

3rd Sunday of Easter (Year A): 22/23 April 2023

We are child safe
Parishes, committed to
safeguarding children,
young people &
vulnerable adults.

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 (Wednesday/Thursday 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
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Collections last week

Presbytery: \$351.30	Parish: \$500.00
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Easter Dues: \$250.00 **Caritas:** \$165.15

Thank You: We sincerely thank all who parishioners who give so generously to these collections.

Welcome: We welcome Fr Wally Tudor to the Parish of Gordon. Fr Wally will be celebrating mass at 8.45 am at St Patrick's Church, Gordon.

No mass at Ballan: No mass this Thursday; the prayer session will proceed at 10.30am.

St Brigid's Ballan monthly Vigil Mass: Following the indication of preferences by parishioners at Ballan, the

monthly Saturday Vigil Mass (4th Sunday of the month) will be celebrated at 6.00pm throughout the coming months commencing next week, **6.00pm** on Saturday April 22nd.

Preparing to Celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Parish of Gordon invites parents of children in Year 3 upwards to enrol their children in the Parish sacrament program to prepare their children to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. Being a parish coordinated program, family based and supported by our two parish primary schools, the program is open to all, regardless of the school they attend. The **parent information evening** to commence this program will be held at St Brigid's Ballan on Wednesday April 26th at 7.00pm.

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 (Tuesday 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
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Collections last week:

Presbytery: \$NA	Parish: \$NA
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Welcome: We welcome Fr Kevin Maloney to the Parish of Bungaree. Fr Kevin will celebrate the vigil mass at St Peter's Church, Clarkes Hill at 6.30 pm.

Fr Sajan – On Leave: Fr Sajan has returned to India for one month. We wish him an enjoyable holiday with his family and friends and look forward to hearing of his reflections on Indian society after four years away. While Fr Sajan is

on leave, our regular weekend masses will be celebrated by supply priests.

Please note: No weekday masses will be held at St Michael's Church Bungaree while Fr Sajan is on leave.

Special Meeting: St Brendan's School, Dunnstown on 26 April at 7pm. Agenda: *Current and Future Challenges Facing the Parish of Bungaree*. All parishioners are invited to attend.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
22/23 April 2023	Third Sunday of Easter Acts 2: 14, 22-33; 1 Pet 1: 17-21		
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Con Powell	Joan Powell	Tuesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 6.00 pm (new time)	Tania Hoffman	Jim Leahy & Julie Dargan	Wednesday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Thursday – 9.30am Bungaree
29/30 April 2023	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2: 14, 36-41; 1 Pet 2:20-25		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Mark Conlan	Ciaran, Janine & Connor O'Donohue	
6/7 April 2023	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pet 2: 2-9		
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	Jane Bosworth	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 6pm* 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Ballan* Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am	Gordon	Bungaree	Gordon	Gordon	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan		Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 5 pm ~ 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					



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Recent deaths: Fr Bob Maguire

Anniversaries: Laurie Flynn, Brenda Jones, Claire Hanrahan, Shelia Fay, Barry McNamara, Mary Duffy, Gerard Toohey, Alice McTigue, Kathleen (Kath) Toohey and Frank Calleja.

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, John Healy and Elaine Conlan.

Our Diocesan Community – Issue 1 2023: The first edition of ODC 2023 has been published. Feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

Holy Land Collection – Good Friday Appeal: The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land was \$598.60. We thank the parishioners of Gordon and Bungaree, parishioners from neighbouring parishes and visitors to St Brigid's Ballan and St Michael's Springbank who attended the Stations of the Cross and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion for their contributions.

“Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing.” Pastoral Formation Day Saturday, April 29th 9.30am – 5.00pm at the Glowrey room, St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. What do Catholics believe about Sacraments of Healing? How do Catholics celebrate reconciliation and forgiveness? What is Viaticum and how is Communion ministered to the sick? These questions and more will be investigated by the ACU Centre for Liturgy team. Cost is \$20.00 and registration (including lunch) is essential. Contact 02 9701 4751. All welcome!



Thank You from Caritas Australia:

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or calling 1800 024413

Engaging Your Faith online series: A series of short, online presentations on a variety of topics including Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Christian Meditation, Theology, Interfaith Relations, Future Technology, and Science and Religion. Cost is \$25.00 per session More information available at <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

New report reveals makeup of Australian Catholic population:

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census. Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486>

Olive Tree Media: Faith Runs Deep event: The Unearthed event is organised by the team from Olive Tree Media who are collaborating with numerous churches from the region of Ballarat to host a free event which will help uncover stories of faith in the Australian context. Media presenter Karl Faase and country music star Colin Buchanan will appear at this event and there will be an interview with artist Bindi Cole Chocka who is featured in the series, sharing part of her journey of life and faith. The Unearthed event will be on Thursday, May 4th at 7.00pm at the Ballarat Civic Hall. For info/book your free ticket go to www.olivetreemedia.com.au/unearthedballarat/ or email churches@olivetreemedia.com.au

‘Pondering Grief’ (in-person event), Saturday 20 May 2023, 10 am – 3.30 pm

This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Facilitated by Linda Espie, a counsellor of loss, grief and bereavement for over 35 years. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost: \$80 including ‘Pondering Grief’ book (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone: 9890 1101.

something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

23 APRIL 2023

CHRIST'S FULFILMENT OF GOD'S PLAN

In order to piece a jigsaw together, a great deal of patience is required, as well as the skill of being able to work out the relationship of one piece to the pieces around it. Slowly, large patterns begin to take shape, and so it was with the early Church. In the light of the experience of the Risen Lord, and the catalyst provided by the gift of the Spirit, the first generation of Christians was able to place the life, death and resurrection of Jesus into their proper context. The gift of the Spirit enabled Peter to see that all that had taken place in the life of Jesus was part of a larger plan, and took place with God's foreknowledge. Even Jesus' death was but a preliminary step towards his exaltation and ability to pour out the gift of the Spirit on those who believe.

In a similar vein, Peter saw that promises made before the world began were now fulfilled in Jesus. While the end of days was seen to have already begun, the final pieces of the jigsaw had yet to be put in place. In the meantime, the community was called to remember with gratitude the price Jesus had paid for our freedom, and to live appropriately till the Lord's return.

For the disciples on the road to Emmaus, it was not an easy matter to see how the pieces of the puzzle of Jesus' life fitted together. As they journeyed, they were helped by the Risen Lord to finally understand the message contained in the Scriptures and to recognise him with them in the breaking of the bread.

Christopher Monaghan CP

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FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, / for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. / So my heart was glad / and my tongue cried out with joy: / my body, too, will rest in the hope / that you will not abandon my soul to Hades / nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. / You have made known the way of life to me, / you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v. 11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. (or Alleluia!)

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. / I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.' / O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. **R.**

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, / who even at night directs my heart. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

4. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia! / Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: / make our hearts burn with love when you speak. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. *They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but