



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 Pastoral Council: Mick Winter (Chair), Lin Bowers (Secretary)

Shane Carey, Frank Simpson, Gabrielle Driscoll, Bambi Afford, Marie Shanahan

Supervising Priest: Fr Gary Jones. Visiting Priest: Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR

Parish Secretary/Parish Office (Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm): Natasha Buttigieg ☎ 5368 9280 or 0423 217 556

✉ 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 Finance Council Anita Lidgett (Chair), Stephen Conroy (Secretary), Tony Lynch, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Tony Paarhammer

Parish Schools
St. Brigid's Primary School Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015 www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
St. Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mrs Bambi Afford ☎ 5368 9495 www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend

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

Loose	Presbytery: \$200.00	Parish: \$n/a
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2019/20:	\$n/a
	Year to date:	\$25,186.08

Parish Pastoral Council

The next meeting will be Monday evening, Dec 2, in the Ballan Gathering Space from 6.30pm. If anyone has an item for discussion, please contact a member of the PPC.

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the sick mass Thursday 5th Dec. 10.30am at St Brigid's, Ballan. All welcome.

Parish Dinner

Monday December 9, 6.30pm at Donegans Farm. Three course meal \$25 pp. Bookings please contact Lin Bowers 0414 782 044

Christmas Mass times and venues

Tuesday, Dec 24 Springbank 6pm, Gordon 6pm, Ballan 8pm

Plenary 2020 Update

Your thoughts, sharing and comments from Sunday's Plenary Discernment gathering are currently being collated in readiness for submission to the Plenary Council. Again, thank you to all who were able to attend - your input, willingness to share and contributions were invaluable. There were some common themes emerging which could equally apply locally or

nationally. We have shared some of your thoughts and will do so regularly to keep you up to date.

- Encourage non practising Catholics to re-engage with the church
- Create opportunities for healing acceptance/inclusiveness for all who have been hurt; recognise divorced/remarried/homosexual
- Encourage more involvement from secondary students
- Replace Mass with Lay-led ministries on some Sundays
- Roster for cuppa after masses for gatherings and fellowship
- Improve connection between school and parish
- Organise evening prayerful communal groups
- Come together as a whole parish for Mass once a year
- Stand up for refugees – support Mercy Connect/Vinnies/ Caritas

To those who were unable to attend, your encouragement is appreciated and we look forward to your ongoing contribution to our Parish life.

Church Cleaning – December

St Michael's 13th, St Brigid's 20th & St Patrick's 21st

BALLAN	GORDON	SPRINGBANK
Tiffany Forde Family	Michelle Barnes Bianca Flint	Kath O'Neil Louise O'Neil



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ BUNGAREE

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree

Priest in Residence: Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR ~ ☎ 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 Principal: Mr Chris Kavanagh ☎ 5334 5280 www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown Principal: Mr Chris Kavanagh ☎ 5334 7604 www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$219.00	Parish: \$390.00
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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.

Bungaree Church Cleaning

Thank you to everyone who has assisted by cleaning the Church throughout 2019. The Christmas/December Church cleaning of the Bungaree Church will be Tuesday 3rd December at 7.00 p.m. It would be great to see this supported, as it has been in the past, with both men and women and new cleaners are more than welcome. *Many hands will make light work.*

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	COMMUNION MINISTER	ALTAR SERVERS
30 th Nov & 1 st Dec	1 st Sunday of Advent (Year A): Isaiah 2:1-5 ~ Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44			
Dunnstown ~ 6.30pm	Chris Leonard	Chris Leonard Family	Fran Peterkin	Kiely, Frankie & Bonnie
Gordon ~ 8.45am	Therese Winter & Debbie Goldie	Brian and Kate Carey	Beth Calleja	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Bert Jarvis & Marie Shanahan	James & Alison Eskdale & Family	Lloyd Lamb & Lorraine Tipple	
7 th & 8 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent (Year A): Isaiah 11:1-10 ~ Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12			
Springbank ~ 6.30pm	TBA	Brendan Simpson Family	Donna Simpson	
Bungaree ~ 8.45am	Damian Ryan	D Rix	M Elliott / L Hanrahan	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Lloyd Lamb & Anne Eskdale	Binks Family	Cathy Mullane & Denise Marshall	

LITURGIES			
Thur 5 th Dec	Ballan	10.00am	Prayer Group
Fri 6 th Dec	Bungaree	10.00am	Mass
Sat 7 th Dec	Springbank	6.30pm	Sunday Mass
Sun 8 Dec	Bungaree	8.45am	
	Ballan	10.30am	

	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	(Korobeit Sat 6.30pm – Creswick 8.45am – Daylesford 10.30am)			



Recent Deaths

Terry Carman-Geelong (life-long friend of Fr Des)

Anniversaries

George Smith, Doreen Conroy, Bill Mahar, Maisie Frawley, Peter Quinlan, Maurice Torpy, Maureen Frawley, Ron Devlin.

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, Douglas Keating, Noel Craven, Patrick Hodgson, Kevin Mullane, Christine Hall, John Ryan, Mike Hayward-Brown.

Baptism Anniversaries

This month, we celebrate the anniversary of the following recent baptisms: Patrick William Robinson (Nov 2016) and Benjamin Michael Prendergast (Dec 2015).

Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so they may walk in newness of life.

Diocesan e-News for Recent Parish Events

Check the current diocesan e-News for reports on the parish Remembrance Mass and the Mass of Thanksgiving held recently for Bishop Shane. Go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – News & Events | e-News. You can subscribe to receive e-News from here also.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and many more. 5weeks study cycle begins January 12. Registrations close December 23. More info: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au ☎ 0407 523 424 or e. kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Making a Scene at Christmas

Displays will be at Ss Michael & John's Church Horsham, December 5-8 and Ss Peter & Paul's Church Buninyong, December 12-15. All welcome including school groups.

Simbang Gabi

Is a Filipino Christmas tradition. It is a series of nine masses on the days leading up to Christmas, and will be held at St James' Parish Church Sebastopol on Dec 16 & 17 at 7pm, Dec 18 at 8pm (following Advent Reconciliation Service), Dec 19-23 at 7pm, and Dec 24 at 2pm (Filipino Christmas Mass & Carols) and celebrated by Fr Jorge De Chavez OSJ. All welcome. More info: Connie ☎0449 053 647, Cynthia ☎ 0419 547 514, Sherley ☎ 5338 1266 or 0417 331 756, Urbing ☎ 0419 558 965 or Dion ☎ 0427 876 533.

OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch

OLHC Parish are hosting lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Transport is available. For bookings or further information ☎ 0419 975 914 or email christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com

Advent Retreat

Sunday December 15th 2.00pm – 5.00pm at St Alipius' Hall Victoria St. Rachel McLoughlin and Natalie Houlihan will lead a

spacious advent time of Reflections, Readings, Music, Images, Silence and ending with Spiritual Conversation. All welcome.

Plenary Council – National Themes for Discernment Announced

The six National Themes for Discernment invite people to reflect, to pray and to consider how God is calling the People of God to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is:

1. **Missionary and Evangelising**
2. **Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal**
3. **Prayerful and Eucharistic**
4. **Humble, Healing and Merciful**
5. **A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community**
6. **Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform**

Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is **Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal**? This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared a passion for participating in the missionary nature of the Church and desire stronger support, involvement and formation among all the baptised who make up the Church.

Jillian Hogbin and Felicity Knobel are facilitating Discernment gatherings in the Cathedral parish for each of the six themes of the Plenary Council, Sunday afternoons, 2.30pm– 4.30pm. The discernment process is a prayerful one, commencing with Scripture, silence, spiritual conversations and proposed actions.

Sunday December 1 - How to be a Christ-centred Church that is inclusive, missionary & synodal

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Less than two weeks to go before the fourth Australian Catholic Youth Festival kicks off in Perth (December 8-10). Around 5,000 young people are expected to attend this year's celebrations, with the "Melbourne Collective" - combining pilgrims from the four Dioceses of Victoria - contributing one thousand of that total! In addition to those Ballarat parishioners travelling within the Collective, Fr James Kerr will also be leading a small contingent from St Joseph's College, Mildura. Bishop Paul Bird will be heading across with fellow Redemptorist priests Fr Son Nguyen (Ararat), Fr Lovin Lolo (Redan) and Fr Vincent Pham (Cathedral) to participate in the festivities. We wish them and all the young people a safe and blessed trip as they make their way across the country and experience the young heart of the Catholic Church in Australia.

Young adult retreat

Looking for a young adults retreat that will change your life? Registration is now open for next year's "Summer School of Evangelisation" (January 12-19). This unique event held in Bacchus Marsh will be a powerful week of encountering God, where you can experience great speakers, uplifting worship, beautiful liturgies and a vibrant community of 16-35 year olds looking to deepen their faith in Christ. Ballarat Diocese Youth Ministry is offering financial support to help cover the costs of attending this week-long camp. Anyone interested can contact Patrick on 5337-7160 or email patrick.kennedy@ballarat.catholic.org.au for more information.