

Thirtieth Sunday In Ordinary Time (Year A): ~ 24th & 25th October 2020

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:		\$13,001.00

Parish Update

We were hoping for more easing of restrictions with the announcements last weekend, however nothing yet to allow us to gather as a faith community, even in a small group.

We trust and pray that you are keeping safe and well and staying connected to family members, friends and those you love.

The Transition Team continue to meet each fortnight via Zoom under the guidance and leadership of Fr Ed Moloney and will do so for the foreseeable future.

Regarding, DOBCEL, as reported last week, this is a new and exciting chapter in the life of Parishes and Parish Catholic schools and if you would like to know more you can visit their website on <https://ceob.edu.au>

Help please: St Brigid's School would like some shoe boxes for an art activity. Don't forget to take out the shoes though! If you can assist, please drop them into school.

Revised Parish Directories are in tubs outside churches.

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	Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280 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

Dear Parishioners,
Due to the ongoing uncertainty and COVID restrictions, it has been decided by Fr Sajan and the Sacramental Team that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be postponed this year. Therefore, new dates for all Sacraments will be planned for similar times next year and all children eligible for the programs will be able to participate.

THE Bungaree Parish offers a Family Based Sacramental Program which is led by the Sacramental Team and supported by the Parish schools, St Mary's Clarkes Hill and St Brendan's Dunnstown. The Sacraments and Eucharist are offered for Children in Year 3 and above. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered for children in Year 2 and above. Therefore, 2021 will look slightly different as there will be multiple age groups participating and we will make adjustments to the programs as necessary. If there is anyone in the Parish Community who would like to join the Sacramental Team or know more information, Please contact the Parish Office on 5334 0450 or 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

Joan Auchettl, Monica Burke, Brian Britt, Desmond Kane, Philip Calilleri, Kathleen Kennedy, Bronislaw Blazek, Martain Seiger, Richard Keating, Catherine Hayward-Brown

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, Noel Craven, Christine Hall, John Ryan, Thelma Keating, Lyla Geary and Anne Micalfef.

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 has issued information regarding gatherings in places of worship now that restrictions have eased in regional Victoria. All updates are 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.

e-News

The Diocesan e-News is the online newsletter of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat. It is supported by the print publication "Our Diocesan Community" and the Diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au. The Diocesan e-News is published every two weeks and distributed via email. It is available to all members and those associated with the Diocese and to those with an interest in the life of the Diocese. We encourage you to subscribe to the e-News so you can receive updates and information about the life and activity of the parishes and schools of the diocese. To subscribe please go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au, click News & Events in the menu at the top, then e-News and register for the Diocesan e-News by the subscribe box.

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](#). The National Plenary Facilitation Team have released a resource to assist parishes and communities to explore each of the papers (attached). Here in the diocese, we will endeavour to look at one paper for a month. **For the month of October we will look at HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS Humble, Healing and Merciful?** Have a read of the discernment paper, think about your parish and the



diocese in general. We welcome any comments. Please send through to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Read the discernment paper:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PC2020-thematic-papers-4.pdf>

Visit the Prayerful & Eucharistic page:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/humble/>

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>

Pastoral Care Education

The South West Victoria CPE Centre is offering the opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care, with the option to have a CPE unit recognised as 30 points should you wish to enrol in theological studies with the University of Divinity. The Centre is registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.). CPE is offered online presently and will be this way for at least the first semester in 2021, after which it will be reassessed. For further information ph. 0455 033 321 or email bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au. Information is also available at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pastoral-care-education-3/>

Prayer during the coronavirus pandemic (abridged)

Mary, Help of Christians we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son as you did at the wedding in Cana. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Could all items for the newsletter please be forwarded via email if possible to the Parish Office no later than Wednesday, by 2pm.

gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Thank you.

Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 OCTOBER 2020

and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

When faced with the question in today's Gospel concerning which of the commandments of the law is the greatest, Jesus has no hesitation in uniting two commandments already found in the scriptures of Israel.

The command to love God with all one's heart and soul and mind comes from Deuteronomy (6:4-5). It is a command that every Israelite is summoned to recite each morning on rising (the 'Schema' prayer). So the Christian tradition has inherited from Israel the truth that God is worthy of love, worship and dedication of life simply for God's sake alone. Love is the supreme factor in the relationship that God desires to have with us.

The second command, 'to love one's neighbour as oneself', occurs in Leviticus 19:18. It is 'like' the first because it flows from the nature of Israel's God, who has identified so intimately with the situation of human beings. To love God with all one's heart and soul and mind is to love those whom God loves: one's fellow human beings, especially the vulnerable and the poor.

Down the ages there have been many interpretations as to what loving one's neighbour as oneself might mean. Primarily it would seem to mean putting oneself—at least imaginatively—in the neighbour's shoes and asking how I would like to be treated in their situation. Better still, perhaps, it means taking pains to find out from the neighbour what exactly their desire might be. All effective works of charity and justice begin from a similar base: from *com-passion* ('feeling with') in the deepest sense of that term.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

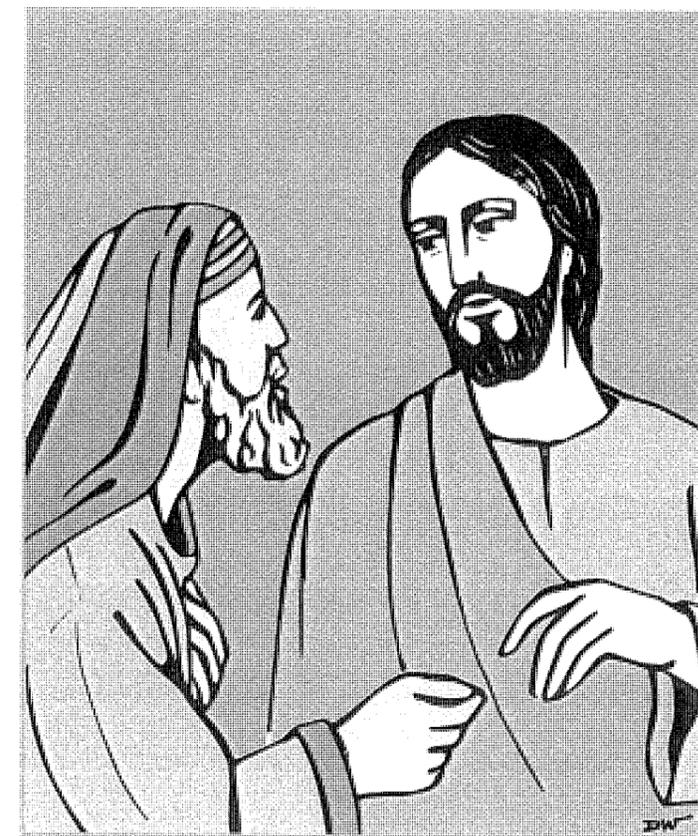
■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. R.



SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): ~24th & 25th October 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

Almighty ever-living God,
increase our faith, hope and charity,
and make us love what you command,
so that we may merit what you promise.
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 Exodus 22:20-26

**Second Reading: A reading from the letter of 1st letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
1 Thess 1:5-10**

Gospel:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-40

Silence

Homily

The gospel text is short and well-known. The question put to Jesus by the Pharisees – “which is the greatest commandment of the Law?” – was not devious in itself. The issue was commonly debated among rabbis in those times. But Matthew attributes malign motives to the Pharisees in posing the question. This prepares his readers for the rejection and condemnation of Jesus that will soon follow. The negative portrayal of the Pharisees may also reflect later antipathy between Christian and Jewish communities.

Jesus’ reply is not original. He quotes two texts that would have been familiar to his audience, Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. Nonetheless he makes his reply with the sureness of an authoritative teacher. Before long he will bear witness to the spoken word in the manner of his death.

The implicit hostility in the Pharisees’ question does not need to be overplayed, but Jesus’ reply, now so familiar, should be proclaimed with deliberation and great warmth.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

READER: To follow Jesus is to love with all our hearts. In union with His love let us pray for the whole human family

READER: We pray for all who faithfully put the love of neighbour into practice, that these daily Good Samaritans will sow the seeds of a new humanity.

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for aid and relief organisations around the world that their works of mercy will bind up its wounds and bring peace.

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, that they not be treated as strangers in our midst but as friends

Lord, hear us.

READER: We pray for all who have blessed us with life giving love that they will rejoice in the generosity and loving kindness we show others

Lord, hear us.

**READER: God of all goodness your love has brought all things into being. Open our hearts to welcome your love and share it without reserve. 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.

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)