

2nd Sunday of Easter (Year B): ~ 10/11 April 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, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Dan Toohey, Gabrielle Driscoll and Paul McDowell

Supervising Priest: Fr Ed Moloney 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 ☎ 5368 1015 Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 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: Donations to the Parish are vital to the sustainability of our Parish community.

Loose	Presbytery: \$603.65	Parish: \$137.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$28,756 (updated)

Gordon Parish Leadership Team: There are vacancies for representatives from Gordon and Ballan. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the administration of the Parish, please contact Lin Bowers at bowerslinda133@gmail.com

Insurance: The upkeep of our churches and grounds is an ongoing cost. This coming month the Parish Leadership Team will be reviewing the insurance premiums for all parish buildings.

Holy Land Collection on Good Friday April, 2021.

The Holy Land collection this year was \$837.35. Many thanks for the generosity of all who attended the Good Friday ceremonies.

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

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Thursday 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5368 9280 or 0492 903 409

✉ 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:	\$894.00	Parish:	\$70.00
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Easter Dues

Easter Dues were \$335.00; the Caritas Project Compassion Appeal amounted to \$350.00. Thanks to all parishioners who so generously gave to each of these collections:

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)

2021 Sacramental Program & Liturgical Dates

Parents of children in Year 2 and 3 and above, please note that the **Parent Information Night for the Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be on **Tuesday 27th April, at 7:30pm** at the Bungaree Parish Centre. It is important that you have a parent or representative for your child at this meeting for them to be able to be enrolled in the program. As the Sacramental Program could not go ahead last year, the Year 3 children will receive three sacraments this year as the Confirmation and Eucharist Sacramental Program will be offered later in the year. This year Priscilla Johnson, who is a member of the St. Michael's Parish, will be joining the Sacramental Team. If you have any queries please contact: **Fr Sajan, ph. 5334 0450 or Sue Prendergast, ph. 5334 7604 or Priscilla Johnson 0428 384 015**

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	WEEDKDAY MASSES
10/11 April	2nd Sunday of Easter Acts 4: 32-35, 1 Jn 5: 1-6, Jn 20: 19-31		
Springbank	David Toohey & Family	Brendan Simpson & Family	Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree	Shelley Ryan	D Rix	Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan	Bert Jarvis & Lin Bowers	Leon & Pat Burvill	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
17/18 April	3rd Sunday of Easter Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2: 1-5		
Dunnstown – 6.30pm	As Requested	As Requested	Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45am	Josie Donegan & Shane Carey	Brian & Kate Carey	Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30am	Kathryn Green & Sandra Miller	Blinks Family	Holy Hour – 1st Thursday of each Month
24/25 April	4th Sunday of Easter Acts 4: 8-12; 1 Jn 3: 1-2		
Clarkes Hill	Pat Prendergast	Jill Prendergast	Friday- Benediction after each 9.30 am mass
Gordon	Josie Donegan & Shane Carey	Pat Barry & Eily Carey	Saturday - Reconciliation after 9.30 am mass
Ballan	Kathryn Green & Sandra Miller	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					

Anniversaries: Laurie O'Neil, Martin Whelahan, Marie Dromey, Marie Leahy, Antonio Zumba, Katerina Camilleri, Jack Toohey, Isabella Moran, Isabel Britt, Fr. Thomas Linane, Mary Britt, Barbara Frawley.

We offer our prayerful support for the sick Anna Bartaska, Mitchell Prendergast, Michelle Hall, Mary Cassar, Moira Myers, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Lyla Geary, Alice Gardiner, Stan Mahar, Lore Winter, Noel Craven, Christine Hall, John Ryan, Thelma Keating.

Holy Land Collection to be held on Good Friday April, 2021

We thank the parishioners from Bungaree and Gordon and visitors to the Parish who attended the -Commemoration of the Cross last Friday at Springbank Church.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

The latest updates regarding COVIDSafe practices are available from the diocesan website "news" section. Available at: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Mass of the Oils

A recording of the Mass of the Oils is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/mass-of-the-oils-2021/>

Ballan Thursday Morning Prayer Group

The Morning Prayer Group will resume on Thursday, April 15 at 10 am in the Gathering Space, St Brigid's Church. All welcome.

Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021. A number of resources have been developed by the ACBC to encourage and support the celebration of the Year of St Joseph. The resources are available from the ACBC website <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>. Diocesan prayer cards have been distributed to parishes and schools. If you require further copies of the prayer card, please contact the Pastoral Ministry Office.

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. Michelle Vass, Director of St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park NSW, reflects on "St Joseph – Man of Dreams" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Daily Prayers: The ACBC have provided daily prayers & a shorter Litany to St Joseph <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Wendouree - Save the Date

Our Lady Help of Christians School, Wendouree will celebrate 60 years of Catholic Education in Wendouree on Friday, October 15, 2021. Register for event updates on the OLHC Wendouree school website www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au or by contacting the school office, ph. 5339 4726.

Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. This video, published to Facebook and YouTube, includes a personal message from the Pope as he asks us to pray for each monthly intention. You can find it at www.thepopevideo.org. Pope's intention for April: **Fundamental Rights:** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Diocesan Liturgical Commission Membership

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is currently seeking new members from all areas of the diocese. Membership is for an initial term of three (3) years with the option of two further terms (3 years per term). The Commission meets five times per year in Ballarat. Video linking facilities are available for meetings. All members of the Commission must hold a current Working with Children check or VIT (Victorian Institute of Teaching) registration. The Charter of the Liturgical Commission is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/diocesan-liturgical-commission/>. Expressions of interest can be forwarded to liturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Remember O Most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection or implored your aid without obtaining relief.

Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you.

Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer,

but graciously receive them,
Amen.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you,'
After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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EXPERIENCING THE RISEN LORD

The picture of the early church which Luke paints for us is a striking one. Everything is shared in common and it seems that Luke is at pains to highlight the radical difference the encounter with Jesus Risen made in their lives. What must other people have thought about this new group in Jerusalem? One minute they were a rabble, a rudderless ship after their leader Jesus was killed. Now they were found united sharing their faith and their goods. They were now respected, and their leaders were fearlessly giving witness that Jesus was not dead but alive.

At times people look at the difference between the early church's experience and our experience and wonder why things seem to have gone off the boil. What keeps us from letting the new life of Easter change our lives? Part of the answer lies in our own hearts. We can be afraid of allowing Jesus to enter into our lives and change us so radically. As John knows all too well, it's not the world that is the biggest obstacle for the person of faith, it's our own heart and the defences we have established there! There is a journey that must be made that no one else can make for us. The witness of the other disciples cannot substitute for Thomas his own experience of Jesus as the Risen One. When Jesus stands before him there is no more need for defences, no need to test what he knows to be true. Now, he too, can begin to live.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 117: 2-4, 15-18, 22-24. R. v. 1

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' R.

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. / I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, / but not doomed to die. R.

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. R.

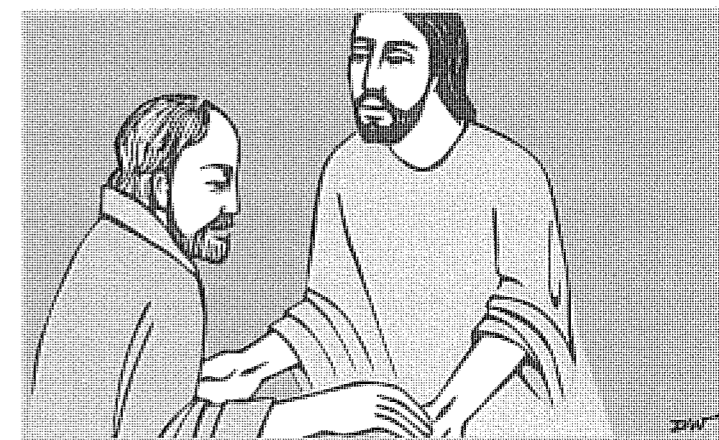
SECOND READING

1 Jn 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what



he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 20: 29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 20: 19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'