

Christmas Day ~ The Nativity of the Lord ~ 25th December 2015



ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

Parish Leader: Sr Pam Barlow ☎ 5368 9280 Fax: 5368 9664 (Visiting Priest: Fr Shane Mackinlay)

C/- Post Office, Gordon Vic 3345 ~ ✉ gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

For Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals: Contact Sr. Pam

Parish Coordinators (2013): Sue Daly (Moderator), Lin Bowers, John Fabre

PARISH VISION: *That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ*

Parish Pastoral Council	Donna Simpson (Chair), Joan Bourke (Coordinator representative), Linden Hall, Helen Ryan, Marg Quinlan, Sr Kathleen Moran, Michael Kennedy (School Principal)		
Finance Committee	Michael Ryan (Chair), John Moroney (Book Keeper), Tony Lynch, Reg Haintz, Luke Mullane, Michael Ryan, Stephen Conroy, Brendan Maher, Lin Bowers (Coordinator Representative)		
Parish Schools	St. Brigid's Primary School	Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
	St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Mr Michael Kennedy ☎ 5368 9495	www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au
	St. Michael's Primary School	Principal: Mr Michael Kennedy ☎ 5334 0344	www.smspringbank.catholic.edu.au

News from the Coordinators (Lin, Joan & Catherine)

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we would like to acknowledge the fantastic support that we have had this past year from so many of you in so many ways. THANK YOU to each of the individuals who play a huge part in pulling things together to make our parish the vibrant place that it is. Being a lay led community, we do have our challenges from time to time, but with your support and ownership of our parish, we celebrate many wonderful occasions. A very special THANK YOU to Fr Shane who takes such a caring approach to our regular weekend celebrations of Mass. We are truly grateful for your time and commitment to our parish! We also acknowledge the very special contribution from Sr Kathleen who works quietly and consistently to support the development of faith in our community. THANK YOU for your commitment to formation of faith in our parish. As we celebrate this very special event in our church calendar we wish you all a blessed Christmas, special time with family and friends and safe travels as we journey into the year ahead!

Christmas Social Afternoon

Many thanks to all who contributed to a lovely social afternoon at Donegan's on Thursday, 10th. Special thanks to Josie, Peter and family, the St. Pat's choir, all who brought goodies to share, and of course all who gathered in great spirit!

Kathleen's Corner: Jesus was a child refugee.

An outcome of the 15 October 2015 meeting in Canberra between interfaith leaders and politicians...is a cross-party, interfaith taskforce. Among its initiatives is an open letter to politicians...urging them to release children from detention for Christmas?

Volunteer's required to maintain garden beds at Gordon Church.

The roses need maintaining and the beds need watering. Please phone the parish office if you can help. ☎: 5368 9280

Parish Festival February 28th, 2016.

The Parish Council is planning to hold a special Picnic & Festival which will be held at the Wallace Recreation Reserve on Sunday February 28. The Moorabool council will be sponsoring the event and there will be a number of activities provided like a jumping castle & climbing wall, Peppa Pig & George Pig for children. Expressions of interest are being sought from anyone who would like to have a stall at this event to promote, or sell their products. To arrange a stall booking; please contact Margie Quinlan on 0417587237. Please keep this date free and come along to this exciting Parish community event.

Parish Contacts for Communion to the sick:

Springbank:	Donna Simpson:	☎ 5334 5342
Gordon:	Maria Donegan:	☎ 0406 241 240
	Marie Conroy:	☎ 5368 9351
Ballan:	Lorraine DeSpir:	☎ 5368 1180

Church Cleaning – January

Thank you to all our volunteers who keep our Churches neat and well maintained. *Note: St Michael's will be vacuumed on the 7th, St Brigid's on 14th & St Patrick's 28th Jan.

BALLAN	GORDON	SPRINGBANK
Anne Mullane, Helen Conlan & Sue Conlan	Marie Conroy & Beth Calleja.	Mary Simpson & Donna Simpson



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ BUNGAREE

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree

Parish Priest: Fr Shane Mackinlay ☎ 5334 0450 Fax: 5334 0514

C/- Post Office, Bungaree Vic 3352

✉ bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

	READER / INTERCESSIONS	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	COMMUN. MINISTER	ALTAR SERVERS
26 th & 27 th Dec	The Holy Family: Sirach 3:3-7 ~ Colossians 3:12-21 ~ Luke 2:41-52			
Clarkes Hill ~ 6.30pm	Marty Forbes	Kate Bennett	Margie Moran	Mowing: Mark Forbes & Frank Mahar
Gordon ~ 8.45am	Josie Donegan & Shane Carey	Eily Carey & Pat Barry	Faustina Gallicchio	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Patrick Hodgson & Lloyd Lamb	James & Alison Eskdale family	Bert Jarvis & Lorraine Tipple	
2 nd & 3 rd Jan	The Epiphany of the Lord: Isaiah 60: 1-6 ~ Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 ~ Matthew: 2:1-12			
Dunnstown ~ 6.30pm	*** Whoever is available over the holiday period ***			
Gordon ~ 8.45am	Michael McCarthy & Maria Donegan	Joe & Mary Donegan	John Micallef	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Margaret Hillier & Marie Shanahan	Helen & Anthony Blazek	John Fabre & Lorraine Tipple	



LITURGIES next week			
Sat 26th Dec	Clarkes Hill	6.30pm	Sunday Mass
Sun 27th Dec	Gordon Ballan	8.45am 10.30am	Sunday Mass

MASSES IN EACH PARISH AS FOLLOWS:					
	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown (Blampied)	Springbank (Clunes)	Dunnstown (Blampied)	Clarkes Hill (Clunes)	Springbank (Blampied)
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan (Creswick 9.00am – Daylesford 10.30am)				

Welcome to Visiting Priest

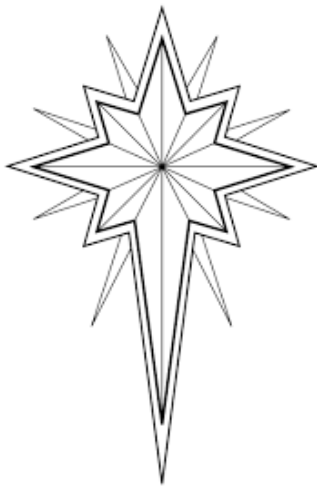
Welcome to Fr Rupert Bowd, who is celebrating Christmas Eve Masses at Springbank and Gordon. Fr Rupert will also celebrate Mass at Clarkes Hill this Saturday 26th December.

Christmas Offerings

Along with Easter Offerings (and donations at the time of baptisms, weddings and funerals), Christmas Offerings make an important contribution to the funds from which clergy salary and living expenses are paid. Additional envelopes are available at Church door.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

A collection will be taken up after communion at Christmas Masses for the Bishop's annual Christmas Appeal, which is one way by which our Diocese can respond to the many people and communities around the world who turn to us for assistance each year. In many cases, these requests come from priests and religious who have bonds with the Diocese of Ballarat or who are in regions that are linked with our country. Our response is a practical demonstration of our solidarity with people in need, such as those affected by natural disasters.



Funds from last year's appeal were distributed as follows:

Loreto-Vietnam Australia Programme (Sr. Trish Franklin IBVM)	\$2,000
Columban Mission Society work in Peru	\$8,000
Diocese of Aitape, PNG, through Franciscan Missionary Union	\$8,000
Sisters of Nazareth in Fiji	\$1,000
Archdiocese of Honiara – Solomon Islands	\$2,000
Diocese of Tonga – Marist Missions	\$2,000
Diocese of Rarotonga, Cook Islands – Marist Missions	\$2,000
Diocese of Auki, Solomon Islands	\$2,000
Sr. Lourdes – East Timor	\$1,000
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council	\$2,550
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans	\$2,000
Edmund Rice Centre	\$2,000
Good Samaritan Centre, Kiribati	\$2,000
Bishops' Appeal for Refugees in the Middle East	\$7,500
Exodus Community, Wendouree	\$2,000
	\$46,050

Thanks

Many thanks to all who have contributed to flowers, music, cribs, church cleaning, etc., during this Advent and Christmas season. May this be a time of joy and peace for all families in our community.

Papal Midnight Mass from St Peter's Rome

Broadcast on ABC1: Christmas Day, 10.00am.

Diocesan eNews

Subscribe to the diocesan eNews service to receive a fortnightly email with news, photos and information from around the diocese: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au | Diocesan News | Diocesan eNews

Available at Church door

- Columban Calendar 2015: \$9
- Our Diocesan Community: Free



Recent Death:

Mrs Rae Graham

We offer our prayerful support for the sick

Kerry Mulcahy, Carole Brimson, Wayne Mc Kercher, Gwen Shanahan, Fred May, Bonnie MacDonald, Anna Bartaska, Mitchell Prendergast, Mary Cassar, Moira Myers, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, Elizabeth Smith.

Anniversaries

Ted Mulcahy, Michael Conroy, Marie Graham, Victoria Everett and Gerald Leonard

