

The Nativity of the Lord (Year A): ~ 24/25 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: \$434.95	Parish: \$436.00
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Christmas Dues: \$20.00

Thank You: We thank all parishioners for their generous donations.

Welcome: We welcome Fr Ed Moloney who will celebrate the vigil mass at St Patrick's Church, Gordon this Christmas Eve.

Parish End of Year Celebration: Many parishioners from the Ballan, Gordon and Springbank Church communities gathered at Donegan's farm for the Parish annual end of year celebration. Parishioners from the Bungaree Parish were also welcomed. The Parish Leadership Team used the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Lin Bowers, Beth Calleja and Marie Shanahan who have each concluded significant ministries in the Parish. Prior to moving out of the parish, Lin served the St Brigid's community in Ballan as well the Parish in a variety of ministries including being

one of the Parish Coordinators. Beth Calleja has served the Gordon community as sacristan for many years as well as assisting with the liturgy in so many ways at Sunday Masses, Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings. Marie Shanahan has served on the Parish Leadership Team as one of the two Ballan delegates for many years and previously on the Parish Finance Committee. Thank you Lin, Beth and Marie.

Parish Schools end of Year Masses: St Brigid's and St Patrick's School communities celebrated their end of year Masses and Year 6 graduations in the Ballan and Gordon Churches during this past week. We pray for the graduating Year 6 students of our schools and thank our Principals Jayne Bosworth and Paul McDowell, the Religious Education Leaders Therese Winter and Libby McKew and each of the members of the staff of our two parish schools for their service to our schools in 2022.

2023 Columban Art Calendar: Cost: \$10. Calendars will be available in the New Year.



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: \$843.00	Parish: \$375.00
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Thank You: Your donations are sincerely appreciated.

Parish Schools end of Year Masses: St Mary's Clarkes Hill and St Brendan's Dunnstown schools celebrated both Graduations and End of Year Thanksgiving masses last week. The staff did a fabulous job of having the children well prepared and everything organised so that all went smoothly. This year we farewell Stella and Liam at St Mary's and Kade, Sienna and Bonnie from St Brendan's. The graduation of Sienna Cahir and Kade McKay from St Brendan's signifies the end of an era for both the Cahir and McKay families, but more significantly the end of an era for

86-year-old Nellie Leonard. Her connection comprises 16 years as mother, 20 years as a grandmother and 13 years as a great grandmother.

We are all so proud of our Year 6's as they come to the end of their primary school years. Our school communities wish them all well as they continue their life journey at their respective schools, and we know that they will go on to achieve great things in their lives.

2023 Columban Art Calendar: Cost: \$10. Calendars will be available in the New Year.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEDKDAY MASSES
24 December 2022 Christmas Eve	The Nativity of the Lord Isa 9: 1-7; Titus 2: 11-14		
Ballan – 5.30pm	Rosemary Canavan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Clarkes Hill – 6pm	Powell Family		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 6.30pm	Kerryn Taylor, Therese Winter		Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of every month
Springbank – 7 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree – 8pm	Damien Ryan		Saturday-Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
25 December 2022 Christmas Day	The Nativity of the Lord Isa 52; 7-10; Heb 1: 1-6		
Dunnstown – 9am	Liz Hanrahan		
31 December/1 January 2023	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Num 6: 22-27; Gal 4: 4-7		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		
Ballan – 10.30 am	Bert Jarvis		
7/8 January 2023	The Epiphany of the Lord Isa 60:1-6; Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Winnie Zammit		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree

LITURGIES /WEEKLY 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
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 6.30pm ~ Creswick 6.30pm - 1st Sunday ~ Daylesford 6.30pm - 3rd Sunday Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday; Daylesford 10.30 am – 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday					

Adoration of the Shepherds (1622) by Gerard van Honthorst depicts the nativity of Jesus. Public Domain



Recent deaths: John Britt, Margaret Price

Anniversaries: Lorraine Elliott, Fr. Stephen O'Rourke, Annie (Snow) Prendergast, Roy Tynan, Shelia Gregory, Shelia Gregory, Kathleen Hall and Marie Graham

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

Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for December: For volunteer not-for-profit organisations: *We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development, find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.*

Bishop Paul Bird's Christmas Message: Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 'Showing Kindness' has been published in the Ballarat e-News, Edition 118 - December 19, 2022. Go to: <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>
Printed copies of his message have also been placed in all the churches.

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).

Bishop's Appeal (Christmas Appeal): The Christmas Appeal will be held this weekend. This 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. The Parish of Gordon's contribution last year was \$575.30.

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

Helping those affected by floods: St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions: Call 13 18 12 or visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>. Make a monetary donation through 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.