

The Ascension of the Lord (Year C): ~ 28/29 May 2022

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll - ☎ 5368 9280

Parish Leadership Team: Sue Daly, Lin Bowers, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Lin Bowers

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)



PARISH VISION: That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ

We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

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 in Church last weekend

Loose:	Presbytery: \$401.55	Parish: \$221.00
Planned Giving:	Envelopes 2021/22:	\$10,762.45

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) Face masks are no longer required in most indoor settings, but they are still recommended.

Mass at St Brigid's Church, Ballan: This Thursday, 2nd June at 10.30 am. All Welcome.

Volunteers-Update: During the next two weeks we will be contacting volunteers to update contact details and other requirements (i.e. Working with Children Card). We are

deeply appreciative of the invaluable contribution that our volunteers make to the running of the Parish and sustaining our Church community.

National Count of Attendance- Gordon:

The fourth week of the count will be held after mass at St Michael's Springbank and St Brigid's Ballan. A designated counting sheet has been placed in the churches to facilitate the count. Please nominate counter/s before Mass who will be responsible for collating the information and ensuring that the form is completed correctly.

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, Di Reynolds, Tim Bennet, Maurice Maher, Peter Roche & Inez French.

Safeguarding Officer: Accepting Nominations

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Thursday 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

We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	\$NA	Parish:	\$NA
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National Count of Attendance-Bungaree:

The fourth week of the count will be held after mass at St Michael's Church, Bungaree. A designated counting sheet has been placed in the church to facilitate the count directly after Mass. Please nominate counter/s who will be responsible for collating the information and ensuring that the form is completed correctly.

Volunteers-Update:

We are updating the contact details of our volunteers, and assisting them in acquiring any necessary documentation, if needed (i.e. Working with Children Card). We are extremely grateful for the invaluable contribution our volunteers give to our parish ministries.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
28/29 May 2022	The Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1: 17-23		
Springbank - 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree - 8.45 am	Sophie Boyd		Wednesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan - 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis		Thursday - 9.30am Bungaree
4/5 June 2022	Pentecost Sunday Acts 2: 1-11; Rom 8: 8-17		
Dunnstown - 6.30 pm	Chris Leonard		Friday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon - 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan - 10.30 am	Margaret Green		Holy Hour - 1 st Thursday of each Month
11/12 June 2022	The Most Holy Trinity Prov 8: 22-31; Rom 5: 1-5		
Springbank - 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree - 8.45 am	Nola Jeffrey		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan - 10.30 am	Julie Dargan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 9.30am

	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	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
	Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am				



Anniversaries: Nora Mahar, Con Sheehan, Gerard Cullinan, Peter Auchettl, John Bourke, Marg Cahir, Winnie Flynn, William Jones, Tom White Snr, George Pearse, Anna Maria Greene, Brian Maher, Jim Keating, Fredrick Gilles, Calvert Croxson Clarke, Paul Reddie, and Peter Frichot.

We offer our prayerful support for the sick: Anna Bartaska, Lyla Geary, Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Moira Myers, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner and Chaiel Balcombe Jackson.

Baptisms: We pray for Jagger Jones, son of Renee and Trevor who will be baptised this Sunday in St Brigid's Church, Ballan, and welcome him into our faith community. *Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Praying with Pope Francis: The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. Pope's intention for May: **For faith-filled young people:** *We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest. May they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates and the dedication to service.*

National Reconciliation Week: 27 May – 3 June: National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for us to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The 2022 theme, "Be Brave. Make Change." is a challenge to all to *Be Brave* and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can *Make Change* for the benefit of all Australians. A prayer of the faithful from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria: *Lord, open up our hearts so that we may hear the message you teach of a world in which the wrongs of the past are recognised - a world in which a reconciled people walk and talk together sharing stories; a world in which all burn with the desire to have your peace and justice reign. We ask this in Jesus' name.*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for 2022: 29 May – 5 June: The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 was chosen by the Middle East Council of Churches "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship" (cf Matthew 2:2). Resources for use available at <https://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources/wopcu22>

'What Australians really think about Jesus and the Church today' NCLS Research will present a free webinar on insights into Australian spirituality on Thursday, June 9 at 11.00am or 7.00pm. Speakers are Dr Ruth Powell, NCLS and Karl Faase, Olive Tree Media CEO. Register at: https://whataustraliansthink_ncls.eventbrite.com.au

Heart of Life – Taster Session for Siloam Program - 14 June: Heart of Life, sponsored by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, has been offering the Siloam Program to individuals from Australia and around the world for over 40 years. Almost 50 religious Orders from Australia and overseas are represented in our Siloam graduates, together with Lay women and men. The Program guides trainees along the path of contemplative discernment, following the way of the heart. The Centre is now accepting applications for the 2023 Program. Are you called to be a spiritual director? A pastoral supervisor? A spiritual leader? Would you like to participate in spiritual formation that develops a compassionate, contemplative, listening heart? We invite you to join our Taster Session for a facilitated reflection and more information about Heart of Life's courses. Led by the formation team at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation a 'Taster Session' will be held on Tuesday 14 June 2022, 7.30pm-9pm via Zoom. Bookings via www.trybooking.com/BZAWV, or email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne for more details.

CTC Conference: 'How do we know Christ now?' Celebrating 50 years of CTC- 17 June: This conference will focus on the critical question: 'How do we know Christ now?' and explores how we know the same Christ more authentically and powerfully today. It will be led by the staff of CTC from across the disciplines and use a dialogical approach with opportunities for discussion and experiential engagement. This free online (via zoom) conference will be held on Friday, June 17, 2022 from 9.30am - 12.30pm. Keynote presentation will be held from 9.30am - 11.15am and workshops from 11.30am - 12.30pm. Registration is required for the keynote presentation and workshop choices. For more information go to <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/how-do-we-know-christ-now/>

Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 24:46-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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REFLECTING ON OUR CALL

As we celebrate the feast of the Ascension the words of the angels to the disciples can serve as a useful reminder of the meaning of this feast: 'Why are you standing here looking up at the sky?' The disciples had just witnessed the departure of their Lord and while their immediate reaction was natural there was work to be done; a mission had been entrusted to them. It was no time for standing still but getting down to the work at hand.

Firstly, the Lord had given them the mission of preaching the salvation that Jesus offered to the whole world. Secondly, they had to prepare for the gift of the Spirit which would enable and empower them to undertake their task. As the Gospel of Luke concludes we find the disciples in prayer in the temple waiting for the gift of the Spirit, joyfully pondering on what they had experienced.

The reading from the letter to the Ephesians calls us to share in that journey of reflection into the meaning of not only the life of Jesus but our own life as Christians. As Paul reflected on Jesus' life, death and resurrection, he came to see that it was truly a cosmic event. Jesus was not just Lord of death but all creation. The Ephesians are invited to reflect on the richness of the gift they have all received as Christians. Today's feast of the Ascension calls us to rejoice in, and reflect on, our call and mission.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

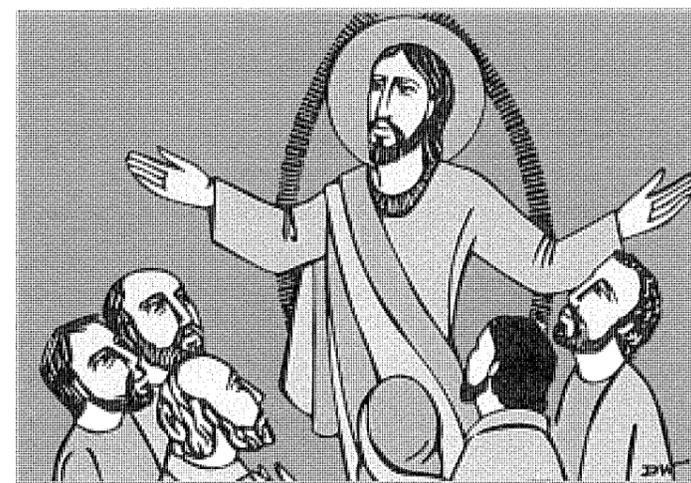
*Why are you standing here looking into the sky?
Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

■ The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 46:2-3, 6-9. R. v. 6

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.
(or Alleluia!)**

1. All peoples, clap your hands, / cry to God with shouts of joy! / For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, / great king over all the earth. R.
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; / the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. / Sing praise for God, sing praise, / sing praise to our king, sing praise. R.
3. God is king of all the earth. / Sing praise with all your skill. / God is king over the nations; / God reigns on his holy throne. R.

SECOND READING Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in