

## 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 Principal: Mr Tim Delaney	☎ 5368 1015 ☎ 5368 9495	<a href="http://www.sballan.catholic.edu.au">www.sballan.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="http://www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au">www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au</a>
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### 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:		\$11,911.00

### Parish Update

At our fortnightly Parish Leadership meeting last week, we welcomed Tracey O'Neill (Chair and Director of DOBCEL) and Fr Andrew Hayes (Deputy Chair of DOBCEL) to explain what this means as far as the Parish of Gordon is concerned. Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) is the company established by Bishop Paul Bird to become the governing body for schools in the Ballarat Diocese. DOBCEL will manage and operate Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ballarat, including the employment of current and future staff at Catholic schools and the Catholic Education Office in the Diocese of Ballarat. Parish schools, including St Patrick's Gordon and St Brigid's Ballan, that are part of the new structure, as of January

01, 2021, will now be governed by a diocesan company, DOBCEL rather than by the Parish Priest on behalf of the parish. The principal and staff will be employed by the company. Education policy in the Diocese will now be set by DOBCEL rather than by the Ballarat Diocesan Schools Education Board (BDSAC). Everything else about the school should remain essentially the same. All school land will remain the property of the Parish held in trust by the Roman Catholic Trusts Corporation (RCTC). The property will be recorded on the DOBCEL's balance sheets as lease hold improvements and right-to-use assets. Members of the transition team will meet with the two principals to determine what property remains under Parish and what will be deemed school land. DOBCEL will assume all liabilities and debts. Any debts will continue to be serviced from school income and loans. This is a new and exciting chapter in the life of Parishes and Parish Catholic schools and if you would like to know more you can visit their website on <https://ceob.edu.au>

Revised Parish Directories are in tubs outside churches.

## 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 Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604	<a href="http://www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au">www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="http://www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au">www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au</a>
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### Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$	Parish: \$
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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

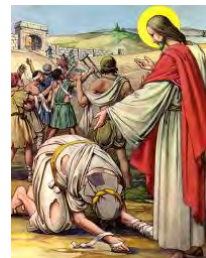
If there is anyone in the Parish Community who would like to join the Sacramental Team or know more information, Please contact the Parish Office on 5334 0450 or email

[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
<b>THERE WILL BE NO MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE</b>				

LITURGIES

**There will be no masses until further notice**



	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**

Fr Michael Mulcahy, Arthur Murphy, Bill Flynn, Sheila Boak, Ruth Torpy, Phil Sherry, Gwen Bennett, Des Torpy, William Gleeson, Una Shanahan, Constance Gleeson, Brendan McTigue, Dorothy Conlan, Carmen Duca, Anne Rutledge and Reg Mullane.

**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 October 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/>

**Mission Sunday Appeal - The joy of the Lord is our Strength! Nehemiah 8:10**

World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on October 18 - a special day, called by Pope Francis, when we are called to pray and offer material support to the work of mission around the world. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Cambodia, which is reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope and practical support to live a fulfilling life. You can support: online at [www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia); by placing your donation in the Appeal Envelopes (these are now available in the tubs outside the churches); or by Texting GIVE to 0488 854 436. Thank you for your prayerful support and generosity.

**It's St Mary's 10th Anniversary and you're invited!**

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in honour of Mary throughout September and October <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

**Pastoral Care Education**

The South West Victoria CPE Centre is offering the opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care, with the option to have a CPE unit recognised as 30 points should you wish to enrol in theological studies with the University of Divinity. The Centre is registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.). CPE is offered online presently and will be this way for at least the first semester in 2021, after which it will be reassessed. For further information ph. 0455 033 321 or email [bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au](mailto:bernadette@bernadettewurlod.com.au). Information is also available at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pastoral-care-education-3/>

**St Vincent de Paul Society, "Assist a Student" Program for Victoria**

The program assists very poor students in countries to our north to attend school who may otherwise, without this assistance, not be able to afford to attend. It is aimed at breaking the poverty cycle the student finds themselves in and it encapsulates the Vincentian message of "a hand up, not a hand out". A \$100 donation provides access to education. Any administrative costs are met by the Australian St Vincent de Paul Society. For more information go to [https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Our\\_Impact/International\\_Impact/Assist\\_a\\_student\\_today/](https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Our_Impact/International_Impact/Assist_a_student_today/)

Alleluia, alleluia! / Shine on the world like bright stars; / you are offering it the word of life. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 OCTOBER 2020

## OBEDIENCE TO GOD

Having entered Jerusalem as its messianic King, Jesus is drawn into a power struggle with representatives of various groups who, under the overall control of the Romans, currently wield power. To remove the threat he poses, they need to portray him to the Romans as dangerous and, at the same time, to lessen his authority with the people.

The tax question is a perfect stratagem to achieve these ends. If Jesus supports the payment of the unpopular poll tax, he will lose standing with the people; if he forbids payment, he risks being identified with groups rebellious towards Rome and so of appearing as a threat to peace and public order.

Jesus' majestic response not only frees him from the dilemma, it actually goes onto the offensive. By requiring *them* to produce a coin with Caesar's image on it he shows them up as already collaborating with the Romans. They carry around the offensive coinage. He does not.

Then his dual 'Render ...' instruction throws the dilemma back upon them. They had set the issue simply in terms of obligation to Rome; they had not brought God into the equation at all. Jesus takes possession of the religious and moral high ground by setting responsibility to the civil power (which he does not deny) within the broader and higher framework of obedience to God.

We can find here the beginnings of the later Christian sense of the separation of Church and State. We also have a recognition that believers have responsibilities in both realms that oblige in conscience before God.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

## FIRST READING

Isa 45:1, 4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me.

Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

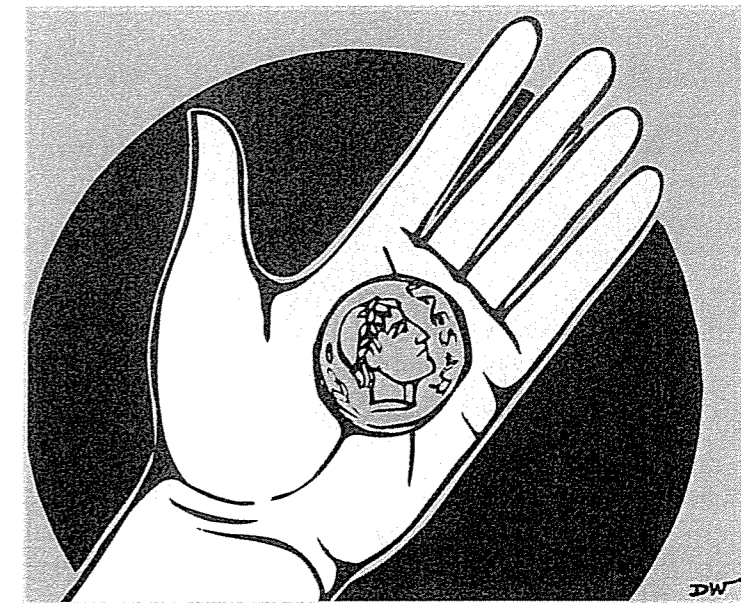
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10. R. v. 7

R. Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the Lord all the earth. / Tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. R.

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, / to be feared above all gods; / the gods of the heathens are naught. / It was the Lord who made the heavens. R.

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, / give the Lord glory and power, / give the Lord the glory of his name. / Bring an offering and enter his courts. R.



4. Worship the Lord in his temple. / O earth, tremble before him. / Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' / He will judge the peoples in fairness. R.

## SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:1-5

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

*We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

*Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): ~17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October  
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,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
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 Isaiah Isa 45:1, 4-6**

**Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians, 1 Thess 1:1-5**

**Gospel:**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 22: 15-21**

**Silence**

**Homily**

What attitude should the new Christian movement have toward the Roman Empire? Should it accept and submit to the power of pagan Rome? Or should it challenge the very basis on which the Empire was founded – the quasi-divine status of Caesar and his military might? Should it run the risk of being branded a subversive organisation that threatened Rome with radical teachings and practices?

These were real and difficult questions for Christian communities long after Jesus' death and resurrection. Good reason for them to keep returning to this brief exchange between Jesus and his adversaries. In effect there are two animosities operative here. One is the smouldering hostility between Roman overlords and Jewish nationalists, each demanding allegiance in one form or another. The other is the hostility now flaring up between Jesus and the Jewish authorities. As the story is told Jesus negotiates his way through this minefield with consummate ease. What to make of his answer in practice is another matter.

The reading has all the elements of a tiny one-act play with three actors: the story-teller, the religious leaders and Jesus. The inherent drama of the interaction should be easy to communicate without becoming too theatrical.

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**READER: Jesus calls us to live for God in the world we build together. Let us pray for God's blessing on our world and all who dwell in it.**

**READER:** We pray for the leaders of the world's nations. May they dedicate themselves to the work of unity, peace and the care of creation.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for the human family. May Pope Francis' appeal for a new spirit of global friendship break down barriers between us.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for the church on this Mission Sunday. May all the baptised embrace their mission to go forth and proclaim the good news.

Lord, hear us.

**READER:** We pray for one another. May we, like the Thessalonians, put faith into action, work for love and persevere in hope.

Lord, hear us.

**READER: God of wisdom and power, by your providence you guide all that you have made. Look upon us with love and keep us on the path of salvation.**

**Amen**

## **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**

Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen**

**Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.  
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.**

**(Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane)**