

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 18/19 February 2023

Our parishes follow the Child Safe Standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

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, Brendan Maher, Nola Kersley, Mark Conlan
 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

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

Collections last week

Presbytery: \$512.70	Parish: \$282.00
----------------------	------------------

Ash Wednesday Masses – February 22:

- 9.15am St Brigid's Ballan
- 10.30am St Patrick's Gordon
- 6.30pm St Michael's Springbank

No Mass at Ballan this Thursday.

Lenten Biblical formation with Rosemary Canavan

Thursdays after 10.30am Mass in Ballan on March 2nd, 16th, 23rd and 30th. Participants will have the opportunity

to explore with Rosemary for the Gospel used at Masses on the following Sunday. All are welcome.

News from the Parish Primary Schools: Both schools have welcomed new students and staff with 97 students enrolled at St Brigid's and 75 enrolled at St Patrick's. The opening school Mass was celebrated at Ballan on Friday with the Gordon opening Mass to be celebrated on Tuesday February 28th at 10.00am.

World Day of Prayer: The service, prepared by the women of Taiwan, will be held on Friday, March 3rd at 10 am at St John Anglican Church Simpson Street, Ballan. Morning Tea to follow.

Our parishes acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

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 St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown	Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280 Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604	www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au
----------------	--	--	--

Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery: \$NA	Parish: \$NA
------------------	--------------

Ash Wednesday Mass – February 22:

Mass will be celebrated at St Michael's Church Bungaree on Wednesday at 11 am (not at 9.30 am).

School Mass – February 22: St Mary's Primary School and St Brendan's Primary School will celebrate the Beginning of the Year School Mass at St Brendan's Church, Dunnstown on Ash Wednesday at 9.15 am.

School Enrolments: Enrolments are now open at St. Brendan's, Dunnstown and St. Mary's, Clarkes Hill. Please contact the schools for a personalised tour or attend our opening mornings.

St. Brendan's Primary School-Monday the 27th of February from 9am- 1pm

St. Mary's Primary School-Thursday the 2nd of March from 9 am - 1pm.

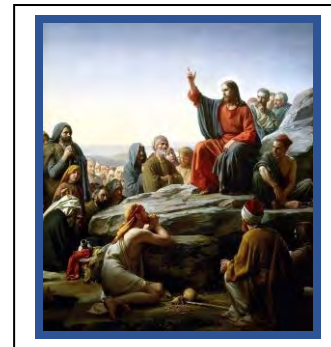
All are welcome!

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
18/19 February 2023	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lev 19:1-2; 1 Cor 3: 16-23		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Jane Bosworth	Jim Leahy & Julie Dargan	Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
25/26 February 2023	1st Sunday of Lent Gen 2:7-9, 3: 1-7; Rom 5:12, 17-19		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Julie Moran		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 6.30 pm (new time)	Margaret Green	Ciaran, Janine & Connor Donohoe	Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		
4/5 March 2023	2nd Sunday of Lent Gen 12: 1-4; 2 Tim 1: 8-10		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 10.30 am	Marie Shanahan	Lorraine DeSpirt & Vikki Boka	Holy Hour – 1 st Thursday of every month

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 / Ballan	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	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
 Sermon on the Mount by Carl Bloch <https://freechristimages.com/bible-stories/sermon-on-the-mount.html>



Recent deaths: Sandy Price

Anniversaries: Kathleen Rix, Betty Martin, Don Murphy, Frank Britt, Tim Fletcher, Edna Carson, Catherine Parkin, Eileen White, Sr. Anne Forbes, Carnema and Carmnu Brincat, Martin Molloy, Chris Maher, Veronica Bryce, Fay Daly, Laurie Wheelahan, Eily Mullane, Richard Butler, Catherine Donegan.

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.

Baptisms: We pray for Lily and Ruby Quirk, daughters of Michael and Leanne, who will be baptised during the Vigil Mass at St Brendan's Church, Dunnstown; and Logan and Jasmine Micallef, children of Kyle and Sarah, and Arthur Murphy, son of James and Charlee, who will be baptised at St Patrick's Church Gordon this Sunday. We welcome them into our faith communities. *Lord God, strengthen your spirit in them, so that they may walk in the newness of life.*

Project Compassion Sunday – February 19, 2023: Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. As St Pope John Paul II said, **“The future starts today, not tomorrow.”** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.** Donation boxes and envelopes available from all churches, call 1800 024 413 or visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion>



Bungaree Sacramental Program: If you wish your child to be part of the Bungaree Parish Sacramental program this year, please ring or email St. Mary', Clarks Hill by Friday the 17th of March and leave your phone number, child's name, age and let us know which sacrament/s they will be preparing for and receiving this year. Alternatively, ring the Parish Office on 0492 903 409 or email Aileen at: bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au and leave your details with her.

Reconciliation is offered for Year 2 children and older and children from Year 3 upwards are invited to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Once we have the numbers and set dates, we will be in contact.
 email - principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au. Ph 53345280

Rite of Election 2023: Saturday, February 25 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

Gordon Parish Leadership Team meeting, Gathering Space, February 8th, 2023

The first meeting of the team was held on Wednesday evening with a welcome to new members Mark Conlan and Nola Kersley who are both delegates from Ballan. The executive for 2023 was confirmed with Sue Daly as chair and Joan Bourke as minute secretary.

Mark Bromley from the Diocesan Finance Office attended the meeting to present the current parish buildings insurance schedule for the three Churches (Ballan, Gordon and Springbank), the two former Convents (Gordon and Springbank) and the former school (Springbank). With increases of 20% it is expected that the 2023/34 insurance cost to the Parish will be \$19,500.

Key dates for the 2023 parish calendar were presented including school Masses, Ash Wednesday, Lenten Biblical formation, Holy Week and Easter and the Sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, Confirmation and first Eucharist. A celebration for St Patrick's Day (Friday March 17th) is also being proposed.

The sacramental statistics from the Gordon Parish for 2022 was presented with 30 baptisms celebrated, 17 Confirmations, 16 First Communions, 1 Wedding and 13 Funerals.

The revised and updated terms of reference for the Leadership team were presented and ratified.

Safeguarding (a standing agenda item) requirements were discussed for team members all required to have a current Police Check, Working With Children Check, Signed the Acknowledgement of the Parish Code of Conduct for Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults and completion of the Safetrac online Safeguarding module.

Financial Statements for the Parish and Presbytery accounts for the October – December 2022 quarter were presented and received,

Ongoing maintenance issues – gutters at the Springbank Church, Gordon toilets, Ballan Church side doors as well as the replacement of the data projector in the Ballan Church.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.*Love your enemies.*

Jesus said to his disciples; ‘You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2023. No 1971. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

**Breaking Open
the Word****THE SAVING WORD**

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 FEBRUARY 2023

INCLUSIVE LOVE

How should we deal with the hurts that we receive? Should we respond by retaliating? Is there any future in the way of peace and forgiveness? These questions are as pressing today as they were in the ancient world. The people of Israel based their behaviour on the nature of the living God. As God is holy, so Israel was to express its holiness by forbearance and forgiveness among its members. Members of the people of Israel were called to love one another and forego the duty of vengeance when it came to other covenant members.

Jesus took this even further and extended it beyond Israel into our relationship with all people. Now even enemies are to be treated as brothers and sisters. Jesus knew that it is by forgiving that we can share in the nature of the living God and so become complete. It is by our preparedness to forgive that we share in the even-handed perfection of God whose love is poured out for all, deserving or not.

Perhaps Paul was mindful of Jesus' words that a house divided against itself cannot stand (cf. Mark 3:25) when he reminded the Corinthians that they were the Temple of God. Since each member shared in the gift of the Spirit there was no place for division or competition. Paul, Apollos and Cephas were united in their ministry as servants of the Gospel. If they were united, why was the community divided? It was now time to turn the other cheek and live in unity and peace.

Christopher Monaghan CP**FIRST READING**

Lev 19:1-2, 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: ‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: “Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.”

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESP PSALM**

Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**
3. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. / As a father has compassion on his sons, / the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

1 Cor 3:16-23

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to
the Corinthians*All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and
Christ belongs to God.*

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

■ **The word of the Lord.**