

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 30 Sept/1 October 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	\$264.35	Parish:	\$317.00
Financial Year to Date: Parish: \$9733.60			

Annual Appeal for our Retired and Sick Priests - \$10.00

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

Mid-week Mass: No mass at Ballan this Thursday, 5th October as Fr Justin is away.

Vigil Mass time at St Brigid's Ballan:

Following the consultation with the Ballan community the monthly Saturday evening Vigil Mass held for the 4th

Sunday of each month will continue at 6.00pm with the commencement of daylight saving.

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.

Forthcoming Events:

Cemetery Mass – Sunday, 11 am on **November 19th** at the Gordon Cemetery.



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:	\$756.00	Parish:	\$1185.00
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Annual Appeal for our Retired and Sick Priests - \$295.00

Interested in Becoming a Liturgy Reader?

The Parish is updating the liturgy rosters for the next three months.

If you attend St Michael's Bungaree and/or St Brendan's Dunnstown, and are interested in becoming more actively involved in weekend masses, please register your interest by completing the Ministry Roster Form placed at the back of the churches.

Alternatively, speak to Fr Sajan or contact the Parish Office. Contact details: tel: 5334 0450, 0492 903 409 or email bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au/ Thank you.

Forthcoming Events:

Cemetery Mass – Sunday, 9.30 am on **November 12th** at the Pootilla Cemetery.

Celebrating the End of an Era – Saturday, 25th November at St Brendan's School, Dunnstown from 2 pm onwards. More details to follow. Save the date!

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
30 Sept/1 October 2023	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezek 18: 25-28; Phil 2: 1-11		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Tuesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis	Bridget Sims & Family	Thursday – 9.30 am Bungaree
7/8 October 2023	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9		
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	Rosemary Canavan	Mark & Sue Conlan	
14/15 October 2023	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 25: 6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Liz Hanrahan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Lloyd Lamb	Rosemary and 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

Recent Deaths: Sue Briody (Lexton)

Anniversaries: Des Lee, Kerry Mullane, Emmanuel Barbara, Ag Wheelahan, Kevin Conroy, Lorraine Keilar, Eileen (Eily) Quinlan, Joseph Smallman, James Joseph Doyle, Jim Feild, Jan Quinlan, Andrew Forbes, Brian (Split) Frawley, Eric Jones, Francis (Red) Forbes, Gerald Mullane.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Chaiel Balcombe Jackson, John Healy, Elaine Conlan, Belinda Riley.

Diocesan Social Justice Statement launch

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission have released presentations for the diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2023. In the lead up to the referendum, the BDSJC ask parishes to show their communities Bishop Paul's Message this weekend, Sept 30/Oct 1. To listen to Bishop Paul message, go to the link:

<https://vimeo.com/866995548/f4cba17cf0?share=copy>

Synodality - Walking together

A key theme of the pontificate of Pope Francis is Synodality, which means walking together in faith and discerning God's invitation and call. This coming week, the much anticipated Synod on Synodality will commence in Rome after much consultation around the world.

15 Australians (including Bishop Shane MacKinlay) will be amongst the women and men, lay persons and clergy from around the world heading to Rome this week commencing on October 4th with the 2nd Assembly to be held in 2024.

The consultation has been marked by an openness and transparency that hasn't always been characteristic of Vatican processes. It is part of a wider awareness across the Church internationally of how much we can learn from good practices in other parts of society.

Drawing on listening sessions already conducted worldwide at the diocesan, national, and continental level, it covers such hot-button topics as women deacons, priestly celibacy, LGBTQ outreach, and highlights a desire for new institutional bodies to allow for greater participation in decision-making by the "People of God." At the same time, some of the questions it frames for discussion allude to possible major changes in how the Church operates around the world, through the embrace of an open-ended "synodal" process that entails ongoing dialogue and discernment. The approach is so different, in fact, the document states, that new formation programs will need to be developed "at all levels of ecclesial life and for all the baptized," adding that candidates for ordained ministry "must be trained in a synodal style and mentality."



2024 Study Tour: Journey with Paul

Dr Rosemary Canavan from CTC is leading a Study Tour in 2024, "Journey with Paul: Türkiye – Greece". There will be online information sessions by zoom on 7th and 21st October for anyone interested in attending. Click or scan the QR code for more information.

Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. To donate scan or click the QR code.



Please join us for a Kitchen Table Conversation – October 10

A Kitchen Table Conversation is a wonderful opportunity to join with others and listen, learn and reflect on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum that will be held in the coming months. A further session will be held on October 10 from 7:00-8:15pm online via Zoom. More information and registration details are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/aboriginal-catholic-ministry/>

Australian Catholics: Spring 2023 edition is now available. Copies have been placed in all churches.

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 10:27
Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my
voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and
they follow me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 21:28-32
A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and
prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of
the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had
two sons. He went and said to the first, “My
boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.”
He answered, “I will not go”, but afterwards
thought better of it and went. The man then
went and said the same thing to the second
who answered, “Certainly, sir”, but did not go.
Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The
first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you
solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are
making their way into the kingdom of God
before you. For John came to you, a pattern
of true righteousness, but you did not believe
him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes
did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think
better of it and believe in him.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

1 OCTOBER 2023

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

While we are familiar with the notion of
personal responsibility, it may come as a
surprise to learn that it took some time to
fully develop in the Old Testament. While
the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel were not
the first to invent the concept, they are major
contributors to its development. In Ezekiel 18,
the prophet is trying to convince the people of
Israel that while it might seem harsh that each
person is held responsible for their sins, there
is also the possibility to change one’s life. God
will respect this change of heart and reward it.

As Jesus teaches in the Temple, he challenges
the Jewish authorities to understand that
what Ezekiel had spoken of continued to be
true. Tax collectors and prostitutes took the
opportunity that John the Baptist’s preaching
provided – to take responsibility for their lives
and change. The parable of the two sons is a
pointed commentary not only on the openness
of sinners to John the Baptist but also on
the opposition of the Jewish authorities. In
the next few weeks, the lines of demarcation
between Jesus and the authorities will continue
to intensify.

The Christians of Philippi are encouraged by
Paul to take responsibility for the building up
of their community, a community which is to
be marked by unity, and a profound valuing
of the other person. He reminds them of a
hymn they know well, a breathtaking hymn
that talks of the sublime example of Jesus’
humility and love which is the model for all
Christian life.

FIRST READING

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness
deserves to live.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as
follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is
unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I
do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust?
When the upright man renounces his integrity
to commit sin and dies because of this, he
dies because of the evil that he himself has
committed. When the sinner renounces sin to
become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to
live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous
sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord,
teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your
truth, and teach me: / for you are God my
saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the
love you have shown from of old. / Do not
remember the sins of my youth. / In your love
remember me, / because of your goodness, O
Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows
the path to those who stray, / he guides the
humble in the right path / he teaches his way
to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

*In your minds you must be the same as
Christ Jesus.*

If our life in Christ means anything to you,
if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that
we have in common, or any tenderness and
sympathy, then be united in your convictions
and united in your love, with a common
purpose and a common mind. That is the one



thing which would make me completely happy.
There must be no competition among you, no
conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing.
Always consider the other person to be better
than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own
interests first but everybody thinks of other
people’s interests instead. In your minds you
must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings