

1st Sunday of Advent (Year A): ~ 26/27 November 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, Joan Bourke, Shane Carey, Marie Shanahan, Brendan Maher, Nola Kersley

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey

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 last week

Presbytery: \$336.45	Parish: \$1794.00
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Thank you: We sincerely thank all who give so generously to these collections.

Mass at St Brigid's Church, Ballan: No Mass this Thursday.

Cemetery Mass TODAY – 27 November: Mass commences at 11 am. Limited seating available, so, please bring a chair. If the weather forecast is for inclement weather, mass will be held at St Patrick's Church, Gordon. The Mass at Ballan will be celebrated at 8.45am on that day.

Community Meeting: Fr Justin will convene a Community Meeting at the Gordon Church, Sunday, 4 December after 8.45 am Mass.

Christmas Gathering: Parish dinner on Tuesday, 6 December at Donegan's Farm, 6.30pm; Cost \$30 per head. Please complete the *Christmas Dinner Booking Form* after mass or call the Parish Office on 53689280. All Welcome.

End of Year School Masses: St Brigid's Ballan: Wednesday, December 14 at 1.30pm; St Patrick's Gordon: Thursday, December 15 at 2pm.



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, Dianne Reynolds, Dom Prendergast, Marty Forbes, Chris Frawley & Inez French.

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 fortnight:

Presbytery: \$1084.00	Parish: \$260.00
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Thank you: We thank all parishioners who support our parish through their generous donations.

Bungaree Church Cleaning: Thank you to everyone who has assisted in cleaning the Bungaree church throughout 2022. The annual deep clean will take place on Monday 5th December at 7.00 pm. Both men and women, as well as new volunteers would be very welcome. Anyone

wishing to join the roster for 2023, contact Debbie Ryan on 533402234.

Our Diocesan Community – Issue 3, 2023: Final edition for 2022 available. Feel free to take copies homebound, to nursing homes, hospitals etc.

2023 Columban Art Calendar: If you wish to order a calendar, please contact the parish secretary at bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au

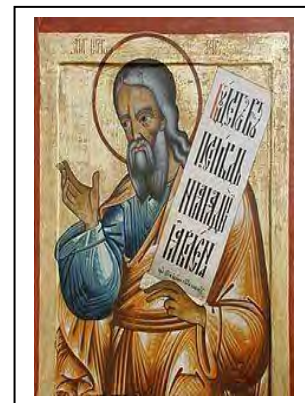
	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
26/27 November 2022	1st Sunday of Advent (Year A) Isa 2:1-5, Rom 13: 11-14		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Helen Mahar		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon Cemetery – 11 am	Readers to be confirmed		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 8.45 am*	Catherine Green		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
3/4 December 2022	2nd Sunday of Advent (Year A) Isa 11: 1-10; Rom 15:4-9		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To Be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis		Holy Hour – 1st Thursday of every month
10/11 December 2022	3rd Sunday of Advent Isa 35: 1-6, 10 James 5: 7-10		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree – 8.45 am	T Elliott		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Julie Dargan		

LITURGIES /WEEKDAY MASSES

	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 Sunday 9am ~ Daylesford Sunday 10.30am

Icon of the Prophet Isaiah, Kizhi monastery, Karelia, Russia



Anniversaries: Basil Maher, Kath Murphy, Andrew Lund, Frances Maher, Ed McDonald, Tommy McGuane, Peter McDermott, Winnie Leonard, Bob Frawley, Michael Frawley, Maurice Kelly, Bishop James O'Collins, Mary Molloy, Doreen Conroy, Troy Toohey, Mary O'Leary, Fredrick Giles, Frank O'Loughlin, Mick O'Loughlin, Mary Toohey and James (Jimmy) Simpson.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Anna Bartaska, Lyla Geary, Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Moira Myers, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner and Chaiel Balcombe Jackson.

Baptisms: We welcome Poppi Miller, daughter of Zackary and Monique, and Harlie Bartholomew, daughter of Dion and Chantelle, who will be baptized this Sunday at St Peter's Church, Clarkes Hill; and Tommy Blanchard, son of Cameron and Melissa, who will be baptised at St Brigid's Church, Ballan into our faith community. *Lord God, strengthen your Spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Pope's intention for November: For children who suffer: *Let us pray for children who are suffering, especially for those who are homeless, orphans and victims of war. May they be guaranteed access to education, and may they have the opportunity to experience family affection.*

Helping those affected by floods: St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by: Call 13 18 12 or visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>. Make a monetary donation thro' any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

Free Advent resources: 2022 Advent Calendar with practical ideas to help families journey through Advent, the Names of Jesus Advent chain to help families explore who Jesus is and the Little Nativity Pack so that children can play out the wonderful story of Jesus coming! Resources available at <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/shop/free-resources/>

Advent with Pope Francis and Laudato Si': The *Laudato Si'* Movement, invites you to an Advent retreat guided by the words of Pope Francis and his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, to prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the world and of all Creation. The retreat is through the Hozana prayer platform, a space to pray in community globally <https://hozana.org/en/community/11261-advent-with-pope-francis-and-laudato-si>. The theme that will guide the reflections will be "Preparation for the Good News", a pathway for our encounter with God, Jesus Christ, who comes to meet us in Creation. Each week you will be invited to reflect on a specific topic through a short clip of The Letter (the documentary with Pope Francis on *Laudato Si'*), a brief reflection on that topic and a prayer.

Synod of Bishops Continental Stage: The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups around the country are praying with and responding to the Document for the Continental Stage, which was published recently. Download prayer resources, including for use in liturgies, read the document and access the submission portal at www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch

The next phase of Synod on Synodality: The National Centre for Pastoral Research is inviting expressions of interest for next round of consultation for the global Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups assisted by a reflection guide being produced by the national Synod of Bishops committee will be able to gather and share their feedback online. If you wish to coordinate a group, email the NCPR's Stephen Reid (stephen.reid@catholic.org.au).

Advent Anointing Masses (Parish of Gordon)

St Brigid's Ballan at 10.30am Thursday December 15th St Patrick's Gordon at 10.30am Tuesday December 20th and Ballan Hostel at 10.30am Thursday December 22nd

Christmas Mass Times

Parish of Gordon - Christmas Eve Masses (Saturday December 24th)

5.30pm St Brigid's Ballan 6.30pm St Patrick's Gordon 7.00pm St Michael's Springbank

Parish of Bungaree (Times to be confirmed)

Parishes of Daylesford and Creswick

8.30pm Daylesford Christmas Eve and 9.00am Creswick Christmas Day

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

27 NOVEMBER 2022

WALK IN THE LIGHT

There are some phrases from the scriptures which have the power to stir the imagination thousands of years after they were written. The image of hammering swords into ploughshares, spears into sickles, and soldiers becoming farmers speaks so powerfully to our deep longing for peace. Isaiah's vision was that a time would come when all people would be united in worship of the living God; when war would be replaced by understanding and all people would walk in the light of the Lord.

Paul understood Isaiah's vision was soon to become reality on the Lord's return. His concern was to make sure that the Christians of Rome were prepared for that moment. Some of them had fallen into a misplaced sense of complacency. Paul disagrees. Now was the time to get one's house in order, to put aside the ways that blur and obscure our vision, so as to come into the light of Jesus.

In a similar way, fifty years after the resurrection of the Lord it was all too easy for Matthew's community to lose hope that the Lord would return soon and bring Isaiah's and Paul's vision to reality. As this Advent season begins, the challenge is placed squarely before us – if the Son of Man were to return now would we be ready and waiting? What are we doing to bring Isaiah's vision of peace to reality? What areas of our life still need to be brought into the light of Christ?

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us go to God's house. / And now our feet are standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. R.



2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there to praise the Lord's name. / There were set the thrones of judgement / of the house of David. R.

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! R.

4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say: 'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of the Lord / I will ask for your good. R.

SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

■ **The word of the Lord.**