

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

The Gordon Parish is a supervised, community-led parish ~ Parish Leadership Team: Sue Daly, Lin Bowers, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Aileen Toohey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Gabrielle Driscoll and Tim Delaney

Supervising Priest: Fr Ed Moloney Visiting Priest: Fr Sajan Mathew

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5368 9280 or 0492 903 409

✉ gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals and Maintenance: contact Parish Secretary ~ Safeguarding Officer: Lin Bowers

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 Gabrielle Driscoll Principal: Mr Tim Delaney	☎ 5368 1015 ☎ 5368 9495	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au
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Collections last weekend

Thanks to all who give generously to each of these collections:

Loose	Presbytery: \$	Parish: \$
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2019/20:	
Year to Date:		\$10,251.00

Parish Update

We hope you are all keeping safe, well, warm and connected to our parish. There has been some easing of the Victorian Government's COVID-19 restrictions in regional Victoria, which is fantastic news. Unfortunately as far as masses go, we are still unable to celebrate mass and church gatherings indoor. This means our churches are closed with no masses until further notice from the Victorian Government. All going well, we will be able to meet for masses very soon. Of course there will be restricted numbers on the amount of people able to gather. We will be informed at a later by the Victorian Government when these changes will take place. There are exceptions for funerals and weddings. The Parish Leadership Team are still meeting via zoom every fortnight. We're not making any major decisions,

just ensuring that the Parish is running smoothly, dealing with the Gordon Parish finances and addressing pastoral needs within our parish community. Hopefully we can gather together as one community soon.

Thank you

The Gordon Parish would like to thank Mick Winter for all his work as Chairperson for the Parish Pastoral Council. He dedicated many hours over a long period of time to this role. Thank you so much Mick.

New Parish Phone mobile phone number:

Please note the new mobile phone number for the Gordon Parish Secretary is 0492 903 409 The Gordon Parish landline number remains the same: 5368 9280. Thanks

Church Cleaning

BALLAN	GORDON	SPRINGBANK



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

✉ 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	Acting Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280 Acting Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604	www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au
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Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$	Parish: \$
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Victorian Child Safe Standards

These new standards apply to all organisations that provide services for children. Our parish's Child Safety Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct are available on the parish webpage of the diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links.) Parish Safeguarding Officer: Leah Hanrahan.

Sacramental Program Up-Date

The Bungaree Sacramental Program was set to start in early June, however due to the restrictions during this COVID-19 time, in consultation with Fr Sajan, the following decisions have been made:

- The Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist will be postponed till 2021. Children in Years 3 and 4 will be

able to receive those sacraments then. Dates will be decided later in the year.

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation will still go ahead this year, at this stage. Any children who have not received this Sacrament and are in Year 2 or above, are eligible for this program. The Parent Meeting is 13th October, 2020 and the Retreat Day & Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is Tuesday 10th November 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please direct these to The Bungaree Parish Office via email:

bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au or to Sue Prendergast: sprendergast@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

READER/INTERCESSIONS	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	COMMUNION MINISTER	Other
THERE WILL BE NO MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE			

LITURGIES

There will be no masses until further notice

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarke's Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	(Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am)			

Anniversaries

Wayne Torpy, Corey Fletcher, Eileen McDermott, Bill O'Donohue, Kathleen Sheehan, John (Jack) Frawley, Winifred Walsh, Vera Winter, Kevin O'Brien, Stephan Molloy, Bob Kick, Margaret Mahar, Catherine Graham, Noreen Torney RSM, Mary Sullivan, Des Lee and Emmanuel Barbara.

We offer our prayerful support for the sick

Anna Bartaska, Mitchell Prendergast, Michelle Hall, Mary Cassar, Moira Myers, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Alice Gardiner, Stan Mahar, Lore Winter, Jan Quinlan, Noel Craven, Christine Hall, John Ryan, Thelma Keating, Lyla Geary, Anne Micallef and Clare Adriaans

How to get the Parish Newsletter

- Bungaree and Gordon Parish links of the Diocese website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
- Emailed copies at Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au or gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au
- Tubs outside churches.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will issue information regarding gatherings in places of worship now that restrictions have eased in regional Victoria, as the information becomes available. All updates are also on the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

New Diocesan Website

The new diocesan website is now live at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Plenary Council Update

The journey to the Plenary Council 2020 continues. It is different than we could have expected; the need to pray, discern and listen to the Holy Spirit and each other is so important.

Discernment Papers: The six discernment papers have been released and are available to be read. Here in the diocese, we will endeavour to look at one paper for a month. For the month of September we will look at **HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS Prayerful & Eucharistic?** Have a read of the discernment paper, think about your parish and the diocese in general. You can read the discernment paper at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PC2020-thematic-papers-3.pdf>. We welcome any comments you have. Please send through to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Social Justice Statement 2020-2021

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-2021, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our



community. Information: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

It's St Mary's 10th Anniversary and you're invited!

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in of honour Mary throughout September and October <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

Centacare support offering

Centacare's family and relationship team are offering support during COVID-19. View the flyer for programs on offer and contact details at https://mcusercontent.com/fe8dff0912e9e1b378f7db433/files/7d47726-oda8-4a94-8f27-f73ed3eb922b/Programs_brochure_COVID.pdf

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program Online Study

Low-cost online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parish and other ministries. 5 week study cycles include Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Registrations open now until October 12 for the next cycle which begins October 18. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Engaging Your Catholic Faith

Engaging Your Catholic Faith is a series of short sessions offered online by Catholic Theological College lecturers on a range of topics including theology, scripture, pastoral studies and spirituality. Sessions will be held from September 14 - October 31 and will cost \$20 per session. The sessions will be held via Zoom and will run for approximately 90 minutes. More information and enrolment details are available from www.ctc.edu.au.

Season of Creation: September 1 – October 4, 2020

The fifth anniversary of *Laudato Si'* was the beginning of the Special *Laudato Si'* Anniversary Year (May 24, 2020 – May 24, 2021) with the hope that it be a time of grace, a true Kairos experience and "Jubilee" time for the Earth, for humanity and all God's creatures. The theme for Season of Creation 2020 is *Jubilee for the Earth* in which we are invited to consider the integral relationship between the rest for the Earth and ecological, economic, social and political ways of living. The need for a just and sustainable system revealed this year by the global COVID-19 pandemic, is a time to reflect and act on the urgency of the situation of our world today and for future generations. Liturgically, we celebrate remembering God's action in prayer. Resources from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/a-season-of-creation/> include a reflection from Bishop Paul, liturgical resources to guide reflections of the season and ecumenical resources.

All notices for weekly bulletin need to be submitted by 3.00pm Wednesday at gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au or bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au THANKS



REFLECTING THE GENEROSITY OF GOD

Today's Gospel is introduced as a parable 'about the kingdom of heaven'. That is, it illustrates the way in which God's rule is reclaiming the world for values that allow people to live lives that are human in the fullest sense of the word.

In the Palestine of Jesus' time, employment was for many a day to day business. Whether labourers got work—and the wage they needed to support themselves and their families—depended on whether they were hired for that day in the marketplace.

The story presupposes a long working day with successive hirings during the day. The 'just wage' agreed upon at the start of the day would have been a denarius, the standard wage for a day's labour. This is in fact what everyone receives, but when those who have laboured since early morning see even the latecomers paid this wage, they expect that in *their* case 'a just wage' will mean considerably more. Hence their grievance.

Jesus' message is that we cannot simply take the conventional idea of justice and apply it without qualification to God. God *is* just, but, beyond justice, reserves the right to be overwhelmingly generous as well. If the landowner, out of wider social concern, chooses to be generous and to pay everyone, deserving or not, what social justice today would call a 'living wage', this truly reflects the will and action of God. Aligning ourselves with this view of God has much to do with allowing the values of the kingdom to transform our lives and our world.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise
your name for ever. / The Lord is great,
highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be
measured. R.

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. R.

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving
in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call
him, / who call on him from their hearts. R.

SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me



something more; but then again, if living in this
body means doing work which is having good
results – I do not know what I should choose.
I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone
and be with Christ, which would be very much
the better, but for me to stay alive in this body
is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your
Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of
heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak
to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an
agreement with the workers for one denarius a

day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out
at about the third hour he saw others standing
idle in the market place and said to them, "You
go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went out
and did the same. Then at about the eleventh
hour he went out and found more men standing
round, and he said to them, "Why have you
been standing here idle all day?" "Because no
one has hired us" they answered. He said to
them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the
evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his
bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their
wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending
with the first." So those who were hired at about
the eleventh hour came forward and received
one denarius each. When the first came, they
expected to get more, but they too received one
denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at
the landowner. "The men who came last" they
said "have done only one hour, and you have
treated them the same as us, though we have
done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He
answered one of them and said, "My friend, I
am not being unjust to you; did we not agree
on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I
choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay
you. Have I no right to do what I like with my
own? Why be envious because I am generous?"
Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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*Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): ~19th & 20th
September 2020*



Family Prayer

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Lord Have Mercy
Christ Have Mercy
Lord Have Mercy

Collect

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Readings

(Refer to front of the newsletter)

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Isaiah, Isa 55: 6-9

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians, Phil 1: 20-24, 27

Gospel:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 20: 1-16

Silence

Homily

Jesus' parable on the labourers in the vineyard still has the capacity to raise hackles, and that's encouraging. It's doing what Jesus meant it to do. It offends our sense of what is fair and just. It uncovers our ingrained habit of calculating what others do or don't deserve from us or how much we feel we can or can't give of ourselves. This seems to have been Jesus' original purpose – to shock his hearers with a story of divine generosity not limited by legalistic or self-interested rules of rationing.

Like the majority of the parables this one will be familiar to most people, so it calls for a special effort to proclaim it afresh. There is an inbuilt dynamism to the story which helps. The tension builds up with each successive hiring until the payment is made at the end of the day, and we hear the punch-line: "Why be envious because I am generous?" The final saying about the first and the last seems to be added on to the parable as a general maxim.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

READER: Jesus opens our eyes to the boundless generosity of God. With glad and Grateful hearts let us pray for all our needs.

READER: We pray for Pope Francis and all spiritual leaders, that they will be sure guides for us to the wonderful mystery of God.

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for a world-wide conversation of heart, that human greed and selfishness be replaced by a joyful spirit of thankfulness.

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for those suffering the pain of loneliness and isolation, that family and friends will find ways of assuring them they are cherished.

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for refugees and asylum seekers subject to punitive conditions in detention, that they be dealt with humanely and justly while their claims are considered.

Lord, hear us.

READER: Holy God, you have revealed the mystery of your mercy in the Word-made-flesh. Help us to put his teaching into practise. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Amen

Concluding Prayer

Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.

St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us. **(Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane)**

Common prayer for the fifth anniversary of Laudato Si'

Loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
You created us in your image and made us stewards of all your creation, of our
common home.

You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land
so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we may attend to your gift of creation.

Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us,
but to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.

May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need.

Be present to those in need in these trying times,
especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.

Transform our fear, anxiety and feelings of isolation into hope
so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global
pandemic,

Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the
common good,

Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected
in our efforts to lift up the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

