

4th Sunday of Easter (Year B): ~ 24/25 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	Principal: Ms Gabrielle Driscoll ☎ 5368 1015	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
	St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495	www.spagordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$427.00	Parish: \$177.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$29,883 (updated)

The Parish contribution to the **Project Compassion Appeal** for 2021 amounted to \$706.75.

Thanks to all who so generously donated to this appeal. Donations to the Parish are vital to the sustainability of our Parish community.

Gordon Parish Leadership Team

The Gordon Parish Leadership Team will meet on the 5th May 2021 at the Gathering Space, St Brigid's Church Ballan.

If there are any issues you wish to raise or seek clarification on, please speak to any of the team members (list above).

St. Brigid's School 2022 PREP Enrolments

Enrolments open Tuesday, April 20, 2021. For information and registration go to: www.sballan.catholic.edu.au/school-tours

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	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: \$312.00	Parish: \$240.00
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Parishioners of Bungaree donations included **Easter Dues** \$245.00 and **Caritas** \$230.00. 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? 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	WEEKDAY MASSES
24/25 April	4th Sunday of Easter Acts 4: 8-12; 1 Jn 3: 1-2		
Clarkes Hill-6.30pm	Pat Prendergast	Jill Prendergast	Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Josie Donegan & Shane Carey	Pat Barry & Eily Carey	Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Marie Shanahan & Julie Dargan	Gyan Schweighofa & Anne Eskdale	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
1/2 May	5th Sunday of Easter Acts 9: 26-31 Jn 15: 4-5		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Diane Reynolds	Diane Reynolds	Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Monica Eastwood & Mark Conroy	Therese & Michael Winter	Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Rosemary Canavan & Anne Eskdale	Cairan & Janine Donohoe Family	Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of each Month
8/9 May	6th Sunday of Easter Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4 7-10,		
Springbank 6.30 pm	Louise Haintz	Greg McAloon	Friday- Benediction after each 9.30 am mass
Bungaree 8.45 am	N Jeffrey	S Steenhuis	Saturday - Reconciliation after 9.30 am mass
Ballan 10.30 am	Margaret Green & Mark Conlan	Eddie & Mary Cassar	

LITURGIES / WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) at 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: Shelia Fay, Barry McNamara, Mary Duffy, Gerard Toohey, Alice McTigue, Kath Toohey, Frank Calleja, Johanna Corbett, Jessie Baynes, Giuseppe Spataro, Laurie, Flynn, Brenda Jones, Len Maher, Kath O'Keefe.

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

Baptisms: We welcome Finlay Cullen, the child of Steven and Victoria, who will be baptised this weekend at St. St. Patrick's Church Gordon, into our Parish community.

Holy Land Collection held on Good Friday 2 April, 2021

The Parishioners of Gordon and Bungaree generously donated \$837.35 to the annual Pontifical Good Friday Collection to support the Christian people of the Holy Land through various pastoral activities, liturgical & ecumenical programs; and for the upkeep of the sacred places.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

We ask all parishioners to abide by the rules for Victoria's COVID safe settings. All venues must apply the two square metre rule and use electronic record keeping through the free Victorian Government QR Code Service or Victorian Government Application Programming Interface (API) linked digital system. Further information is also available from the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Get vaccinated for the common good

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>. FAQ information sheet from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has been placed in all churches in the Parish of Bungaree and Gordon. Also available from the diocesan website "news" section <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholics-in-australia-encouraged-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine/>

Pathways Victoria

The Catholic Diocese of Victoria has introduced a new model for Complaints and Redress in Victoria, Pathways Victoria, for implementing the Church's National Response Protocol released earlier this year. A public consultation period has been set-up for the period 13 April until 14 May 2021. A Media Release and Frequently Asked Questions information sheet has been posted on all church noticeboards. For further information, go to: www.pathwaysvictoria.com/

Pope Francis – Message for 2021 World Day of Vocations. Saint Joseph: "The Dream of Vocation 'God looks on the heart (cf. 1 Sam 16:7), and in Saint Joseph he recognized the heart of a father, able to give and generate life in the midst of daily routines. Vocations have this same goal: To beget and renew lives every day. The Lord desires to shape the hearts of fathers and mothers: Hearts that are open, capable of great initiatives, generous in self-giving, compassionate in comforting anxieties and steadfast in strengthening hopes. The priesthood and the consecrated life greatly need these qualities nowadays, in times marked by fragility but also by the sufferings due to the pandemic, which has spawned uncertainties and fears about the future and the very meaning of life. Saint Joseph comes to meet us in his gentle way, as one of 'the saints next door.' At the same time, his strong witness can guide us on the journey.'"

The Passing of Sr. Monica Butler

The Sisters of Mercy have asked that the Diocesan Community be informed of the passing of *Sister Monica Butler*. Monica spent most of her religious life involved in education in rural areas of the Ballarat Diocese. She had been a primary school teacher since 1951 in various locations including Birchip, Ballarat East, Edenhope, Mortlake, Penhurst, Whycheproof, Timboon and Sebastopol. She was also principal at Dunnstown, Ballarat East, Donald, Manangatang and Mortlake. There will be many, particularly in Mercy Place, who will miss her gentle presence in their midst.

Palms Australia

Share your skills to help develop the capacity of overseas organisations and the abilities of their people. Low-income communities seek sustainable solutions to poverty, not through money or gifts, but by building self-reliance. All trades and professions are called to assist this mission. Enquire now to properly prepare for a placement in 2022. **Join our online InfoZoom on 2 May**, visit palms.org.au, or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333. If you wish to know more, please contact Julie Dardan at Ballan on 0414 076 310. Julie was a volunteer nurse for Palms Australia and worked in Uganda, East Africa during the 1990s.

Prayer for ANZAC DAY

Gracious and loving God, the cross of Christ is the sign of your desire for justice and peace for all.

Open our minds to your vision as we remember all who suffered through Australia and New Zealand's involvement in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. Grant all servicepersons who sacrificed health and life for the good of all, the gift of your deep peace.

May we who inherit the freedom for which they fought become instruments of your peace in our homes, workplaces and world. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;

this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock
and one shepherd.
The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life
in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given
by my Father.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B (ANZAC DAY)

25 APRIL 2021

GOD'S MYSTERIOUS WAYS

There are always different ways of seeing the same thing. For some of the Jews in Jerusalem, Jesus' death was the necessary outcome for someone who was leading the people astray. Peter on the other hand has come to see it as the foundation and cornerstone of a new building. He does not deny that Jesus was rejected by some of his own, but he has come to appreciate it from a new point of view. As John expresses it, it is the means by which God lavishes us with love ushering in a new dawn for those with eyes to see.

In a similar fashion Jesus speaks to his disciples in the Gospel today about how he understands his own death. The disciples could only see their hopes of being part of a new kingdom being dashed to pieces, and as a failure. Jesus did not see his death in this way. Rather, it is the gift of the loving shepherd, given freely for his flock that they might live. On this Anzac Day we remember with profound thanks the sacrifice of so many who have served and died so that we might live.

Despite how things might appear there is always a deeper reality that the person of faith is called to see and appreciate. There is an invitation to hope and trust in the hidden and unexpected ways that God works in our midst. Even failures and suffering can have a part to play in God's plan for us. Having the openness to look once again with the eyes of faith is part of the challenge of Easter.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PS Ps 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29. R. v. 22

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (or Alleluia!)

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / It is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in men: / it is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in princes. R.

2. I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. R.

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord / is he who comes. / We bless you from the house of the Lord; / I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; / for his love has no end. R.



SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John.

We shall see God as he is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God

but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10: 14

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; / I know my sheep, and mine know me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 10: 11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his
life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd