

Third Sunday of Advent (Year A) ~ 14th & 15th December 2019



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 Pastoral Council: Mick Winter (Chair), Lin Bowers (Secretary)
 Shane Carey, Frank Simpson, Gabrielle Driscoll, Bambi Afford, Marie Shanahan
 Supervising Priest: Fr Gary Jones. Visiting Priest: Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR
 Parish Secretary/Parish Office (Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm): Natasha Buttigieg ☎ 5368 9280 or 0423 217 556
 ✉ 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 Finance Council Anita Lidgett (Chair), Stephen Conroy (Secretary), Tony Lynch, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Tony Paarhammer

Parish Schools
St. Brigid's Primary School Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015 www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
St. Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mrs Bambi Afford ☎ 5368 9495 www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend

Thanks to all who give generously to each of these collections:

Loose	Presbytery: \$200.00	Parish: \$499.35
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2019/20:	\$379.00
	Year to date:	\$26,627.73

Thanks to Natasha Buttigieg

Natasha has finished as parish secretary this week, and we wish her well for the future. Her ability to address all sorts of situations and make sense of them has been outstanding. We thank her for her efficiency, friendliness, her readiness to assist others and for going that extra mile so often.

Penitential advent service

Springbank Wednesday 18th December 7.00pm

Plenary 2020 Update

Here are some more of your thoughts and sharings from the recent Plenary Gathering in Gordon. Again, you will notice these themes could apply locally as well as nationally

- Look out for people in our community who are in need. A policy to address loneliness and mental illness. Help guide those in need "give sight to the blind"
- Bring back third rite of reconciliation to encourage people back to the church
- Have uniform approach to religious teachings in all catholic schools with emphasis on Christ's teachings
- Have a willingness to change and forgive – be proactive
- Hold a combined parish event each year
- Each person has a story – listen to all

Church Cleaning – December

St Michael's 13th, St Brigid's 20th & St Patrick's 21st

BALLAN	GORDON	SPRINGBANK
Tiffany Forde Family	Michelle Barnes Bianca Flint	Kath O'Neil Louise O'Neil



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ BUNGAREE

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree
 Priest in Residence: Fr Des FitzGerald CSsR ~ ☎ 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 Principal: Mr Chris Kavanagh ☎ 5334 5280 www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown Principal: Mr Chris Kavanagh ☎ 5334 7604 www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$257.50	Parish: \$565.00
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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 (follow parish links.) Parish Safeguarding Officer: Leah Hanrahan.

Dunnstown Christmas Church Cleaning

Annual cleaning bee: Monday 16th December at 7pm. Your help is greatly appreciated!

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	COMMUNION MINISTER	ALTAR SERVERS
14th & 15th December	3rd Sunday of Advent (Year A): Isaiah 35:1-6 ~ James 5:7-10 ~ Matthew 11:2-11			
Dunnstown ~ 6.30pm	Katrina Griffiths	Griffiths Family	Trish White	
Gordon ~ 8.45am	Beth Calleja & Michael Winter	Pat Barry & Eily Carey	Josie Donegan	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Julie Dargan & Lin Bowers	Leon and Pat Burvill	Lorraine Tipple & Bert Jarvis	
21st & 22nd December	4th Sunday of Advent (Year A): Isaiah 7:10-14 ~ Romans 1:1-7 ~ Matthew 1:18-24			
Clarkes Hill ~ 6.30pm	Julie Moran	Jill Prendergast	Julie Moran	Mowing: Frank Mahar
Gordon ~ 8.45am	Mark Conroy & Caron Whitefield	Eily Carey	Eddie Davis	
Ballan ~ 10.30am	Mark Conlan & Bert Jarvis	Mary and Des Conroy	Denise Marshall & Patricia Binks	
24th & 24th December	Volunteers are required for Ministries for all Christmas Masses			
28th & 29th December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year A): Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 ~ Colossians 3:12-21 ~ Matthew 2:13-15,19-23			
Springbank ~ 6.30pm	Sue Daly	Molly Ronan	Sharon Daly	
Bungaree ~ 8.45am	Amanda & Olivia Elliott	Frank Hanrahan	M Elliott / L Hanrahan	
Ballan ~ 10.30pm	Marie Whytakhe & Lloyd Lamb	Bridget Sims Family	Lorraine Tipple & Helen Conlan	

LITURGIES			
Wed 18 th Dec	Springbank	7.00pm	Penitential Service
Thur 19 th Dec	Ballan	10.00am	Prayer Group
Fri 20 th Dec	Dunnstown	10.00am	Anointing Mass and Rite of Reconciliation Advent Celebration
Sat 21 st Dec	Clarkes Hill	6.30pm	Sunday Mass
Sun 22 nd Dec	Gordon	8.45am	
	Ballan	10.30am	



	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
Sat 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	(Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am)			

Recent Death

Mike Hayward-Brown (Rosemarie Canavan's father)

Anniversaries

Ronald Graham, Roma Barry, Brian Barry, Sheila Gregory, Pleasance Conroy, Marie Graham, Anne Griffin, Monica McDermott, Fr Daniel Devane, Eileen Elliott, Fr Stephen O'Rourke

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, Jan Quinlan, Douglas Keating, Noel Craven, Patrick Hodgson, Kevin Mullane, Christine Hall, John Ryan

Clergy Appointments

Bishop Paul CSsR has recently announced the following appointments:

- Administrator of Bungaree Parish and Visiting Priest to Gordon Parish from 15 January 2020: Fr Sajjan Matthew
- Supervising Priest of Cororooke in addition to Parish Priest of Colac: Fr Michael O'Toole
- Assistant Priest East Wimmera Parish: Fr Jim McKay
- Administrator of Robinvale Parish: Fr Peter Jose CMI

Christmas Mass Times

	Christmas Eve	Clarkes Hill	6pm
		Gordon	6pm
		Springbank	6.30pm **Note change of time
		Ballan	8pm
		Bungaree	8pm
Christmas Day	Dunnstown	9.30am	

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.

Diocesan e-News for Recent Parish Events

The latest diocesan e-News has reports on recent parish events including the Mass of Thanksgiving held recently for Bishop Shane. Go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – News & Events | e-News. You can subscribe to receive e-News from here also.

Baptism Anniversaries

This month, we celebrate the anniversary of the following recent baptisms: Patrick William Robinson (Nov 2016) and Benjamin Michael Prendergast (Dec 2015).

**Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them,
so they may walk in newness of life.**

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and many more. 5week study cycle begins January 12. Registrations close December 23. More info: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au ☎ 0407 523 424 or e. kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Simbang Gabi a Filipino Christmas tradition.

A series of nine masses on the days leading up to Christmas, held at St James' Church, Sebastopol. Dec 16 & 17 at 7pm, Dec 18 at 8pm (following Advent Reconciliation Service), Dec 19-23 at 7pm, Dec 24 at 2pm (Filipino Christmas Mass & Carols) celebrated by Fr Jorge De Chavez OSJ. All welcome. More info: Connie ☎ 0449 053 647, Cynthia ☎ 0419 547 514, Sherley ☎ 5338 1266 or 0417 331 756, Urbing ☎ 0419 558 965 or Dion ☎ 0427 876 533.

OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch

OLHC Parish will be hosting lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Transport is available. For bookings or further information ☎ 0419 975 914 or email christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com

Young Adult Retreat

Looking for a young adults retreat that will change your life? "Summer School of Evangelisation" is a powerful week of encountering God. Includes great speakers, uplifting worship, beautiful liturgies and a vibrant community of 16-35 year olds. To be held in Bacchus Marsh from 12-19 January. Ballarat Diocese Youth Ministry is offering financial support to help cover costs of attending the camp. If interested email youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au for more information.

Pastoral Care Education

The South West Victoria CPE Centre is offering the opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care. More info contact Clinical Pastoral Supervisor and CPE Centre Director, Bernadette Wurlod ☎ 0455 033 321 or email bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au.

Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is **Prayerful and Eucharistic?** This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared a passion for participating in the missionary nature of the Church and desire stronger support, involvement and formation among all the baptised who make up the Church. www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports