

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, Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth



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

A/Principal: Jayne Bosworth:
Principal: Mr Paul McDowell

☎ 5368 1015
☎ 5368 9495

www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections in Church last weekend

Loose	Presbytery: \$425.90	Parish: \$125.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$820.00

Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025 Update:

The Diocese of Ballarat recently released the draft *Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025* document for discussion. It details the challenges facing parishes & outlines proposals for restructuring parishes. The proposed restructure will directly affect the Parish of Gordon. The Gordon Parish Leadership Team wrote to the Diocese of Ballarat seeking clarification on specific matters outlined in the draft *Looking Forward* document. Fr Kevin Maloney, the Vicar-General of the Diocese of Ballarat, recently forwarded his written response. The draft 'Looking Forward' & the Vicar-General's response 'Parish of Gordon-Looking Forward 2021-25' will be distributed this week-

end for discussion. The Leadership Team will meet this coming week to continue to review outstanding issues related to the documents.

COVID - Mass Attendance

Attendance is capped at 20 persons. Bookings will be coordinated via the Parish Office. Please email or ring the Parish Secretary on 0492 903 409 to book attendance for all forthcoming masses. Remember to leave your name, contact phone number & preferred mass time/place. The booking register will close every Friday at 3pm. The list of parishioners attending mass will be posted Saturday midday at the entrance to St Brigid's Church & St Patrick's Church. If you said you will attend mass & cannot go, please inform the Parish Secretary. On arrival, sign-in with the QR code, sanitize your hands & wear a facemask.

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

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery: \$267.00	Parish: \$1185.00
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COVID Due to COVID restrictions, attendance is capped at 20. On arrival, remember to sign-in with the QR code, sanitize your hands & wear a facemask.

Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025 - Update:

The Diocese of Ballarat recently released the draft version of the *Looking Forward: Pastoral Planning for Parishes in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat 2021-2025* document for

discussion. The document details the challenges facing Parishes & outlines proposals for restructuring parishes. The proposed restructure will directly affect the Parish of Bungaree. The Bungaree Parish Leadership Team has decided to defer the release of the Looking Forward Document until it has consulted with the Diocese of Ballarat & the Parish of Gordon. The Leadership Team will then be in a better position to evaluate the document & to respond to any of your comments & questions.

	READER/INTERCESSIONS	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
18/19 September	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 2: 12, 17-20; James 3: 16-4:3		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Dominic Hanrahan		Tuesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Beth Calleja		Wednesday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Catherine Green, Sandra Miller		Thursday - 9.30am Bungaree
25/26 September	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Num 11:25-29; James 5: 1-6		
Clarkes Hill-6.30pm	Tim Bennet		Friday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45am	Joan Bourke		Saturday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30am	Marie Shanahan, Julie Dargan		Holy Hour - 1 st Thursday of each Month
2/3 October	26 Sunday in Ordinary Time Gen 2: 18-24; Heb 2: 9-11		
Dunnstown-6.30pm	Liz Hanrahan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon-8.45am	Therese Winter		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan-10.30am	Margaret Green, Mark Conlan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 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	Clarkes 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 Deaths: George Azzopardi, Fredrick Bendeich

Anniversaries: Jimmy Winter, Ewen McCarthy, Michael Williams, John McCarthy, Wayne Torpy, Genoveffa Micallef, Carmen Gatt, Primo Bettolatti, Eileen Davis, Hilda Blackmore, Steven Molloy, Gerard Williams, Phillip Camelleri, Josephine Catania, Corey Fletcher, Eileen McDermott, Muriel Snaith, Bill O'Donohue, Kathleen Sheehan, John (Jack) Frawley.

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

Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflection

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. Robyn Rodwell, Principal of Bethany College Hurstville (NSW) reflects on "St Joseph - Model for Fathers" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Sr Anne McMilliam

The community of the Gordon Parish were saddened by the recent death of Sr Anne McMillan. Sr Anne was a member of the rebuilding committee formed after the fire at St Brigid's Church Ballan in 2009. Her liturgical knowledge and expertise was invaluable with protocols, sourcing and naming items of significance which all led to the refurbishment of our beautiful Church. Sr Anne was instrumental in the acquisition of the Marble Altar, Lectern, Baptismal Font and Tabernacle from the former Redemptorist Monastery situated in Wendouree. We are ever grateful for her support in a time when the Ballan community was coming to terms with the loss of the Church and were seeking guidance by such a person as Sr Anne who willingly shared her wealth of knowledge. May she rest in peace.

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 – view at www.thepopevideo.org. Pope's intention for September: **Universal intention – an environmentally sustainable lifestyle:** We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Season of Creation – September 1 – October 4, 2021 runs annually from Sept 1 to Oct 4 – the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Dedicated to prayer, reflection & celebration of God as Creator, it also reflects prayerfully on the gifts of creation & the mission given to us by God to care for creation & respond to its needs & crises. This year our theme is 'A Home for All? Renewing the *oikos* (Greek: home) of God'. *Oikos* is a home for all but our common home, the Earth, is now in danger. For info go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2021/>

Study and Mentoring (SAM) Program applications invited

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) Program offers financial assistance for women undertaking tertiary studies at a recognised theological institution. Core components of the program include opportunities for spiritual direction, mentoring and dialogue with like-minded women. For more information go to <https://www.goodsams.org.au/2021/08/17/study-and-mentoring-leadership-program-focuses-on-womens-gifts/>

Corpus Christi College Seminary Concert The Annual Entertainment Night for CCC has gone online to due to COVID-19. "The Triple C Show – 2021" show will be premiered online on Friday, September 17, 2021 at 7.00pm on the College Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/CorpusChristiCarlton>.

No Interest Loans available for those doing it tough

Safe, fair and affordable credit is available for essential goods and services such as fridges, washing machines, car repairs and medical procedures for up to \$1,500. Repayments are set at an affordable amount over 12 to 18 months. To find out more go to https://goodshep.org.au/services/nils?fbclid=IwAR33rka12LjFX9wvLLl5o3cHFFK4h-QOrmJcuquetRO4iUDq_zz-oy91Dwclick.

Plenary Council – Continuing the Journey

We extend to people in the diocese an invitation to engage in the process and to listen deeply to the voice of the Spirit. **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED HANDOUT. Please feel free to complete this individually or after lockdown as part of a small group depending on COVID restrictions.** It can be printed out, then emailed or posted back in or you can just send answers via email to pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au. Any submissions will be forwarded to the Diocesan Members to the Plenary Council.

Alleluia, alleluia!
 God has called us with the gospel
 to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according
 to Mark.

*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of
 humanity . . . All who wish to be first must make
 themselves the servants of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
 disciples made their way through Galilee; and
 he did not want anyone to know, because he
 was instructing his disciples; he was telling
 them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into
 the hands of men; they will put him to death;
 and three days after he has been put to death
 he will rise again.' But they did not understand
 what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was
 in the house he asked them, 'What were you
 arguing about on the road?' They said nothing
 because they had been arguing which of them
 was the greatest. So he sat down, called the
 Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to
 be first, he must make himself last of all and
 servant of all.' He then took a little child, set
 him in front of them, put his arms round him,
 and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one
 of these little children in my name, welcomes
 me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes
 not me but the one who sent me.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

19 SEPTEMBER 2021

LIVING WITH OUR DIFFERENCES

As the letter of James observes, wherever there
 is jealousy and ambition there is disharmony.
 It is the sign of both human and spiritual
 maturity to be able to live in peace with
 ourselves and others. A reality of life is that
 there are differences between people and
 that they can often be a source of division
 and discontent. Today's readings invite us to
 reflect on the ways in which differences can be
 life-giving rather than destructive.

For the writer of the book of Wisdom the
 truly righteous person will be a thorn in the
 side of those whose values they do not share.
 The implied challenge is that of daring to be
 different when it means being true to our
 values.

Even within the Christian community the
 problems provided by our differences and
 desire for recognition need to be addressed.
 It is to the credit of the early Christians
 that they did not veneer over their very
 real differences and honestly admitted their
 difficulties in this area. At the very moment
 that Jesus is speaking of the violent death that
 awaits him the disciples are already arguing
 among themselves about who is the greatest.
 It is precisely in this context that Jesus reveals
 to them that true greatness has always been
 found in the ability to serve and sacrifice
 oneself for the good of others. It is not that
 differences do not exist, or that some have
 the responsibility of leadership. What counts
 is the manner in which that responsibility
 is exercised. In that, Jesus remains our most
 enduring example.

Christopher Monaghan CP

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,
 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since
 he annoys us
 and opposes our way of life,
 reproaches us for our breaches of the law
 and accuses us of playing false to our
 upbringing.

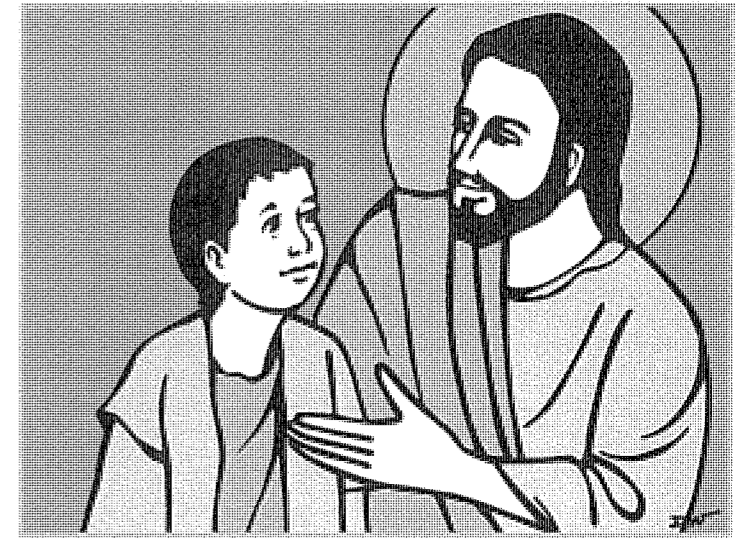
Let us see if what he says is true,
 let us observe what kind of end he himself will
 have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will
 take his part
 and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.
 Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
 and thus explore this gentleness of his
 and put his endurance to the proof.
 Let us condemn him to a shameful death
 since he will be looked after – we have his
 word for it.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

R. The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name; / by your
 power, uphold my cause. / O God, hear my
 prayer; / listen to the words of my mouth. **R.**
2. For proud men have risen against me, /
 ruthless men seek my life. / They have no
 regard for God. **R.**
3. But I have God for my help. / The Lord
 upholds my life. / I will sacrifice to you with
 willing heart / and praise your name for it is
 good. **R.**



A reading from the letter of St James.

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown
 in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you
 find disharmony, and wicked things of every
 kind being done; whereas the wisdom that
 comes down from above is essentially something
 pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and
 considerate; it is full of compassion and shows
 itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of
 partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when
 they work for peace, sow the seeds which will
 bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
 yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the
 desires fighting inside your own selves? You
 want something and you haven't got it; so you
 are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that
 you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way
 by force. Why you don't have what you want
 is because you don't pray for it; when you do
 pray and don't get it, it is because you have not
 prayed properly, you have prayed for something
 to indulge your own desires.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



Continuing the Journey



The last twelve or so months of our Plenary Council Journey has required many unplanned changes because of the impact of COVID-19. What hasn't changed is the heart of the journey – the discernment process.

We are mindful of all those who have made a significant contribution to the Plenary Council journey so far through the responses submitted during the time of listening, dialogue, and discernment; as well as the work of the members of the Six Discernment and Writing Groups.

The other important milestone celebrated recently is the publication of the Agenda for the Plenary Council. It charges the Members with the responsibility of developing "concrete proposals" for the Church in Australia in response to sixteen questions born of the last three years of conversation and discernment. It is important for all of us to remember when reading the Agenda that it is to be addressed over the entirety of the time we "celebrate" the Plenary Council. This includes the first Assembly in October 2021, the months between the two assemblies and the second Assembly in July 2022.

We extend an invitation, another opportunity, to engage in the process and to listen deeply to the voice of the Spirit. You can do this by commenting on the agenda below or by responding on the next page.

Responses can be made by either individuals or groups in your parish or community (adhering to COVID-19 restrictions). They do not have to be formal - they can be written or in poems or pictures, songs or prayers.

FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA **AGENDA**

As children of God, disciples of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, the Members of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia are called to develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time.

'I dream of a "missionary option", that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.'

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 27



Agenda continued next page

Comments on the Agenda can be made here:

Conversion

- How might we better accompany one another on the journey of personal and communal conversion which mission in Australia requires?
- How might we heal the wounds of abuse, coming to see through the eyes of those who have been abused?
- How might the Church in Australia open in new ways to Indigenous ways of being Christian in spirituality, theology, liturgy, and missionary discipleship? How might we learn from the First Nations peoples?
- How might the Church in Australia meet the needs of the most vulnerable, go to the peripheries, be missionary in places that may be overlooked or left behind in contemporary Australia? How might we partner with others (Christians, people of other faiths, neighbourhood community groups, government) to do this?
- How might the Church in Australia respond to the call to 'ecological conversion'? How can we express and promote a commitment to an 'integral ecology of life' in all its dimensions, with particular attention to the more vulnerable people and environments in our country and region?

Prayer

- How might we become a more contemplative people, committing more deeply to prayer as a way of life, and celebrating the liturgy of the Church as an encounter with Christ who sends us out to "make disciples of all the nations"?
- How might we better embrace the diverse (liturgical) traditions of the Churches which make up the Catholic Church and the cultural gifts of immigrant communities to enrich the spirituality and worship of the Church in Australia?

Formation

- How might we better form leaders for mission – adults, children and families, couples and single people?
- How might we better equip ordained ministers to be enablers of missionary discipleship: the Church becoming more a "priestly people" served by the ordained ministry?
- How might formation, both pre- and post-ordination, better foster the development of bishops, priests and deacons as enablers of the universal Christian vocation to holiness lived in missionary discipleship?

Structures

- How might parishes better become local centres for the formation and animation of missionary disciples?
- How might the Church in Australia be better structured for mission, considering the parish, the diocese, religious orders, the PIPs and new communities?

Governance

- How might the People of God, lay and ordained, women and men, approach governance in the spirit of synodality and co-responsibility for more effective proclamation of the Gospel?
- How might we recast governance at every level of the Church in Australia in a more missionary key?

Institutions

- How might we better see the future of Catholic education (primary, secondary and tertiary) through a missionary lens?
- How might we better see the future of Catholic social services, agencies and health and aged care ministries as key missionary and evangelising agencies?

You are invited to respond to the following:

You are invited to share briefly the impact of COVID-19 on your life and your faith life.

What has changed for you in relation to the Plenary Council since COVID-19?

Any further comment you would like to share?

Responses can be submitted: Pastoral Ministry Office, PO Box 576, Ballarat, 3353 or email: pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au