

# 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 28/29 October 2023

We are child safe  
Parishes, committed  
to safeguarding  
children, young  
people & vulnerable  
adults.

## THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank  
Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll - ☎ 5368 9280; Out-of-hours: 0448 220 685  
Leadership Team: Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke &  
Shane Carey (Gordon), Nola Kersley & Mark Conlan (Ballan)

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey  
Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Wed/Thurs 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

### Parish Schools

St. Brigid's Primary School  
St. Patrick's Primary School

Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth  
Principal: Mr Paul McDowell

☎ 5368 1015  
☎ 5368 9495

www.sballan.catholic.edu.au  
www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

### Collections last week

Presbytery	\$341.85	Parish:	\$186.00
Financial Year to Date: Parish: \$11345.90			

**Thank You:** We are very appreciative of the generosity of all parishioners for their donations.

### All Souls Day Masses this Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>

10.30am Mass in Ballan followed by morning tea then to the Ballan Cemetery for a blessing of graves.

5.30pm Mass in St Francis Xavier Chapel at the Eganstown Cemetery.

### Gordon Parish Sacramental Team

A review of the sacramental preparation and celebrations was undertaken during the week. Bookings for next year's Sacramental Program will be opening soon.

### Forthcoming Events:

Cemetery Mass – Sunday, 11 am on **November 19<sup>th</sup>** at the Gordon Cemetery.



## 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  
Leadership Team: Damien Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown) Dom Prendergast & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill). Ex-Officio Member: Inez French.  
Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Tuesday 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  
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

### Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery:	\$930.00	Parish:	\$600.00
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**Thank You:** We thank all visitors and parishioners who generously donate to these collections.

**The 'Book of the Names of the Dead':** If you wish to include the names of parishioners who have recently died, Fr Sajan will be bringing the 'Book of the Names of the Dead' to all Saturday/Sunday masses held during November, including the cemetery mass as Pootilla. If you wish to update the death anniversaries listed in the Combined Newsletter, please email the Parish Secretary at: bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au/

**Cemetery Mass** next Sunday, 9.30 am on **November 12<sup>th</sup>** at the Pootilla Cemetery. All Welcome.

**Celebrating the End of an Era – Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November** at St Brendan's School, Dunnstown from 2 pm onwards. Fun activities and games, afternoon tea followed by official proceedings. The carvery dinner (\$10 adults, \$5 children) commences at 6 pm, RSVP directly to St Brendan's on 5334 7604 before by Nov 11<sup>th</sup>.

More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pnews/celebrating-the-end-of-an-era-at-st-brendans-primary-school-dunnstown/> Flyers - **Celebrating the End of an Era** - have been placed in all churches.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
<b>28/29 October 2023</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Ex 22: 20-26, 1 Thess 1: 5-10</b>		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Mark Conlan	Ciaran, Janine & Connor Donohue	Thursday – 9.30 am Bungaree
<b>4/5 November 2023</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Mal 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10; 1 Thess 2: 7-9, 13</b>		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 9 am* (new time)	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Jayne Bosworth	Lorraine DeSpirt & Vikki Boka	
<b>11/12 November 2023</b>	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 6: 12-16; 1 Thess 4: 13-18</b>		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
<b>Pootilla Cemetery – 9.30 am</b>	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Margaret Green	Eddie and Mary Cassar	Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month

LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES

	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 6pm*, 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Ballan* Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am, 9am *	Gordon*	Bungaree	Gordon*	Gordon*	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan		Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 5 pm ~ Creswick 6.30pm - 1st Sunday ~ Daylesford 6.30pm -3rd Sunday Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday; Daylesford 10.30 am – 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday					



**Recent Deaths:** Maureen Orr (Bacchus Marsh)

**Anniversaries:** Anne Rutledge, Reg Mullane, Desmond Kane, Philip Calilleri, Kathleen Kennedy, Bronislaw Blazek, Martin Seiger, Bill Hall, Monica Burke, Brian Britt, Leo Leonard, Eileen Ryan, Patrick Elliot, Alma Holloway and Leo Crough.

**We offer our prayers for the sick:** Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Chaiel Balcombe Jackson, John Healy, Elaine Conlan.

**Baptisms:** We pray for Flynn Thomas Maher, son of Joel and Beth, Oliver John Maher, son of Karl and Lauren and Fletcher James Simpson, son of Justin and Casey who will be baptized during the vigil mass at Michael’s Church, Springbank. We welcome them into our faith community. *Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

**Laudate Deum – Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis**

Pope Francis released ‘Laudate Deum’, his apostolic exhortation on the climate crisis. Officially titled, ‘Laudate Deum: To all the People of Good Will on the Climate Crisis’, the exhortation is a sequel to his exhortation, ‘Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home [2015]. Laudate Deum and further resources are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/laudate-deum-apostolic-exhortation-of-pope-francis/>

**Liturgy Formation at Ballan – Sunday, November 5, 2023**

Bishop Paul and the Diocesan Liturgical Commission invite parishioners of the communities of Ballan, Bungaree, Clarkes Hill, Dunnstown, Gordon and Springbank to a workshop after 10.30am Mass at Ballan on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>. Lay led Assemblies of the Word and Holy Communion are celebrated when a priest is not available to celebrate the Eucharist with the community. They may be celebrated occasionally or scheduled regularly to enable the local faith community to continue to gather on Sundays.

Leadership of the Sunday Assembly of Word and Holy Communion is shared amongst several designated and commissioned leaders, together with the Readers, minister of the Eucharist and music ministries who are rostered as usual. Resources for the liturgy are provided by the Diocese.



The workshop is open to all to come and learn about Sunday Assemblies so that each community can be ready to celebrate them should the need arise. The day will commence with 10.30am Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul and continue through the afternoon with a series of different workshops, concluding at 4.30pm. Lunch will be provided. All welcome to attend. The program for the day and registration information is available from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au). Register by clicking on scanning the QR code or register on the (green) sign-up sheets in the church foyers/gathering space or contact Aileen in the Office, email or phone.

**Caritas Australia’s Gaza Crisis Appeal**

Over 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health and psychosocial needs.



*“This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.”* Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia. With your support, there will be aid to help partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please

donate to Caritas Australia’s Gaza Crisis Appeal - scan or click the QR code.

**Remembrance Day and final viewing - Faith at War**

The Ballarat Catholic Diocesan Commission archives current exhibition displays priests from the Diocese who served during WWI, WWII, in Vietnam and Afghanistan. Priests that enlisted could serve as Chaplains either in the Australian Army, Australian Royal Air Force or the Australian Royal Navy. Other priests worked at RAAF bases at Ballarat, Hamilton and Nhill where they served men and women working for the AIF. To commemorate Remembrance Day 2023, the “Faith at War” exhibit will remain on display until Monday, November 13, 2023. People can visit the archives by appointment only on Monday to Friday OR view the display online via the website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/stewardship/diocesan-historical-commission/faith-at-war-and-the-priests-who-served-from-the-catholic-diocese-of-ballarat/>. To visit the archives please contact the archivist by email [archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au)



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

## GOSPEL

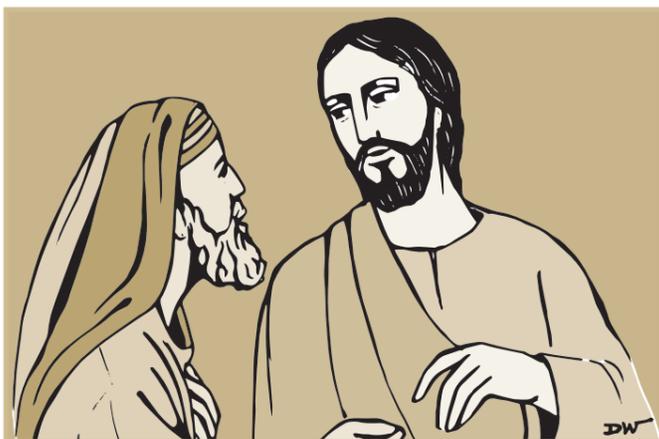
Mt 22:34-40

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.



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

29 OCTOBER 2023

## THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Communities, like the individuals that make them up, cannot exist or grow without reflecting on their stories. In remembering our past, we are reminded of lessons learnt, values shared, and obstacles overcome.

While the setting for the first reading is that of the time of the Exodus it clearly reflects the problems the Israelites faced when they had settled in the land. In order to resolve these problems, they are called to remember that they are a people where every member should be valued, especially those who cannot defend themselves. The other person is precious to God and has a dignity that is to be respected and preserved. They are reminded of their past so as to build a present that is just and equitable.

Jesus in his turn was asked what the most important commandment of the law was. The law of Moses was that formative and guiding tradition that shaped the Jewish people's self-understanding. In a sense, by asking what is the greatest commandment the Pharisees were asking, who are we? Jesus' reply is that we can only be truly ourselves when we can balance a wholehearted love of God with care for our brothers and sisters.

As Paul reflects on the history of the Thessalonian community, he praises God for the way they have overcome numerous obstacles. In the midst of opposition, they remained faithful to each other and to the Lord, so much so that they became a base for Paul's further missionary endeavour in the rest of Greece.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## 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.”

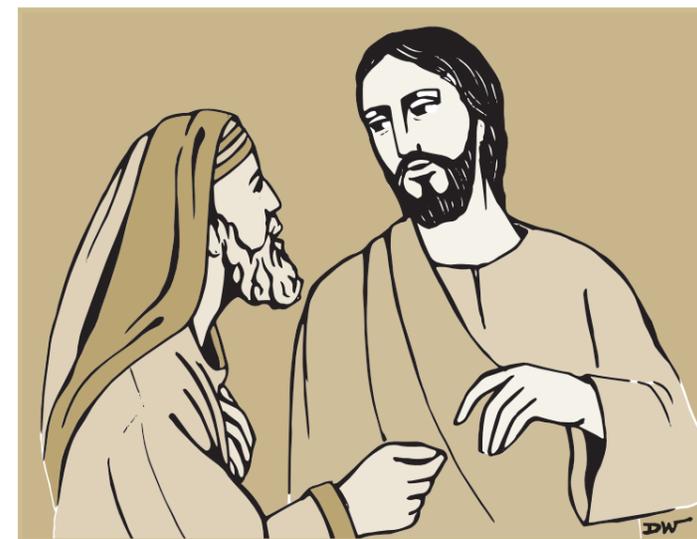
■ The word of the Lord.

**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 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.