeguarding the conditions for life.*

*We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats,
we grieve the loss of human cultures,
along with the lives and livelihoods that have been displaced or
perished,
and we ache at the sight of an economy of death,
war and violence that we have inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.*

*Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word
that calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation.*

*Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the
Creator Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and
overflow into all creation.*

*Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and
peace,
and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all creatures
around us and all creation.*

*Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the many
streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace
may become a mighty river all over the Earth.*

*In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all
creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.*