

# Feast of Christ the King (Year A): ~ 21/22 November 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 ☎ 5368 1015

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

Principal: Mr Tim Delaney

☎ 5368 9495

[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:		\$17,662.00

### Parish Update

Indoor Religious Gatherings: are now allowed for up to 20 people, plus **one faith leader**. Strict requirements to be contained in a COVID Safe Plan (please note this is slightly different from the last round of restrictions we operated under) If you would like to be one of the 20 attendees this week, (Saturday, Nov 21 Clarkes Hill 6.30pm or Sunday, Nov 22 Gordon 8.45am &- Ballan 10.30am) you need to register your name with the parish secretary on 0492 903 409 to book your

place. These are small steps as we progress forward and hopefully if all goes well this will lead to larger groups into the future.

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

### Cemetery Visits:

November is the month when we particularly remember All Souls. Fr Sajan will visit Ballan Cemetery this Sunday afternoon Nov 22 at 3pm. Please spread the word. As we are allowed up to 50 people outdoors this will be a wonderful opportunity to gather and remember our deceased family members.

## 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

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

Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604

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

### Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	\$280.00	Parish:	\$570.00
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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](http://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](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or to Sue Prendergast:

[sprendergast@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sprendergast@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au)

READER/INTERCESSIONS

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

COMMUNION  
MINISTER

Other

**As requested**

## LITURGIES

### As requested

	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

James Britt, Thomas Bawden, Graeme Mason, Matthew Steenhuis, Kath O'Hehir, Vincent Maher, Margaret Tynan, Barry Flynn, Mary Mahar, Carmen Maher, Basil Maher, Kath Murphy, Andrew Lund, Jack Glenane, Frances Maher, Ed McDonald, Tommy McGuane, Troy Toohey, Joe Fitzpatrick, Mary O'Leary, Fredrick Giles, Frank O'Loughlin, Mick Loughlin, Mary Toohey, Harry Hooker, James Jimmy Simpson

#### 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 Micallef.

#### 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)

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](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).

#### 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](http://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](http://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 November 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](mailto: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/>

#### Catholic Care Victoria

Victoria's bishops have announced the merging of CatholicCare Melbourne and Gippsland, Centacare Ballarat and CatholicCare Sandhurst, to form a new entity, CatholicCare Victoria from January 1, 2021. Statements and further information is available from the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholic-care-victoria/>

#### Prayer for the last Sunday of the Year

*Lord of the past and the future:*

*we thank you for the last Church Year*

*with all its many challenges.*

*We thank you for the fellowship and joy of our times*

*when we were able to worship together*

*as a community.*

*We pray in hope for the coming year,*

*that we may benefit from the teaching and wisdom of the church and grow in faith and knowledge of You,*

*Amen.*

#### Parish End of Year Dinner – Gordon & Bungaree:

Keep this date – Tues, Dec 8 – restrictions permitting – we will gather at Donegan's Farm, Gordon from 6pm. Cost is \$30 per head and bookings essential via the parish office –

0492 903 409.

**Due to recent relaxation of restrictions, places of worship can open for the celebration of mass for up to 20 people in a single undivided space which will stand until further notice. Fr Sajan will be celebrating mass this coming Saturday (Nov 21) at Clarke's Hill at 6.30pm, Sunday, (Nov 22) at Gordon 8.45am and at Ballan 10.30am. We will be required to register to record details of all attendees at each mass, plus masks, signage, hygiene and safe cleaning practices as well. Please contact the parish secretary on 0492 903 409 to register. Thank you for your assistance.**

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](mailto:gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:Bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Thank you.

to those on his right hand, “Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.” Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?” And the King will answer, “I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.” Next he will say to those on his left hand, “Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me.” Then it will be their turn to ask, “Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?” Then he will answer, “I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.” And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.’

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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# Reflections on the Gospel

## STANDING BEFORE THE LORD NOW

The Gospel to conclude the Church’s year appropriately evokes the great judgement instituted by the Shepherd-King at the end of time. The Christian tradition, especially in art (Michelangelo’s painting in the Sistine Chapel) and music (*Dies Irae*), has often depicted the scene in terrifying literalness.

We may not today feel bound to such a literal understanding of imagery and motifs taken from the apocalyptic Jewish worldview of Jesus’ day. But we have to recognise that what the Gospel wishes to communicate with great seriousness is that the final outcome of one’s existence is irreversibly determined by the attitude and action one adopts in regard to fellow human beings here and now.

Nothing is said about correctness of faith, or the need to be free from, or to have obtained forgiveness for, all kinds of sin. The sole determinant is whether one has acted with care and compassion for people in various situations of need. Here the ‘greatest commandment of the law’—the twin love of God and of one’s neighbour (Matthew 22:36-40)—and the sense of Jesus as ‘Emmanuel’ (‘God with us’ [Matthew 1:23]) receives its most radical extension. The one who sits upon the throne as Judge, has so identified with even ‘the least’ of his ‘brothers and sisters’ that effective compassion shown or not shown to *them* has been shown or not shown to *him*.

There is no need to wait for the Son of Man to come in judgement; every time one encounters a fellow human being in need one already stands before the Judge and King.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

# THE SAVING WORD

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE / A

22 NOVEMBER 2020

## FIRST READING

Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-3, 5-6. R. v. 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. R.
2. Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. / He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. R.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. R.
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. R.

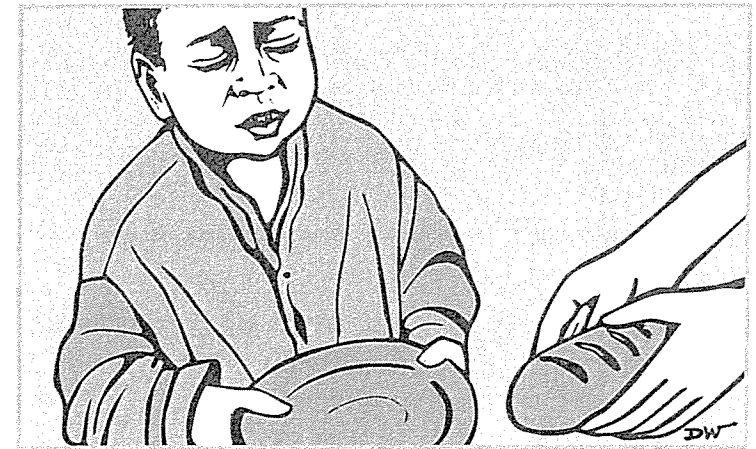
## SECOND READING

1 Cor 15:20-26, 28

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

*He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through



one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 25:31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say



## *Feast of Christ the King (Year A): ~ November 21/22, 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,  
whose will is to restore all things  
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,  
grant, we pray,  
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,  
may render your majesty service  
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.  
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 34:11-12, 15-17

**Second Reading:** A reading from the letter of 1st letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1  
Cor 15:20-26, 28

### **Gospel:**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 25:31-46**

**Silence**

### **Homily**

Matthew alone recounts the parable of the sheep and the goats. Today it serves as a commentary on the last verse of the reading from Ezekiel, “I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats”.

The parable identifies the Son of Man (a title Jesus uses about himself) with a king who holds court and passes life-and-death judgement. In that respect Jesus is aligning himself with the conventional practice of kings and rulers. But the criteria he uses to make his judgements are entirely unconventional as far as the tyrants of the ancient world were concerned.

What merits eternal life is practical outreach to people suffering distress of one kind or another – an outreach not motivated by the hope of reward but by compassion for the needy. Those who show such neighbourly love are focussed on the present reality of life around them, not on other-worldly concerns.

The feast of Christ the King may take place against a horizon of glory, but it anchors us firmly in the world as it is. As the liturgical year comes to a close we are left with a question: are we as enterprising in our care for others as we are in advancing our own interests?

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**FR SAJAN:** As we acknowledge Christ our Lord and King, let us offer these prayers and petitions to the Father in His name.

**READER:** That the Church will be a worthy servant of the Gospel and direct the people of God toward the promised kingdom, we pray to the Lord

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** For the leaders of our country and the world, that they may be guided in the ways of justice and peace, imitating Christ's love and mercy, we pray to the Lord:

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** For our celebration of the Feast of Christ the King. That it would be a time of reflection on our crucified Lord, and an opportunity for us to imitate his attitude of humility and service to others, we pray to the Lord:

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** For all the sick and suffering, the homeless, the unemployed, those suffering from addictions, and anyone in any kind of distress and for our own needs and intentions, that we now recall in our hearts [6 second pause], we pray to the Lord:

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** For all those in our community that we may follow in the footsteps of our Lord and serve those around us, we pray to the Lord:

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**READER:** For the recently deceased and all the faithful departed, especially the loved ones we remember during this month - James Britt, Thomas Bawden, Graeme Mason, Matthew Steenhuis, Kath O'Hehir, Vincent Maher, Margaret Tynan, Barry Flynn, Mary Mahar, Carmen Maher, Basil Maher, Kath Murphy, Andrew Lund, Jack Glenane, Frances Maher, Ed McDonald, Tommy McGuane, Troy Toohey, Joe Fitzpatrick, Mary O'Leary, Fredrick Giles, Frank O'Loughlin, Mick Loughlin, Mary Toohey, Harry Hooker, James Jimmy Simpson - that they will be raised with Christ to live forever. Let us pray to the Lord.

**FR SAJAN:** God of love, our refuge and our strength, hear the prayers of your Church and grant us the grace to be ever faithful to you.

## **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.

(Ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches. We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.)