

Second Sunday of Easter (B): 6/7 April 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), Mark Conlan & Jim Leahy (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 from last week

Presbytery	\$727.15	Parish:	\$720.00
Financial Yr to Date: \$30066.15			

Easter Dues: \$455.00, **Xmas Dues:** \$20.00
Good Friday Appeal/Holy Land Collection: \$697.85
We thank all parishioners for their generosity.

Mid-Week Mass at Ballan: No mass at Ballan this Thursday, April 11th.

Ballan Mass Times: From the beginning of April, Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am at Ballan **every Sunday**.

Thank You, Fr Peter:

We sincerely thank Fr Peter Murphy for celebrating our Easter Vigil Mass at St Michael's Springbank and the Easter Sunday Mass at St Brigid's Ballan last weekend.

Fr Sajan's Farewell - Sunday, April 7th

Fr Sajan will celebrate his final weekend of Masses with us this weekend, April 6th-7th with the Vigil Mass at Dunnstown and Sunday Masses at Gordon and Ballan.

Fr Sajan's farewell lunch will be held at the Bungaree Recreation Centre this Sunday at 1 pm @\$30 (cash or card at the door). Doors open at 12.30 pm. Meal served at 1pm.



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: Damian Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown) Dom Prendergast & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill). Ex-Officio Member: Clare Scanlon
Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey. Parish Office (Tues 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 Scanlon ☎ 5334 5280	www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
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Presbytery last fortnight, Parish last month

Presbytery:	\$NA	Parish:	\$NA
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Fr Sajan's Farewell - This Sunday, April 7th

Fr Sajan's farewell lunch will be held at the Bungaree Recreation Centre this Sunday at 1 pm @\$30 (cash or card at the door). Doors open at 12.30 pm. Meal served at 1pm.

Caritas Lenten Appeal:

The Parish will hold a collection for Caritas over the Easter weekend and the following week. Please include collection boxes/envelopes in this collection

Thank You, Chris:

Special thanks to Chris Leonard for the wonderful 150th Anniversary of the Diocese signs that have been placed in front of our three churches. The signs look amazing. Many parishioners have expressed their appreciation of this commemorative gesture We are very grateful to Chris for designing, financing and installing the three signs on behalf of the parish.

MASS DATES & TIMES	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY
6/7 April 2024	Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 4: 32-35, 1 Jn 5: 1-6	
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan	
Gordon – 9 am	To be Advised	
Ballan – 10.30 am	Michael Ryan	Eddie & Mary Cassar
13/14 April 2024	Third Sunday of Easter Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2: 1-5	
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised	
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised	
Ballan – 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis	Bridget Sims Family
20/21 April 2024		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan	
Gordon – 9 am	To be Advised	
Ballan – 10.30 am	Lesley Morffew	Tony & Edith Paarhammer

LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES					
	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am, 9am *	Gordon*	Bungaree	Gordon*	Gordon*	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 5 pm; Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am; Daylesford 10.30 am					

The Virgin Annunciate by Carlo Crivelli, 15th century; rays enter through the window. Edited. File: Crivelli, Carlo-The Virgin Annunciate.jpg Public Domain Uploaded: 28 Nov 2008. Source/Photographer: oar square from Frankfurt. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Crivelli,_Carlo-The_Virgin_Annunciate.jpg?uselang=en#licensing



Anniversaries: Laurie O'Neil, Martin Wheelahan, Marie Dromey, Marie Leahy, Allen Payne, Isabella Moran, Isabel Britt, Fr. Thomas Linane, Mary Britt, Barbara Frawley.

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, Karem Chiparra, Evelyn Farrugia and Pat Burvill.

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!



Thank you for your continued support. Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal. Return your Project Compassion Boxes and envelopes to your Parish Office or donate online by visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413. If you donate online or through the QR code, **remember to fill in your details and postcode.**

Baptisms: We pray for Cydi Isabel Browne, daughter of Riley and Madelaine, and Lachlan Clinton Sim, son of Clinton and Joanne, who will be baptised this Sunday at St Brigid's Church, Ballan. We also pray for Wilkie Sage, child of Zachary and Monique, Edie Bee, child of Dion and Chantelle and Armani Dee Plover, child of Jason and Karly, who will be baptized this weekend at St Peter's Church, Clarkes Hill. We welcome them into our faith community. *Lord God, strengthen your spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Update regarding Maintenance Work on St Patrick's Cathedral Fence

Fr Marcello Colasante has asked that the media dated 5 April 2024, be circulated:

'As reported in The Courier on Monday, March 25th, ribbons were removed from St Patrick's Cathedral fence to allow maintenance work to be done on the fence. The date for the removal of ribbons was set in consultation with members of the Loud Fence movement.

Over the past two weeks, the fence has been cleaned and a first coat of paint has been applied to most of the fence. The finishing coat of paint will be applied in the coming weeks to complete the maintenance project.

Bishop Paul Bird and some members of the parish council will meet again with members of the Loud Fence movement next week. This will be to discuss arrangements for a meeting with survivors to hear their views on a memorial for those who have suffered abuse. The memorial could provide ongoing recognition of those who have suffered abuse and also be a reminder of the need for continuing attention to safeguarding children and vulnerable people in our community'.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - What's Happening?

Read about the 150th year Church history in the Diocese. A timeline of significant dates & events has been published on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/>

Forthcoming activities include the *Anniversary Liturgies in the Parishes on the Fifth Sunday of Easter*, April 27th-28th, and Bishop Bird's visit to Bungaree and Gordon on August 31st-September 1st.



Thank You from Fr Sajan

Today, I recall the journey I have travelled in this parish with a sense of immense joy and gratitude. Always present throughout my journey of life is God's fidelity. I thank God Almighty for his constant companionship and loving providence. Always holding me in the hollow of his hands, keeping me safe, healthy and contented.

I thank everyone in this parish which has such loving and prayerful families. I also thank the parish leadership members, volunteers and those involved in the Bungaree parish. I thank Damian Ryan, (parish leadership committee chairperson), Aileen Toohey, Lin Bowers, Debbie Goldie, Fran Peterkin (parish secretaries), Leah Hanrahan (parish safeguarding officer), Michael Canavan and Cate Sellers (garden and presbytery) and Clare Scanlon, Inez French, Shelly Ryan (school principals).

Dear parishioners, what can I return for your care, concern and loving deeds? I offer my humble prayers. Be assured of my prayers for you, and I ask you for your prayers in the years ahead.

Thank you all.

Fr Sajan Matthew

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) / B

7 APRIL 2024

‘As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you,’
After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord,’ he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you,’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him;

‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

As we bask in the light of resurrection, today we see two witnesses to the resurrection, and the transformation of lives.

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, the second volume attributed to Luke, and it presents to us a changed way of living. Firstly, the whole group of believers are described as ‘of one heart and soul’ (v. 32). The apostles appear as testifying with great power to the resurrection and ‘great grace was upon them all’ (v. 33). The remarkable addition here is that they shared everything in common, sold property and distributed funds so no-one was in need (v. 34-35). This radical transformation of their way of life is not a defining feature of our communities today, even though adopted by many religious congregations throughout the Church’s history. While not diminishing the great charitable works operating today, this way of life remains a challenge to us in a world where rich become richer and poor increase in number and poverty.

In juxtaposition to the Acts account, the Gospel outlines the appearance of Jesus among the apostles and the repetition of ‘Peace be with you’ (vv.19, 21). In this gathering behind closed doors, Jesus tells the apostles that he is sending them out. He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them, commissioning them. Eight days later in the same room Jesus arrives saying once again ‘Peace be with you’ (v. 26) and here is the experience of the doubting Thomas, forever recorded for anyone who might doubt that the resurrection happened and is real.

How will our lives be transformed by the resurrection?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 117: 2-4, 15-18, 22-24. R. v. 1

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / ‘His love has no end.’ / Let the sons of Aaron say: / ‘His love has no end.’ / Let those who fear the Lord say: / ‘His love has no end.’ **R.**

2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. / I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, / but not doomed to die. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Jn 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God’s children if we love God himself and do what



he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20: 29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20: 19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.’