

3rd Sunday of Advent (Year A): ~ 10/11 December 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: \$477.20

Parish: \$984.50

Mass at St Brigid's Church, Ballan: Fr Justin will celebrate mass this Thursday, December 8th at 10.30 am. 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

Christmas Refreshments after Mass – All Welcome:

St Michael's, Springbank: Saturday, 10 December after 6.30 pm vigil mass – Christmas cake, delicious snacks, drinks and port.

St Patrick's Gordon: 18 December after 8.45am Sunday mass. Christmas cake, port and fruit juice.

St Brigid's Ballan: 18 December after 10.30am Sunday mass - cake and a cuppa after mass.



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: \$885.00

Parish: \$220.00

Bungaree Church Cleaning: Thank you to everyone who has assisted in cleaning the Bungaree church throughout 2022. Annual deep clean 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, please contact Debbie Ryan on 533402234.

Dunnstown Church Cleaning: The cleaning of St Brendan's Church will be held on Monday evening, 12 December at 7 pm. All helpers welcome.

Christmas Refreshments after Mass – All Welcome:

St Michael's Bungaree: 11 December after 8.45am Sunday mass. Christmas cake and port, orange juice.

St Brendan's Dunnstown: Saturday, 17 December after 6.30 pm vigil mass. Christmas cake and port.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
10/11 December 2022	3rd Sunday of Advent Isa 35: 1-6, 10 James 5: 7-10		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	T Elliott		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Julie Dargan		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
17/18 December 2022	4th Sunday of Advent Isa 7: 10-14; Rom: 1: 1-7		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Winnie Zammit		Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of every month
24 December 2022 Christmas Eve			
Ballan – 5.30pm	Rosemary Canavan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Clarkes Hill – 6pm	To be Advised		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Gordon – 6.30pm	To be Advised		
Springbank – 7.00pm	To be Advised		
Bungaree – 8pm	Damien Ryan		
25 December 2022 Christmas Day			
Dunnstown – 9am	Liz Hanrahan		

LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES

	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
Vigil Masses ~ Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 6.30pm - 1st Sunday ~ Daylesford 6.30pm - 3rd Sunday (Jan onwards)					
Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am - 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday; Daylesford 10.30 am - 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday					



<https://www.liturgyttools.net/2015/12/pictures-3rd-sunday-advent-year-c-catholic-lectionary.html>

Recent deaths: Patrick Leonard, Patrick Crough (Wahgunyah)

Anniversaries: Peter Quinlan, Maurice Torpy, Maureen Frawley, Ron Devlin, John Senserrick, Raymond Butler, Bill Mahar, Margaret Clifford, Margaret Fuller and Ronald K. Graham.

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.

Baptism: We welcome Ivy Rose Haase, daughter of Ashley and Rachel 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.*

Thank You: We thank the Pootilla Cemetery Trust and the Gordon Cemetery Trust for their assistance in the management of our local cemeteries. Although inclement weather necessitated the celebrating of the Pootilla Cemetery mass at St Michael's, Bungaree, the Gordon Cemetery mass was able to proceed as planned. The parishioners of Bungaree and Gordon are extremely grateful to the men and women who volunteer to maintain the cemetery grounds and very appreciative of the work required to ensure the cemeteries looked so well during November.

Thank You: Margaret and the Crough family sincerely thank the parishioners of Bungaree and Gordon for their assistance and support during Leo's illness and following his passing last October.

Accepting Orders: Order Forms for the 2023 Columban Art Calendar have been placed in the churches. Please list your name if you wish to purchase next year's Columban Art Calendar. Cost: \$10. Alternatively, contact the Parish Secretary at bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au or gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ring 0492 903 409.

RCIA for Children: We are inviting expressions of interest from parents who seek baptism for their children who are 7 years and older who have not yet been baptised. *Expression of Interest Forms* have been placed in the churches or ring the Parish Office (mobile: 0492903409).

Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal: Aussie families are struggling to survive the increasing cost-of-living pressures this Christmas. Your generosity can provide urgent relief for a family who's doing it tough this Christmas and give them hope for a better future. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal>

2023 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Expressions of interest are invited to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, June 11th - 24th 2023 - Jordan, Petra, Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Mt of Olives, Jericho, Qumran. Fully escorted, all-inclusive pilgrimage accompanied by Fr Justin Driscoll and arranged through Lifestyle Travel in Ballarat. Contact Fr Justin for further information (Daylesford 0448 220 685) or info@lifestyletravel.com.au

Anointing Masses (Parish of Bungaree)

St Michael's Church, Bungaree at 9.30am Thursday, December 15

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 - Christmas Eve Masses (Saturday December 24th)

6pm St Peter's Clarks Hill 8pm St Michael's Bungaree - Christmas Eve
9am St Brendan's Dunnstown Christmas Day

Parishes of Daylesford and Creswick

8.30pm Daylesford Christmas Eve and 9.00am Creswick Christmas Day

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

11 DECEMBER 2022

ARE YOU THE ONE?

One can only begin to imagine the excitement, questioning and discussion that must have accompanied the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Reports were flying thick and fast about the carpenter-turned-preacher from Nazareth, whose preaching was accompanied by miraculous healings, and disconcerting sayings. Was it true that Isaiah's prophecy about the eyes of the blind being opened, and the deaf once again being able to hear was being fulfilled?

John the Baptist had spoken with courage about the messiah that was coming and this led to his imprisonment. He had preached that the coming messiah would be a figure of purification and judgement upon Israel. Could it be that Jesus was the promised one? John could not reconcile Jesus' message and ministry with the message for which he had risked his life. Jesus' response to John's question is simple – you must make your judgement based on what you see. If Isaiah's prophecy is being fulfilled, then there is no need to look any further.

A challenge for James' community was that they recognised Jesus was indeed the saviour, but how were they to manage until his return at the end of time? Their impatience for the Lord's return was leading them into the trap of being fractious with each other. James provides both them and us with the timely reminder that patience with the Lord and each other is a better way to prepare to greet the Lord on his return.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy in their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

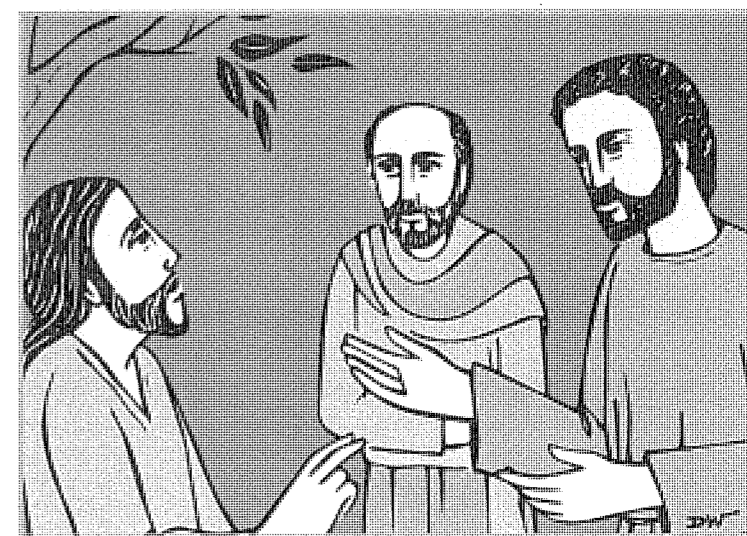
■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145:6-10. R. cf. Isa 35:4

R. Lord, come and save us. (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,
who sets prisoners free. R.

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /
who raises up those who are bowed down, /
the Lord, who protects the stranger / and
upholds the widow and orphan. R.



3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but
thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to
age. R.

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the
Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming.
Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for
the precious fruit of the ground until it has had
the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too
have to be patient; do not lose heart, because
the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make
complaints against one another, brothers, so as
not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the
Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates.
For your example, brothers, in submitting with
patience, take the prophets who spoke in the
name of the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!**