



Bishop's Office
5 Lyons Street South
Ballarat VIC 3350

P.O. Box 121
Ballarat VIC 3353

Phone: (03) 5337 7121
Fax: (03) 5332 1122

E-mail: bishopsoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

November 21, 2019

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share with you some news of **parish appointments** to take effect in January.

Cororooke: I have appointed Fr Michael O'Toole as Supervising Priest for the Parish of Cororooke, to serve in collaboration with the Parish Leadership Team. This appointment will take effect on January 1. I thank the Cororooke Parish Leadership Team for their ongoing service. I thank Fr Michael for his readiness to take up this further role in addition to his responsibilities as Parish Priest of Colac.

Bungaree: Following Fr Shane Mackinlay's move to Bendigo to be Bishop of Sandhurst, there was a need to make new provisions for priestly ministry in the Bungaree Parish, where Fr Shane had served as Parish Priest. Currently, Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR is serving in the parish and he is able to do so until mid-January. I thank Fr Des for this assistance. For the new year, I have appointed Fr Sajan Matthew as Administrator of the Parish of Bungaree. This appointment will take effect on January 15.

Gordon: Following Fr Shane Mackinlay's move to Bendigo, there was also a need to make new provisions for priestly ministry in the Gordon Parish, where Fr Shane had served as Visiting Priest. Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR is serving as Visiting Priest there at present. From January 15, Fr Sajan Matthew will take up this role as Visiting Priest for the Gordon Parish, in addition to his role as Administrator of the Parish of Bungaree. In recent times, Fr Gary Jones has served as Supervising Priest for the Gordon Parish, in collaboration with the Parish Leadership Team. I thank Fr Gary for this service. From January 15, Fr Ed Maloney will become the Supervising Priest for the Gordon Parish. I thank Fr Ed for his readiness to take up this role in addition to his service in the seminary in Melbourne.

Robinvale and East Wimmera: For the past few years, Fr Jim McKay has been serving in the Parish of Robinvale and Fr Peter Jose in the Parish of East Wimmera. From January 1, they will change places, with Fr Peter taking up the care of the Robinvale Parish and Fr Jim serving with Fr Eugene McKinnon looking after the communities in the Parish of East Wimmera.

I thank these priests and the people of all these parishes for their continuing service and I pray for blessings upon them for the time ahead.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Bird CSsR

Bishop of Ballarat