

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C): ~ 7/8 May 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: \$409.75	Parish: \$108.00
Planned Giving:	Envelopes 2021/22:	\$10,181.45

Thank you to all who generously gave to these collections.

Parish Lunch at Donegan's Farm: Last Sunday's parish get-together was a very enjoyable occasion. We thank Josie (and helpers) for the delicious lunch.

National Count of Attendance- Gordon

Counting of church attendance will be conducted during May commencing 7-8th May. A designated counting sheet has been placed in all churches to facilitate the count directly after Mass.

Please nominate counter/s before Mass who will be responsible for collating the information and ensuring that the form is completed correctly. Please return forms to the Parish Secretary for forwarding on to the Diocese Office.

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, Tim Bennet, Maurice Maher, Peter Roche & Inez French.

Safeguarding Officer: Accepting Nominations

Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Thursday 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5334 0450 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:	\$525.00	Parish:	\$250.00
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Easter Dues: \$120.00. We thank all who contribute to these collections.

National Count of Attendance-Bungaree:

Counting of church attendance will be conducted during May commencing 7-8th May. A designated counting sheet has been placed in all churches to facilitate the count directly after Mass.

Please nominate counter/s before Mass who will be responsible for collating the information and ensuring

that the form is completed correctly. Please return forms to the Parish Secretary for forwarding on to the Diocese Office.

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.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
7/8 May 2022	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 13: 14, 43-52; Apoc 7:9, 14-17		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		
Bungaree – 8.45 am	Shelley Ryan		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Anne Eskdale		Holy Hour – 1st Thursday of each Month
14/15 May 2022	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 14: 21-27; Apoc 21: 1-5		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Lin Bowers		
21/22 May 2022	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 15: 1-2,22-29; Apoc 21: 10-14, 22-23		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Dom Prendergast		
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Arranged		
Ballan – 10.30 am	Marie Shanahan		

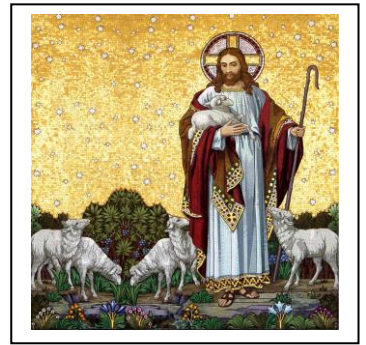
LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

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	Clarks 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

Christ the Good Shepherd; Kufstein Cemetery, Austria. 19th century.



Recent Deaths: Brian Munn, Theresa Tuppen

Anniversaries: Jack McGuigan, Carmel McAloon, Arthur Gore, Joan Blood, Kathleen Gleeson, Helen Ronan, Eddie Clark and Monica Kelly.

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 Chaiel Balcombe Jackson.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Election Statement 2022: In their statement the bishops call for 'a better kind of politics', a politics that focuses on the common good of all, especially those who struggle to participate in the community. Read the statement at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wz1WhIUdU_UviG5-Vhp4Jtlov9Gs4YVo/view

Our Diocesan Community – Issue 2, 2022: Planning for the second issue of Our Diocesan Community (ODC) 2022 is underway and we invite your contributions. We will continue the 2022 themes of "For a Synodal Church", the Plenary Council and the International Year of Glass. We are hoping to gather stories and experiences in the Catholic community – schools, parishes and agencies from all around the diocese. We also invite you to share significant events that may have taken place over the last few months in your parish, school community and agency. We hope to have this issue of "Our Diocesan Community" delivered in the week beginning June 20; submissions close on Friday, May 13. Articles should be approximately 250 words maximum in length and accompanied by photos where possible. Photos should be sent as separate JPEG files (not inserted into a Word document). Material can be sent to odc@ballarat.catholic.org.au. When sending in photos, permission should be sought from those in the pictures. Photos may be used in other diocesan publications. *Jane & Julie for the ODC Editorial Committee*

Walking in the Spirit: The People of God are invited to make a prayerful journey towards the Second Assembly of the Plenary Council. The "Walking in the Spirit" prayer campaign runs until the Second Assembly, which opens on Sunday, July 3. Go to: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthespirit/

National Family Week: May 15-21, 2022: CatholicCare Victoria believes that building strong family relationships is the key to building healthy, resilient communities. Strong families give children the foundation they need to grow and the support they need to face challenges and setbacks in life. So how can parents and families build strong family relationships? Family Relationship Practitioners in Bendigo, Julia Feiss and Lisa Castles, share five important elements for creating strong families at <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/news/247/a-blessing-for-families>.

Garratt Publishing's Book of the Month: *Hard Questions Born of Love: My Journey through the Plenary* by John Warhurst explores Church reform during 2021. Read about his reflections of the First Assembly of the Plenary Council.

Laudato Si' Week: 16May -24, 2022: As part of Catholic Earthcare's celebration of *Laudato Si'* Week will be the online screening of the newly released 'Regenerating Australia'. The short film focuses on a fictitious news segment set on New Year's Eve 2029. By examining the decade that 'could be', the film challenges us to consider how to respond to the Cry of the Earth. Bishop Ken Howell and a range of guest speakers will hold a panel discussion and question time after the film about how we can respond as Catholics in Australia. The video will be streamed via zoom. Join individually or register as a parish group. Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BZADT> (if registering for a group, only 1 person need register via Trybooking). Online event will be held on Tuesday, May 17 from 6pm –8 pm.

St Augustine's Church Creswick 150th Anniversary: On the weekend of September 17-18 celebrations will be held for the 150th anniversary of St Augustine's Church, Creswick. If you have old photographs, stories, memorabilia or anything that may be of interest, please contact Leonie on 0488220685 or email creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Vincent de Paul Conference Support Administration Assistant: Position (30 hrs per fortnight) for a Support Administration Assistant in Ballarat with the Northwestern Central Council. Applications close 22 May. Go to: <https://svdpvic.applynow.net.au/jobs/SVDP6130-conference-support-administration-assistant> for more information.

School Chaplain: Part-time position available at Warrenheip Primary School. Contact Samantha at the Your Dream School Programs on 1300 792 856.

persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

■ **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 10:27-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,

and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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HOPE IN FACE OF TRIAL

The lives of each of us are touched by the realities of death and suffering in our world. As Christians, we are challenged to dig deep and explain the basis for our Christian hope. Why should Christians be hopeful? Why should we not give in to despair and disillusion? What is the basis for our belief that God's love is more powerful than the forces in our world which oppress and cause suffering?

Like ourselves, the first Christians had to deal with these problems. Opposition and persecution were realities for the earliest Christians and today's readings show something of the early Church's response to such difficulties. Paul and Barnabas faced the opposition of Jewish communities as they preached the good news of Jesus to Jews and Gentiles. They had come to see that the good news was meant for all nations and, by preaching the message of Jesus, the call to be a light for the nations would be fulfilled.

Some years later the Christian communities in Asia Minor were persecuted by Diocletian. It was a brutal and fearful time as Christians saw their brothers and sisters put to death. The book of the Apocalypse was written to encourage these Christians not to lose heart since Jesus had overcome death and he would shepherd them amidst their suffering.

The Johannine community had to deal with the distress and anguish that accompanied the expulsion of Christians from the synagogue. It is in the midst of such turmoil that they are reminded that with Jesus as their shepherd they need only listen to his voice to be assured of eternal life.

FIRST READING

Acts 13:14,43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99:1-3.5

R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. / Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. / He made us, we belong to him, / we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, / eternal his merciful love. / He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

Apoc 7:9,14-17

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great