

1st Sunday of Lent (Year B): ~ 20/ 21 February 2021

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 Paul McDowell

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 Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015 www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
St. Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495 www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend

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

Loose Presbytery:	Parish:
Planned Giving Envelopes 2020/21:	\$24,785 to date

Gordon Sacramental Program 2021:

Thursday, Feb 18 – Parent Information Night,
7pm St Patrick's School Gordon – Reconciliation Preparation

Sunday, Feb 28 – Enrolment Mass – Reconciliation

Gordon – 8.45am / Ballan – 10.30am

Thursday, March 25 – Reconciliation Ceremony – 4pm - St Patrick's Church, Gordon

St Patrick's Day Celebrations: Students from Gordon & Ballan schools will gather together at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Thursday, March 18 for 11am mass with Bishop Paul Bird. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

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 Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280 www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604 www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	Parish:
-------------	---------

Victorian Child Safe Standards

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.

Bungaree Sacramental Program 2021

(Year 2 and above)

Tuesday, April 27 – Parent Information Night – 7.30pm
Bungaree Parish Centre - Reconciliation

Enrolment Masses – Parish Masses (TBC) - May 1st 2nd

Tuesday, June 8 – Reconciliation Ceremony – 5.30 – 7pm

St Michaels Church, Bungaree

Parish Leadership Team:

There are currently two vacant positions each from Dunnstown and Bungaree on the Parish Leadership Team. If you would be interested in filling any of these roles or would like some more information, please contact Damian Ryan - ryandjr@bigpond.com

Working With Children Check: Is your WWC check up to date? Currently, we are reviewing our data base, so it is important that all parishioners who assist with parish ministries hold valid and current WWC cards. Please contact Leah Hanrahan for more details if you are unsure of your status. (lg3@optusnet.com.au or 0411 859 544)

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	
20 / 21 February	1st Sunday of Lent – Gen 9: 8-15 1 Pet 3: 18-22 Mk 1: 12-15		
Dunnstown – 6.30pm	Karen Cahir	Cahir Family	
Gordon – 8.45am	Kerryn Taylor	Pat Barry & Eily Carey	
Ballan – 10.30am	Margaret Green / Mark Conlan	Gian Schweighofa / Anne Eskdale	
27 / 28 February	2nd Sunday of Lent – Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Rom 8: 31-34 Mk 9: 2-10		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30pm	Joan Powell	Kate Bennett	
Gordon – 8.45am	Maria Donegan / Eddie Davis	Michael & Therese Winter	
Ballan – 10.30am	Winnie Zammit / Lloyd Lamb	Cairan & Janine Donohue	
6 / 7 March	3rd Sunday of Lent – Ex 20:1-17 1 Col 1:22-25 Jn 2: 13-25		
Dunnstown – 6.30pm	Mary Hanrahan	Declan Hanrahan	
Gordon – 8.45am	Kate Carey / Marie Durham	Mark & Narelle Conroy Family	
Ballan – 10.30am	Bert Jarvis / Lin Bowers	Eddie & Mary Cassar	

LITURGIES / WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) in Bungaree at 9.30am – all welcome!

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



Recent death: Faye Daly (Sue & Sharon Daly's Mother)

Anniversaries Don Murphy, Frank Britt, Tim Fetcher, Edna Carson, Catherine Parkin, Eileen White, Elizabeth Flynn, Carmen Galea, Martin Molloy, Chris Maher, James Baynes, Veronica Bryce, Laurie Wheelahan, Eily Mullane, Catherine Donegan.

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.

Baptisms:

Congratulations to Henry and Xavier Gunnell (twin boys of Mark and Kaitylyn) who are being baptised at Gordon this weekend. We welcome the family into our faith community and assure them of our prayers and support.

Music Ministry Volunteers for Bungaree: We are seeking volunteers to join the music ministry roster at Bungaree. You will only be rostered on a few times a year. If you are able to assist, please contact Julie Boyd - boydh.1@bigpond.com.au



Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) The latest updates regarding COVIDSafe practices are available from the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Project Compassion Virtual Immersions: Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to <https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions>

Entering Into Lent

This Lent is starting differently. As we begin our second Lent with COVID, we are still enduring, as many people have termed it, a "long Lent" that began last Ash Wednesday and, thanks to the pandemic, just kept going.

For nearly a year, we have been living a life of significant sacrifice. For the good of our neighbour, we have abstained from social events and strapped on masks for any and every outing. We have skipped vacations and have altered routines. And we have endured the kind of mental, emotional and spiritual fatigue that comes with months of uncertainty and anxiety.

For these reasons, it is somewhat natural to be at a loss for how to engage in Lent this year. As one influential Catholic voice on Twitter asked recently: "How does one prepare for a new Lent when last year's Lent doesn't seem to have ended yet?"

Last week (10th February), during his weekly audience, Pope Francis delivered a profoundly beautiful reflection on prayer and its importance in our relationship with God, in the expression of our faith when we worship and within our daily lives.

Today I meet God, today is always the day of the encounter. There exists no other wonderful day than the day we are living. Today is real, today is concrete. And prayer is to be done today. Jesus comes to meet us today, the day we are living. And it is prayer that transforms this day into grace, or better, it transforms us:

The person who prays is like someone in love who always bears the beloved in his or her heart wherever they go.

Year of St Joseph - Monthly Reflections: Each month during the year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will publish a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character. The February reflection, written by Scripture scholar Sr Michele Connolly RSJ, explores the many ways in which St Joseph was "Attentive to the Word of God" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Advance Notice – dates for 2021:

World Day of Prayer: Friday, March 7 – 10am St Brigid's Church, Ballan/ 10am St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat / 2pm St James Sebastopol / 7pm Ballarat South Uniting Church, Buninyong / 7pm St John's Anglican church, Creswick

Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 29 St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat 6.30pm.

POSITION VACANT: The Parishes of Gordon & Bungaree are looking to jointly employ a suitably qualified person to fill the position of Parish Secretary across both parishes. (12 hours pw Gordon / 5 hours pw Bungaree). More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>. Applications close February 26, 2021.

eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / No one lives on bread alone, / but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2021. No 1866. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT / B

THE SAVING WORD

21 FEBRUARY 2021

JOURNEYING WITH THE LORD

It is said that it's better to travel hopefully than to arrive. One element of the truth that underlies this saying is that it is the nature of life that we are continually on the move, that there is always another stage of the journey to be undertaken. As we begin this season of Lent the readings are filled with images of journeys, promises and hope. Noah's journey which began with trusting in the Lord's word and building an ark now comes to its conclusion. Having safely come to dry land another journey begins with a new word and promise of God's blessing and faithfulness towards all creation.

If it is true that we are called to walk towards the light it is also true that we are enabled to do so because God has already taken the first step towards us. Lent is a time when we rightly focus on the task of our on-going conversion but, lest we get discouraged, today's second reading and Gospel are timely reminders that we are not undertaking this journey alone. There is work to be done and Peter calls us to remember the responsibility that goes with our baptism. At the same time we are encouraged by the fact that Jesus has already gone where we hope to go and that not even the Dominations and Powers can really impede us. The testing that Jesus undergoes in the desert at the hands of Satan and his victory is a sign and promise that we too will overcome.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

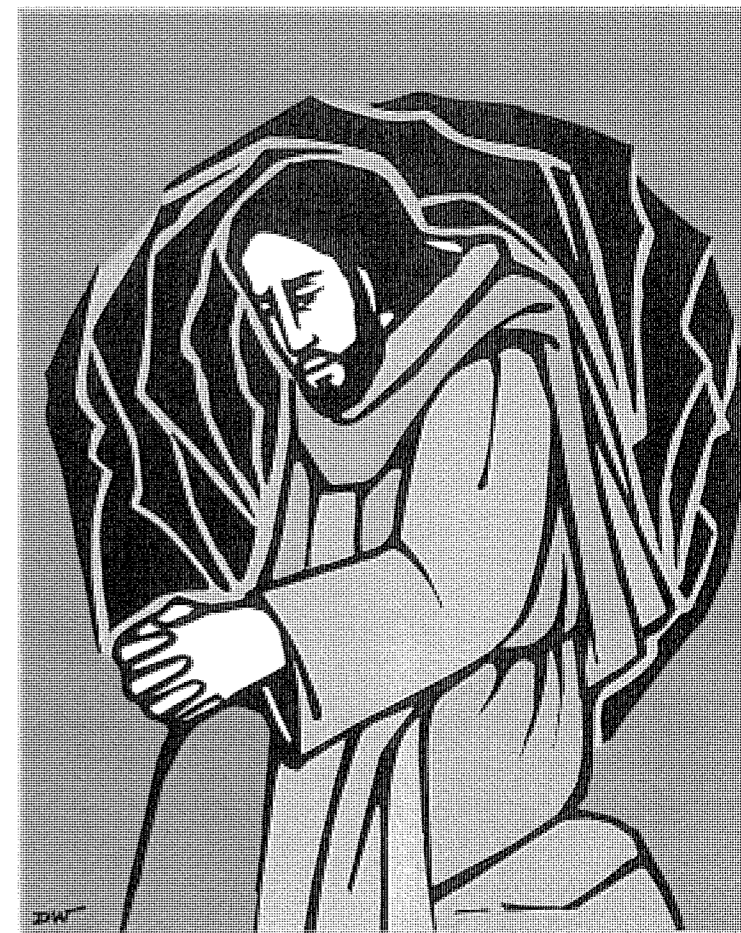
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. v. 10

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

I. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**



2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of