

# 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 11/12 November 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  
Leadership Team: Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke &  
Shane Carey (Gordon), Nola Kersley & Mark Conlan (Ballan)

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey  
Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Wed/Thurs 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	Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth: ☎ 5368 1015	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
	St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495	www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

### Collections last week

Presbytery	\$340.10	Parish:	\$4372.0
Financial Year to Date: Parish: \$15892.9			

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

**Ballan Mid-Week Mass:** No mass this Thursday.

**Next Sunday Mass Times Changed:** Mass times next Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, have changed. Sunday mass at **St**

**Brigid's** will commence at **9am** NOT 10.30 am, Gordon Cemetery mass at 11am, NOT 9am.

### Gordon Cemetery Mass November 19<sup>th</sup>

Next Sunday's mass on Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> will be held at **11am** at the Gordon Cemetery,

In case of inclement weather, the mass will be held at St Patrick's Church, Gordon. Some chairs will be supplied, but attendees are requested to bring a chair/mat.



## 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  
Leadership Team: Damien Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown) Dom Prendergast & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill). Ex-Officio Member: 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	Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280	www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
	St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown	Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604	www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

### Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery:	\$700.00	Parish:	\$445.00
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**Thank You:** We are very grateful to all our parishioners and visitors for their contributions to these collections.

**Pootilla Cemetery Mass:** This Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 am. In case of inclement weather, the mass will be held at St Michael's Church, Bungaree.

**Anointing Mass** – St Peter's, Clarkes Hill on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**Celebrating the End of an Era – Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November** at St Brendan's School, Dunnstown from 2 pm onwards. Carvery dinner (\$10 adults, \$5 children) starts 6 pm, RSVP St Brendan's 5334 7604 by Nov 11<sup>th</sup>.

**The 'Book of the Names of the Dead':** If you wish to include the names of parishioners who have recently died, Fr Sajan will be bringing the 'Book of the Names of the Dead' to all Saturday/Sunday masses held during November, including the cemetery mass as Pootilla. If you wish to update the death anniversaries listed in the Combined Newsletter, please email the Parish Secretary at: [bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### Visit of Pastoral Planning Panel:

Members of the Pastoral Planning Panel will meet with the Bungaree Parish Leadership Team on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm at the Bungaree Presbytery to discuss forthcoming pastoral matters.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
<b>11/12 November 2023</b>	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 6: 12-16; 1 Thess 4: 13-18</b>		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
<b>POOTILLA CEMETERY 9.30 am</b>	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Margaret Green	Eddie and Mary Cassar	Thursday – 9.30 am Bungaree
<b>18/19 November 2023</b>	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thess 5: 1-6</b>		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>GORDON CEMETERY – 11 am</b>	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 9am (this week only)	Marie Shanahan	Bridget Sims Family	
<b>25/26 November 2023</b>	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Ezek 34: 11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28</b>		
Ballan – 6 pm	Michael Ryan	Tony & Edith Paarhammer	Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Julie Moran	Jill Prendergast	Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Gordon – 9 am* (new time)	To be Advised		Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month

## LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Sat 6pm*, 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Ballan* Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am, 9am *	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					



Flanders Poppies - Roll of Honour (edited), Australian War Memorial,

<https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/honour-rolls/roll-of-honour>

**Recent Deaths:** Tomaslav Pavlovic, Maria Hammond (Ballan); Funeral Prayers for Maria Hammond at St Brigid's on Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11.00am.

**Anniversaries:** Grace Bartaska, Bob Conroy, Valerie Mary Adams, Dorothea Toohey, Mathew George, Frank Teuma, Catherine Keating, William Barry, Daniel Jones, Danny Hanrahan, Harold Cahir, Agnes Leonard, Robert Britt, Ted Holloway.

**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.

**Pope's intention for November – For the Pope:** *We pray for the Holy Father. As he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit. Lord, hear us.*

**Ordination to the Diaconate:** Seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. All welcome to attend.

### Reports from the first assembly of the Synod of Bishops on Synodality:

At the end of the first session of the Synod, the participants have prepared and published a "Letter to the People of God" and adopted a Synthesis Report, "A Synodal Church on Mission." Both documents are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/>

### Nazareth House Auxiliary Monster Garage Sale:

The Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, November 18, at 218 Mill Street, Ballarat at 10.00am. Furniture, books, prints, cake and gift stall, morning tea. Cash only. Contact Margaret, ph. 0419003415.

### Christmas Gathering - Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>:

This year's Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Donegan's Farm at 6.30pm; Cost \$30 per head. Please complete the *Christmas Dinner Booking Form* after mass or email the Gordon Parish Office at [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or leave a message on the Gordon Office landline at 53689280. All are welcome to attend especially parishioners from our neighbouring parishes – Bungaree, Daylesford and Creswick.

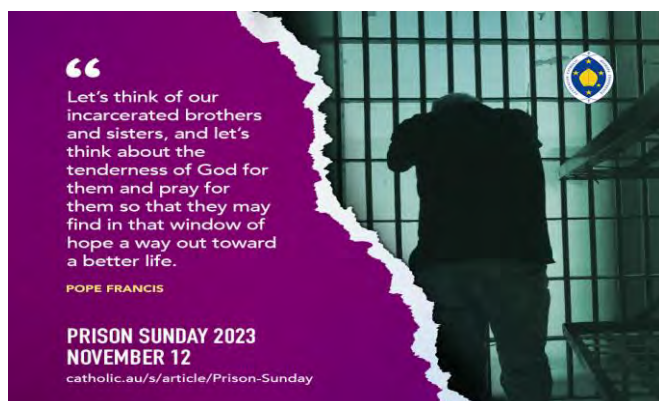
### Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal



Over 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health and psychosocial needs. Your support is needed to help partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal - scan or click the QR code.

### Prayer for Prison Sunday

*Let's think of our incarnated brothers & sisters,  
& let's think about the tenderness of God for them,  
& pray for them so that they may find,  
in that window of hope,  
a way out toward a better life. Pope Francis*



### Prison Sunday – November 12, 2023

Prison Sunday commenced in 2016, during the Year of Mercy, as an initiative of Pope Francis to observe the Jubilee for Prisoners.

*"We need to nourish the roots of our hope so that they can bear fruit ... despite whatever evil we have done. There is no corner of our heart that cannot be touched by God's love," Pope Francis said at the time.*

Each year in November, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Prison Sunday, bringing attention to the plight of prisoners and highlighting the important work that prison chaplains undertake. Resources are available at <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Prison-Sunday>

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Mt 24: 42, 44. R. v. 2  
Alleluia, alleluia! / Be watchful and ready: /  
you know not when the Son of Man is  
coming. / Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mt 25: 1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew.

*Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, “The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.” At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, “Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out.” But they replied, “There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves.” They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. “Lord, Lord,” they said “open the door for us.” But he replied, “I tell you solemnly, I do not know you.” So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

12 NOVEMBER 2023

## BEING ON THE ALERT

Some thirty years of Christian life and experience separate the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians and the writing of Matthew's Gospel. When Paul wrote in the late Forties and early Fifties there was a keen sense and expectation that the Lord was going to return at any moment. These earliest Christians were so convinced that this was the case that they were unprepared and ill-equipped to deal with the death of other Christians before the Lord's return. It is not as though Paul himself had foreseen this difficulty and, as is often the case in his letters, we see how a concrete problem prompts him to further reflection. It is important not to press Paul's description of the return of the Lord too far. This is theology in the making and Paul himself will continue to develop his thought on these matters (see 1 Corinthians 15).

If Paul's Christians faced the problem caused by assuming the Lord would return soon, Matthew's community had to confront another set of circumstances. The fact that by the early to mid-Eighties the Lord had not returned placed another dilemma before them. For Matthew, the problem was that of a community becoming apathetic and seeing its initial enthusiasm and commitment wane. The parable of Jesus about the bridesmaids who fell asleep and missed their opportunity was the perfect means to stress the need for Christians to be prepared as they waited for the Lord's return.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

## FIRST READING

Wis 6: 12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her.

Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.

Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates.

Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;

be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.

She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her

and graciously shows herself to them as they go in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 62: 2-8. 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. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Thess 4: 13-18

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

*Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

*Shorter form, 1 Thess 4: 13-14*