

First Sunday of Lent (Year B): 17/18 February 2024

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
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

Collections from last week

Presbytery	\$500.05	Parish:	\$356.00
Financial Yr to Date: \$26813.3			

Mid-Week Ballan Mass: Thursday February 22nd @ 10.30am

Lenten Scripture this Thursday: Lenten Scripture reflection with Rosemary Canavan after the 10.30am Mass at Ballan on February 22nd – all welcome.

Sacramental Program 2024:

Parent meeting to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday February 21st at St Brigid's Primary School Ballan for parents of children in the Parish to be enrolled on the Reconciliation Program. The sacrament of Reconciliation

will be celebrated on Tuesday March 19th at 5.30pm, with the enrolment Masses celebrated on the weekend of February 24th-25th, 6.00pm Vigil Mass at Ballan, 9.00am Sunday Mass at Gordon.

World Day of Prayer this Friday: March 1st at St Brigid's at 10 am. The service has been written by the committee from Palestine Fr Justin is our guest speaker All welcome followed by morning tea.

Expression of Interest-Ballan representative:

The Parish is accepting EOI from parishioners interested in joining the Parish Leadership Team. Please contact Mark Conlan, mobile: 0401 702 770.



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: Clare Scanlan ☎ 5334 5280

www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au

Collections to 13 February 2024:

Presbytery:	\$981.00	Parish:	\$925.00
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Christmas Dues: 140.00

Thank You:

We thank all parishioners for their generosity. Your donations are important for the upkeep and maintenance of our churches, and the support of the clergy.

Parish Leadership Meeting Next Tuesday, 20th February:

The next Parish Leadership Team meeting will be held at the Bungaree Presbytery this coming Tuesday, February 20th at 7pm.

Matters to be discussed include the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat and Safeguarding Issues.

Alert-Emails sent from Parish of Bungaree email address:

Please monitor all emails sent from the Parish of Bungaree email - bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au/ as they may be spams and be alert to any request to open attachments and/or files or click on links.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
17/18 February 2024	First Sunday of Lent Gen 9: 8-15, 1 Pet 3: 18-22		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Tuesday - 9.30 am Bungaree
Gordon - 9 am	To be Advised		Wednesday - 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan -10.30 am	Lloyd Lamb	Mark & Sue Conlan	Thursday - 9.30 am Bungaree
24/25 February 2024	Second Sunday of Lent Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Rom 8: 31-34		
Ballan - 6.00 pm	Tania Hoffman	Rosemary & Michael Canavan	Friday - 9.30am Bungaree
Clarkes Hill - 6.30 pm	Con Powell	Marty Forbes	Saturday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon - 9 am	To be Advised		
2/3 March 2024	Third Sunday of Lent Ex 20: 1-3, 7-8, 12-17; 1 Cor 1: 22-25		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	Liz Hanrahan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon - 9 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan -10.30 am	Catherine Green	Jim 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, 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					

Recent Deaths: Marita Ryan (Yarrowonga)

Anniversaries: John Ronan, Martin Molloy, Chris Maher, James Baynes, Veronica Bryce, Fay Daly, Laurie Wheelahan, Eily Mullane, Ruchard (Mick) Butler, Kathleen Rix, Betty Martin, Don Murphy, Frank Britt, Tim Fletcher, Edna Carson.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, John Healy, Elaine Conlan, Lorraine Tipple, Karem Chiparra

Pope Francis' Message for Lent 2024 is focussed on God's call to leave behind the bonds of slavery with the title, "Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom", which is from the Book of Exodus (20:2). Watch the presentation at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXPPVtpHBM&t=408s> Read the message at

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/lent/documents/20231203-messaggio-quaresima2024.html>

Baptisms: We pray for Thomas Rupert Cain, son of Peter and Louise, and Leo Max Carey, son of Andrew and Claire, who will be baptised this Sunday at St Patrick's Church, Gordon. We welcome them into our faith community. *Lord God, strengthen your spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

World Day of Prayer 2024 – Friday, March 1, 2024

WDP is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. An ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women have prayed and reflected together over the past several years to respond to the invitation from the WDP International Committee in 2017 to write the 2024 program. The theme is "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love," based on Ephesians 4:1-6. Our Christian sisters invite the global church to pray for peace, justice and freedom for every individual irrespective of nationality, religion or origins. World Day of Prayer services in Ballarat and Creswick this year on Friday, March 1:

- 10.00am at St Peter's Anglican Church, 1307 Sturt Street West, Ballarat
- **10.00am at St Brigid's Church, Ballan**
- 2.00pm at St Mary's Anglican Church, Birchip
- 6.00pm at St Paul's Anglican Church, 3 Humffray Street, Bakery Hill
- 7.00pm at St John's Anglican Church, 103 Napier Street, Creswick

Mass of the Oils –Volunteers Needed to Represent the Parish of Bungaree and Parish of Gordon

The Mass of the Oils this year will incorporate acknowledgement of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat and will be held on **Monday, March 25 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am** (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.

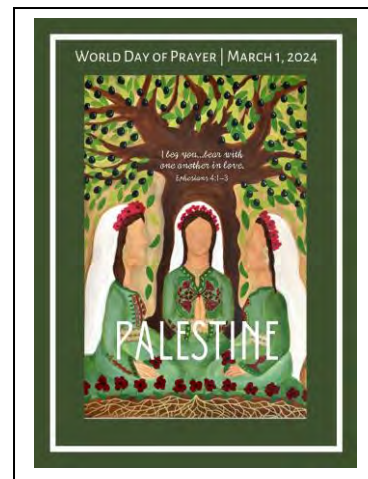
Volunteers (1 to 2) from each parish will present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish. The symbol/photo framed should be 5in x 7in (12cm x 17.5cm) or for the larger parishes who may need more room, up to 8in x 10in (20cm x 25cm) size framed. If you wish to volunteer or participate, please contact your Parish Leadership Team (names listed at the top of the newsletter) or the Parish Office, mobile: 0492 903 409.

Project Compassion 2024

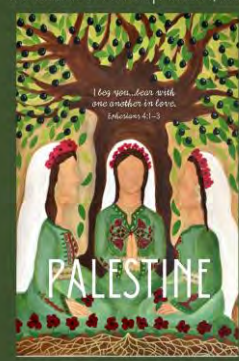


This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different places, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations. Please donate to Project Compassion - donation boxes and envelopes available from your church, or visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion>, or call 1800 024 41 or you can click or scan the QR code.

Mission: Transform Lives: Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from ALL sectors to share their skills with those who have had little opportunity for formal training. You too will learn and grow within a most welcoming community. Experience the joy as you assist to change lives. Bishop Paul has written a letter of endorsement for the work of **Palms Australia**. Learn more at <https://palms.org.au/> or ph. 02 9560 5333, Join the **Mission Webinar** on March 5 from 6.00pm–6.30pm <https://palms.org.au/event/global-development-webinar/> Join the **two-week tour to Timor-Leste** on 06/05/2024 to see our local partner communities in action <https://palms.org.au/encounters/timor-leste-cultural-encounter/>



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER | MARCH 1, 2024



PALESTINE

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER | MARCH 1, 2024

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

GOSPEL

Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark.

*He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked
after him.*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness
and he remained there for forty days, and was
tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts,
and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into
Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News
from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the
kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and
believe the Good News.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / B

18 FEBRUARY 2024

LENT: SPRINGTIME FOR ALL GOD'S CREATION

In the southern hemisphere we miss the signs
of nature linked in the northern hemisphere
to Lent, namely the coming of spring. The
word "Lent," is derived from the Old English
"lenctern" meaning spring. This poses a
challenge for us in Australia's autumn, as we
seek to unfold the springtime in our soul.
In our scriptural journey into Lent, we are
greeted with the sign of God's covenant with
Noah: a rainbow. This covenant is not just
with Noah and all descendants but with every
living creature, everything that lives on the
earth. A rainbow may well grace our southern
skies in autumn, enabling us to experience
ourselves in the embrace of God's covenant
with the whole ecological world in which we
live.

In the Gospel, the Spirit drives Jesus into the
wilderness for forty days along with the wild
beasts. Satan the tempter, and the angels who
minister to Jesus. These ministering angels, like
the rainbow, are a sign of God's ever-presence.
As Jesus emerges from his forty days, we hear
him begin his ministry in Galilee with "the
time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has
come near." Evocatively we have entered our
forty days of Lent in a wilderness of ecological
crisis. Unseasonal extremes of temperature,
floods, fires and all manner of tempests call for
us to take heed of the earth in which we dwell.
In this time, we can reflect, ecologically and
spiritually, to change our hearts and believe
the Good News, knowing well God's promise
through the rainbow and through the gift of
his son.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis.

*I will recall the covenant between myself and you
... the waters shall never again become a flood to
destroy all flesh.*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I
establish my Covenant with you, and with your
descendants after you; also with every living
creature to be found with you, birds, cattle
and every wild beast with you: everything that
came out of the ark, everything that lives on
the earth. I establish my Covenant with you:
no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by
the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood
to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant
I make between myself and you and every
living creature with you for all generations: I
set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign
of the Covenant between me and the earth.
When I gather the clouds over the earth and
the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the
Covenant between myself and you and every
living creature of every kind. And so the waters
shall never again become a flood to destroy all
things of flesh.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. v. 10

**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth
to those who keep your covenant.**

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. / 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

1 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

*The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which
saves you now.*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died
once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to
God. In the body he was put to death, in the
spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit,
he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now
it was long ago, when Noah was still building
that ark which saved only a small group of
eight people 'by water', and when God was still
waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to
believe. That water is a type of the baptism
which saves you now, and which is not the
washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made
to God from a good conscience, through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered
heaven and is at God's right hand, now that
he has made the angels and Dominations and
Powers his subjects.

■ **The word of the Lord.**