

# The Nativity of the Lord (Year C): ~ 24/25 December 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, 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

Principal: Ms 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: \$496.75	Parish: \$749.00
Planned Giving	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$5,737.40

Christmas Dues as of 19 December \$285.00.

We thank all who give generously to each of these collections. Donations to the Parish are vital to the sustainability of our parish community.

**Liturgy Readings:** The Parish is inviting all parishioners – young and old – to consider volunteering for liturgy readings this coming year. The Parish is especially supportive of family groups who wish to participate. Coordinators of the liturgy roster are Monica Eastwood (Gordon), Anne Eskdale (Ballan) and Donna Simpson (Springbank), or contact the Parish Secretary at: gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au/

## 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: \$417.00	Parish: \$115.00
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**Columban Art Calendar-2022:** If you wish to receive a copy of the 2022 Columban Calendar, please contact the Parish Secretary.

**Ministry & Cleaning Rosters for 2022 - St Michael's Bungaree:** The Parish is inviting all parishioners – young and old – to consider volunteering for the ministry

and/or the cleaning roster this coming year. The Parish is especially supportive of family groups who wish to participate. Coordinators of the Ministry roster is Leah Hanrahan on 0411 859 544 and cleaning roster is Deb Ryan on 0417586107.

**Change of Venue:** Sunday mass on 26 December will be held at St Peter's Clarkes Hill at 8.45 am.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
<b>25 December</b>	<b>The Nativity of the Lord Isa 52 :7-10; Heb 1: 1-6</b>		
St Brigid's-9 am	To Be Arranged		
St Brendan's-9.30 am	To Be Arranged		
<b>26 December</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 1 Sam 1: 20-22, 24-28</b>		
Clarkes Hill-8.45 am	To Be Arranged		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	To Be Arranged		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>1 January</b>	<b>Mary, the Holy Mother of God Num 6: 22-27; Gal 4: 4-7</b>		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>2 January</b>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60: 1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6</b>		
Gordon-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	To be Arranged		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
<b>9 January</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>		
Springbank-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Holy Hour – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each Month
Bungaree-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Ballan-10.30 am	To be Arranged		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass



LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES					
Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 9.30am All Welcome!					
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
<b>Sat 6.30pm</b>	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Clarks Hill	Springbank
<b>Sun 8.45am</b>	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
<b>Sun 10.30am</b>	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan
Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 8.45am ~ Daylesford 10.30am					

**Anniversaries:** Fr Stephen O'Rourke, Annie Prendergast, Roy Tynan, Pleasance Conroy, Marie Graham, Jack Geary, James Toohey and Eddie Mullane.

**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, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Eileen Haintz and Leon Burvill.

**Bishop's Appeal (Christmas Appeal):** The Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to the diocese for assistance. Total donations in 2021 were \$33,000. These funds were distributed to the following organisations to assist them in their mission: Nazareth House Ballarat, Caritas Australia, Catholic Mission, The Mallee Family Care Christmas Appeal, CatholicCare Victoria Christmas Appeal, Act for Peace, Raise the Rent Ballarat, Exodus Community Wendouree West, and Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH). This year many organisations are facing unprecedented requests for assistance, in part due to COVID.

**Giving the gift of compassion through Caritas Australia's Christmas Appeal:** This festive season, you can support some of the most marginalised and vulnerable people around the world through Caritas Australia's Christmas Appeal. Donate today. To learn more visit [www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/](http://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/) or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

### Christmas Message 2021 - Take Some Quiet Time

*In these days leading up to Christmas, I am very pleased to have the chance to say hello. Over the past year, we have been restricted in our travel because of the pandemic. I have had to postpone a number of visits to parishes and schools around the diocese. So I am particularly glad to have the opportunity to send this greeting to all our communities by video.*

*The weeks before Christmas can be challenging in any year. Winding up the school term, going to end-of-year functions, doing Christmas shopping – the days can be quite busy. This year we have had the added complication of the pandemic, with Covid testing and isolating and lockdowns and school closures and learning and working from home and general disruption to plans. We still have to check in wherever we go and we need to follow the latest regulations if we want to travel interstate.*

*People generally have done very well in observing the pandemic precautions to help keep us all safe. However, the extra demands of the pandemic have been tiring. People might well feel weary and, if we are feeling weary, this busy time before Christmas will be even more challenging.*

*In the midst of all these challenges, I would like to encourage you to take some time out for quiet. If only for a few minutes, take a break from all the activity. Sit down. Take some deep breaths. Take some time to be still. This can help to calm our minds. Then we can see things more clearly. We can distinguish what is more important and what is less important. This helps us to focus on the more important things in life.*

*In the original Christmas story in the gospel of Luke, we read of shepherds in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks during the night. They were not moving the sheep to new pastures. They were not shearing the sheep. They were simply watching and it was in that time of simply watching that the messenger of God came to them, an angel of the Lord appeared and the glory of the Lord shone round them and they heard the good news that a Saviour had been born.*

*During these weeks before Christmas, I hope we can all take some time to be like those shepherds, spending a while simply watching, taking a break from our many activities and simply sitting quietly. And as we sit quietly, may we hear again in our hearts the good news that a Saviour has been born for us, Christ, the Lord.*

*I wish you all a merry Christmas. May the peace of Christ be with you. May the joy of the Saviour be your strength.*

*May God bless you all.  
Bishop Paul Bird CSsR*