

## 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](http://www.sballan.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.spagordon.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spagordon.catholic.edu.au)

### 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:		\$7,606.00

### Parish Update

We hope you are all keeping safe, well, warm and connected to our parish as we work our way through the Victorian Government's Stage 3 restrictions in regional Victoria. This means our churches are closed with no masses until at least September 13. 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, and addressing any pastoral

needs within our community. Hopefully we can gather together as one community soon.

To all our fathers, step-dads, grandfathers, uncles, and all who have a fatherly role, wishing you a very happy Father's Day. It will certainly be a very different one, but our thoughts, prayers and special wishes are with you.

### 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, Clarke's 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, Clarke's Hill  
St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown

Acting Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280  
Acting Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604

[www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au)

### 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](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 and the Retreat Day & Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

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

[bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or to Sue Prendergast: [sprendergast@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sprendergast@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au)

To all our fathers, step-dads, grandfathers, uncles, and all who have a fatherly role, wishing you a very happy Father's Day. It will certainly be a very different one, but our thoughts, prayers and special wishes are with you.

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

## LITURGIES

**There will be no masses until further notice**

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> 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

Frank Cass, Evelyn Nash, Mary O'Loughlin, Peg Shanahan, Peter Duffy, Eileen Pendergast, Elspeth Eastwood, Emily Green, James Cummins, Jack Nunn, Jimmy Winter and Ewen McCarthy

### 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

### Baptism Anniversaries

This month, we celebrate the anniversary of the following recent baptisms: Thomas Patrick Mahar (2017), Henry Arthur Montano (2018) and Jim Timothy Ryan (2018)

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

### How to get the Parish Newsletter

- Bungaree and Gordon Parish links of the Diocese website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)
- Emailed copies at [Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au)
- Tubs outside churches.

### Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Stage 3 restrictions were re-introduced in regional Victoria effective from August 5, 2020. All updates are on the diocesan website "news" section [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### New Diocesan Website

The new diocesan website is now live at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://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](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

### Annual Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Due to the closure of churches around the world during Holy Week because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Pope Francis moved the date for this collection to **Sunday September 13th** to coincide with the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross**. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians, parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout



the Holy Land. This year, we are facing great challenges due to COVID-19. You can donate by-

- Placing your donation in the Holy Land Appeal envelopes that are in each of the tubs outside the churches and returning them to either the Bungaree Presbytery or Gordon Parish office (Tuesday or Wednesday's between (9.30am-2.00pm)
- Donating online- Bungaree: BSB 083 526  
Account no 51565761895  
Gordon: BSB 633 000  
Account no 160275764

**Please note:** If paying into either account you must write 'Holy Land Appeal' as a reference. Thanks.

### 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. For more information [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020)

### Staying Connected ... Doing Ministry Safely Online

A 90 minute online workshop designed for those working with children and young people in church communities. Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 5pm-6.30pm. More info and free registration at: [www.trybooking.com/BKZSO](http://www.trybooking.com/BKZSO)

### Child Protection Sunday – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and vulnerable adults. You can find out more at: [www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

### Damascus College Information Webinars & Virtual Tours for 2022 Commencement

Damascus College warmly invites all families to attend our upcoming Information Webinars on Wednesday, September 9 at 5.00pm and Tuesday, October 20 at 6.30pm. The Information Webinars are a great way for prospective families to learn more about Damascus College. Guided Virtual Tours are held fortnightly on a Thursday at 9.00am. Register at <https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us>. You will be sent an online link the day prior to the event.

**ALL NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETIN TO BE SUBMITTED BY 3.00PM WEDNESDAY AT [gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) THANKS**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

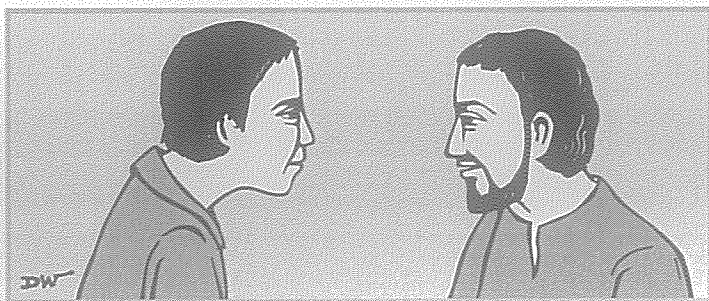
*If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Reflections on the Gospel

## WINNING PEOPLE BACK

The Church is not a community of the perfect. Allowance has to be made for dealing with moral lapses and dissensions that inevitably occur in a community still on the way to the Kingdom.

In today's Gospel the procedure Jesus lays down for dealing with conflict reveals his sense of the Church as the *family* of God. Correction should as far as possible be carried out in private. Only if that proves unsuccessful should a carefully staged progression of increasingly public procedures be set in place. The goal is not simply to win, but rather to 'win back' the 'brother or sister', to preserve as far as possible the dignity of the errant person, and to enhance everyone's sense of being a valued member of the 'family'.

If, despite all, the process fails, there is nothing to be done but to treat the person as an outsider. There comes a point beyond which a community can no longer tolerate members who consistently defy its core values.

To set someone outside the community is no light matter. The Church needs to know that its decisions in this regard enjoy heavenly sanction. Hence Jesus' assurance that the 'binding and loosing' authority conferred personally upon Peter in regard to interpretations of the law (Matthew 16:19), is also enjoyed by the local community with respect to the exclusion or non-exclusion of errant members. As risen Lord, Jesus remains 'Emmanuel', 'God with us', in community life and deliberation (see Matthew 1:23).

The Church's canon law and way of proceeding has developed way beyond this simple instruction. But its fundamental spirit should remain.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

06 SEPTEMBER 2020

## FIRST READING

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

*If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

## ■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

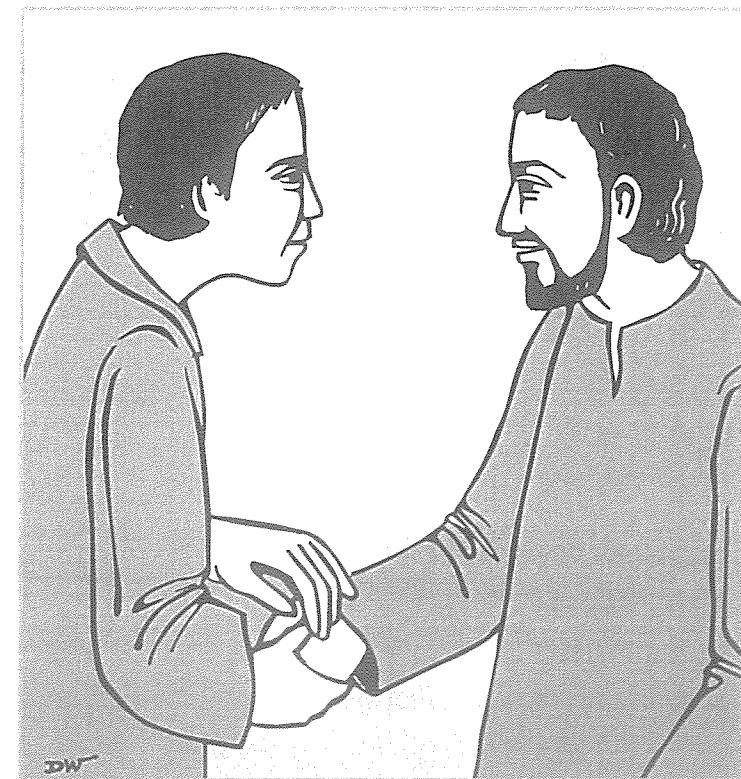
**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!**

**Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. R.

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. R.

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R.



## SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Love is the fulfilment of the Law.*

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

**Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!**



*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): ~5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
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**

Oh God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,  
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,  
that those who believe in Christ  
may receive true freedom  
and an everlasting inheritance.

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 Ezekiel, Ezek 33: 7-9

**Second Reading:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans, Rom 13: 8-10

**Gospel** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 18: 15-20

**Silence**

**Homily**

After the conclusion from chapter 16 read last Sunday, all of chapter 17 is omitted and we move ahead to the middle of chapter 18. This chapter constitutes the fourth of the five discourses or sermons that Matthew incorporates into his gospel. This one is his discourse on the Church or his Community Sermon.

It soon became evident in the life of the early Church that it was not a perfect society. Individuals sinned and communities splintered. A dispute resolution process needed to be developed. This is what Matthew offers in today's reading. A sinner is to be approached first by the individual, then by two or three others, then by the community. If all this fails, he is to be treated like a "pagan or a tax collector" – an ironic un-Christian use of these terms, given that Jesus' teaching and practice made such people insiders not outsiders!

Matthew adds two further statements. The first one extends to the community the power to bind and loose that had been given to Peter earlier in the gospel. The second combines two fundamental assertions. One, that when two or three agree on what to pray for, their prayer

will be answered; and two, that Jesus is present whenever “two or three meet in my name”. This last declaration provides a warrant for the Second Vatican Council’s teaching on Christ’s presence in the worshipping assembly.

### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**READER: Whenever two or three gather in Jesus’ name, he is there as promised. Heartened by his presence, let us pray with hope and faith.**

**READER:** We pray for Christian communities around the world, that they will be clear examples of integrity, conversion and reconciliation.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for nations with advanced health services, that they will share them freely with those ill-equipped to deal with the coronavirus pandemic.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers and all who have a fatherly role, that they will be blessed in loving those entrusted to their care.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for children and adults unable to read, that International Literacy Day will prompt renewed investment in teachers and resources for them.

Lord, hear us.

**READER: God of everlasting kindness, in your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled the world to yourself. Make us true apostles of your mercy. 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**

Gracious God, We give thanks anew for your providence and presence. We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas. We pray for those in need of healing. We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving. We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response. We pray for your Holy Spirit’s discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders. We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**



# Prayer for *Father's Day*

God our Father,  
We give you thanks and praise  
for fathers young and old.  
We pray for young fathers,  
newly embracing their vocation;  
May they find courage and perseverance  
to balance work, family and faith  
in joy and sacrifice.  
We pray for Fathers around the world  
whose children are lost or suffering;  
May they know that the God of compassion  
walks with them in their sorrow.  
We pray for men who are not fathers  
but still mentor and guide us  
with fatherly love and advice.  
We remember fathers, grandfathers,  
and great grandfathers  
who are no longer with us  
but who live forever in our memory  
and nourish us with their love.

*Amen.*

