

3rd Sunday of Lent (Year B): ~ 06/ 07 March 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 St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll Principal: Mr Paul McDowell	☎ 5368 1015 ☎ 5368 9495	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au
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Collections last weekend

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

Loose	Presbytery: \$343.10	Parish: \$832
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$27,673 (updated)

Gordon Sacramental Program 2021

Fourteen children were presented at the Rite of Enrolment for Reconciliation at Gordon and Ballan last weekend. We assure them of our ongoing prayers and support on their journey in preparation for Reconciliation and for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist later in the year.

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

Presbytery:	\$349.20	Parish:	\$904.00
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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	
6 / 7 March	3 rd 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	
13 / 14 March	4 th Sunday of Lent – 2 Ch 36: 14-16 19-23 Ep 2: 4-10 Jn 3: 14-21		
Springbank– 6.30pm	Kath O'Neil	Molly Ronan	
Bungaree – 8.45am	D. Rix	Frank Hanrahan	
Ballan – 10.30am	Catherine Green / Sandra Miller	Binks Family	
20 / 21 March	5 th Sunday of Lent – Jer 31: 31-34 Heb 5: 7-9 Jn 12: 20-30		
Dunnstown – 6.30pm	Peter Britt	Britt Family	
Gordon – 8.45am	Therese Winter / Debbie Goldie	Margaret Smith / Georgina Wright	
Ballan – 10.30am	Marie Shanahan / Julie Dargan	Bridget Sims Family	

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: Imelda McGrath

Anniversaries: Maureen O'Donohue, Anne Quinn, Fr Henry Nikel, Bill Wheelahan, Tommy Simpson, Gert Cummins, Antal Boka, Matt Jamieson, Maurice Conlan, Gabrielle Johnson, Kath Squire, Albert Small.

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.

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



Baptism Anniversaries: This month we celebrate the Baptisms of the following children – Lennon Joyce, Bowie Pirota, Maeve Lakey, Evan Sheehan (2017), Clancy Berens, Lexi Parsons, Wyatt Parsons (2018), Honey Blake, Clementine House (2019).

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

Welcome: Congratulations to Nina Jayne Trigg (daughter of Bryce and Emma) who is being baptised at Gordon this weekend. We welcome the family into our faith community and assure them of our prayers and support.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

The latest updates regarding COVIDSafe practices are available from the diocesan website “news” section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Eight Ways to Engage Your Family with Lent

Looking for some simple ways to encourage the families in our faith community to enter more deeply into Lent? Check out these practical suggestions in Catholic Voice (Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn) <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/eight-ways-to-engage-your-family-with-lent/>

Project Compassion Virtual Immersions – Week 3

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. **Week 2: Olivia's Story (Tanzania)** on Tuesday, March 9 at 7.30pm (VIC). You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to <https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions>.

Lenten Resources - Week 3

The Sandhurst Diocese kindly shares their Lent 2021 leaflets which invite reflection on excerpts from Pope Francis' “Let us Dream”, together with insights and suggestions for action from one of the Australian Plenary Council Thematic Discernment papers. The leaflets are for individual reflection or small group reflection and discussion. The theme for week 3 is, “How are we to be a Healing Church, a ‘Field Hospital?’” These leaflets are available for download from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>

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. Robert Falzon reflects on how St Joseph may have responded to his astonishing call to be the foster-father of Jesus and spouse of Mary. What does it mean for fathers and husbands in today's world? <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Save the Date - Feast of St Joseph:

To celebrate the Feast of St Joseph on Friday, March 19, mass will be celebrated at 9.30am at St Michael's, Bungaree.

Gracious God,

May we discern your call in our lives

so that we have the courage to make choices,

commit to them wholeheartedly,

learn from our mistakes,

build love and hospitality in our families and communities,

and participate with trust in your mission. Amen.

(by Sr Ann Gilroy RSJ in *Take Fresh Courage – Celebrating the 10th anniversary of St Mary MacKillop's Canonisation,*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / B

07 MARCH 2021

BEING TURNED UPSIDE DOWN

Lent has the capacity to shake us from our lethargy and turn our lives upside down. For some people change is exciting but for many it is less than comfortable as we search to find our bearings in a new situation. Today's readings can challenge us but they also provide a new set of bearings to help our journey in faith. The people of Israel had their world overturned when they were taken into slavery, but in some ways coming out of slavery was even more difficult. Led into the dangers of the desert and an uncertain future they were to find their bearings in the new covenant. Their new identity as God's people would find its expression in their faithfulness to the Ten Commandments. When Jesus overturned the tables of the money changers in the Temple he called into question the system that had developed around the Temple. His disturbing action was to be a reminder that even as one sign of God's presence was to pass away, it was soon to be replaced by a new sign of God's presence, his own Risen body.

Paul knew that God's wisdom always has a way of challenging the wisdom of the world. A crucified Christ was seen as madness and scandalous. As disturbing as it may still seem this is the wisdom of God that must become our point of reference. In Jesus crucified all our preconceptions of power and wisdom are called into question as we are invited to make God's wisdom our own.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

Longer form, 20: 1-17.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18: 8-11. R. Jn 6: 68

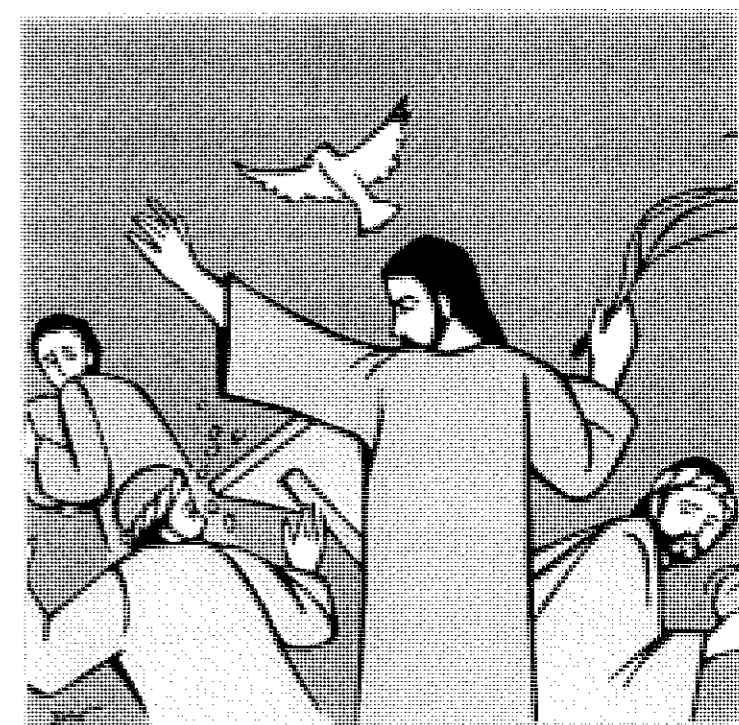
R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

2. The precepts of the Lord are right, / they gladden the heart. / The command of the Lord is clear, / it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**

4. They are more to be desired than gold, / than the purest of gold / and sweeter are they than honey, / than honey from the comb. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 22-25

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

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 3: 16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, / that all who believe in him might have eternal life. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!