

5th Sunday of Lent (Year C): ~ 2/3 April 2022

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank

Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll - ☎ 5368 9280

Parish Leadership Team: Sue Daly, Lin Bowers, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Lin Bowers

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)



PARISH VISION: That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ

We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Parish Schools	St. Brigid's Primary School	Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth: ☎ 5368 1015	www.sballan.catholic.edu.au
	St. Patrick's Primary School	Principal: Mr Paul McDowell ☎ 5368 9495	www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections in Church last weekend

Loose:	Presbytery: \$496.25	Parish: \$110.00
Planned Giving:	Envelopes 2020/21:	\$7743.45

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19): Checking-in is no longer required; face masks no longer required in most indoor settings but are still recommended. Carry a mask when leaving home. Recommend wearing a mask if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and/or are outdoors & cannot physically distance.

Collection of Oils: If you wish to nominate as the Parish representative please inform the Parish Secretary. The

oils are collected during the Mass of the Oils to be held on Monday, 11 April at 6.30 pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Reconciliation Program: On the 22nd & 23rd March, twelve children celebrated their first reconciliation with their families. The children spent four weeks preparing at home & learnt about forgiveness & reconciling with others, knowing God is always there for us. The children were well prepared & enjoyed a prayerful celebration with Fr. Justin. We thank Fr. Justin, the schools of St. Patrick's Gordon & St. Brigid's Ballan & the sacramental team. We will be celebrating Eucharist & Confirmation commencing next term.

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 Leadership Team: Damien Ryan, Barry Sheehan, Di Reynolds, Leah Hanrahan, Tim Bennet, Maurice Maher & Inez French.

Safeguarding Officer: Accepting Nominations

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

We are a child-safe Parish. We follow Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Collections last weekend:

Presbytery:	\$567.00	Parish: 420.00
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Volunteer Positions Open: interested persons are invited to volunteer for the positions of Sacramental Program Officer & Safeguarding Officer. If you would like to know more about these positions, contact Damien at: ryandjr@bigpond.com, phone: 0437125062.

Collection of Oils: Please inform Fr. Sajan by 30 March if you wish to nominate as the Parish representative. The oils are collected during the Mass of the Oils to be held on Monday, 11 April at 6.30 pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Anointing Mass-Tuesday, 12 April, 9.30 am at Bungaree: An anointing mass for parishioners will be held at St Michael's Church, Bungaree at 9.30 am. All Welcome.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
2/3 April 2022	Fifth Sunday of Lent Isa 43: 16-21; Phil 3: 8-14		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-8.45 am	To be Arranged		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	Bert Jarvis		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
9/10 April 2022	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Isa 50: 4-7 Phil 2: 6-11		
Springbank-6.30 pm	To be Arranged		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree-8.45 am	N Jeffrey		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan-10.30 am	Margaret Green		Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of each Month
16/17 April 2022	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Rom 6:3-11; Lk 24: 1-12		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	To Be Arranged		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon-8.45 am	To Be Arranged		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan-10.30 am	Rosemary Canavan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

Fr Sajan celebrates mass each weekday morning (except Mondays) - Bungaree 9.30am					
	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: John Reddie

Anniversaries: Tom Everard, Sarah Molloy, Fran Coen, Nellie Conroy, Kathleen McGiffin, Monica Ramssay, Monica Hryncyszyn, Reg Haintz, Mathew Cahir, Jim Flood, Ellen Murphy and Allen Payne.

We offer our prayerful support for the sick: Anna Bartaska, Lyla Geary, Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, John Ryan, Moira Myers, Stan Mahar, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner and Majella Franklin (nee Glenane).

Baptisms: We welcome Alfred Murphy, Reuben Murphy and Andrew Etheridge who will be baptised this Sunday, into our parish community. *Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Caritas Australia Ukraine Crisis Appeal: In a matter of weeks, millions of people have fled the conflict in Ukraine. Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground, supporting people in need during this unfolding humanitarian crisis. Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance including shelter, food, clean water, medicine & psychological support to people affected by this crisis. Donate today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine or call 1800 024 413 toll free. Keep up to date on the latest activities by Caritas agencies on the ground www.caritas.org.au/ukraine-news

Project Compassion – Fifth Sunday of Lent: Shaniella 23, from the Solomon Islands was determined to forge a path out of poverty, moving away to vocational school. With your support, Shaniella was able to overcome further challenges of natural disasters & gain the skills she needs to create a brighter future for herself & For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes & envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting www.lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Mass of the Oils: Monday, 11 April 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral at 6.30pm. The Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese, particularly the unity & ministry of ordained priests. The three oils collected by our parish representatives – chrism, oil of the sick & oil of catechumens – will be used for the ordained, the sick, those to be baptised & confirmed. Any COVID restrictions applicable at this time will apply to the Mass of the Oils.

Good Friday Collection: The collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday.

Bishop Paul's Adaptations to Holy Week Ceremonies due to COVID:

The Mass of Holy Thursday usually includes the Washing of Feet after the homily and a Procession with the Blessed Sacrament to “a place of repose”. In line with directions given by the Congregation for Divine Worship for the time of pandemic, the Washing of Feet and the Procession with the Blessed Sacrament may be omitted. The Congregation has indicated that the Blessed Sacrament could simply be taken to the tabernacle after communion as usual. This would not rule out providing some time for people to stay for quiet prayer after the Mass, as is the custom particularly on Holy Thursday.

The **Good Friday** ceremony includes Veneration of the Cross. Once again, I propose that people be invited to come forward to venerate the cross by bowing before the cross rather than by touching or kissing the cross.

General provisions that go beyond Holy Week: I remind everyone of the directive that, during this time of pandemic, communion should be received in the hand rather than on the tongue. Also, while Covid is still occurring frequently in the community, there should be no sharing of the chalice, those distributing Holy Communion should use hand sanitiser prior to distribution and not touch anyone when giving a blessing, and holy water fonts should still be empty.

Easter Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday: 14 April: St Michael's, Bungaree at 7 pm

Good Friday: 15 April: Stations of the Cross-St Brigid's, Ballan at 10 am (Lay lead)

Commemoration of the Cross-St Michael's, Springbank at 3 pm

Easter Vigil Mass: 16 April: St Peter's, Clarkes Hill at 6.30 pm, St Michael's, Bungaree at 8 pm

Easter Sunday: 17 April: St Patrick's Gordon at 8.45am; St Brendan's Dunnstown at 9am; St Brigid's Ballan at 10.30am

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Jn 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / C

3 APRIL 2022

LIVING WATER

To the people of Israel in exile, Isaiah speaks of a new highway that God is making in the wilderness, a highway that would change the face of the wilderness forever. No longer desolate, the people would have what they needed, and their thirst for vindication and homecoming from exile would be satisfied.

On the road to Damascus, Paul's world had been changed forever. He had come to see that, for him, the living water that Jesus the Messiah offers is the only prize worth striving for. As a Pharisee, he had sought perfection through faithfulness to the Jewish law. He had come to appreciate that, as beautiful as the Jewish law was, Jesus' death and resurrection had opened a new pathway to God's grace. He knew he was not perfect. In response to his experience of the Risen One, he set out to travel that road with all his heart and love as a missionary and apostle.

The episode of the woman caught in adultery is another moving example of how the living God can break into our world and provide water in the desert of the human heart. Surrounded by rejection and mistaken self-righteousness, this woman is isolated and faces the threat of a brutal death. As her accusers call for her execution Jesus writes in the sand. Ever so gently a new highway is being laid and we are invited to walk it. By not condemning or judging, Jesus shows how, we too, can walk this path and provide living water for each other.

FIRST READING

Isa 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips there were songs. **R.**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

■ **The word of the Lord.**