

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A): 4/5 November 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; Out-of-hours: 0448 220 685
Leadership Team: Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke &
Shane Carey (Gordon), Nola Kersley & Mark Conlan (Ballan)

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey
Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Wed/Thurs 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.sballan.catholic.edu.au
www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au

Collections last week

Presbytery	\$560.45	Parish:	\$175.00
Financial Year to Date: Parish: \$11520.9			

Welcome to Bishop Paul and members of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and parishioners from our neighbouring parishes for the liturgy workshop following 10.30am Mass at Ballan this Sunday. Over 30 registrations have been received with many Ballan parishioners and also parishioners from Bungaree, Creswick, Daylesford and Wendouree parishes as well as Gordon.

Ballan Mid-Week Mass: Thursday November 9th 10.30 am

Gordon Cemetery Mass – Sunday, November 19th at 11 am

Parish Leadership Team meeting

The Team will meet on Wednesday November 8th at 7.30pm in the gathering area at St Brigid's Ballan. Two members of the Diocesan Planning Panel will attend this meeting. Throughout November, members of the panel are attending meetings of all parish leadership teams of the parishes in the central zone of the Ballarat Diocese to present proposals for the ministry districts (groupings of multiple parishes). The retirement at Easter 2024 of Fr Eugene McKinnon from Redan/Sebastopol/Linton parishes and the transfer of Fr Jorge from Ballarat to Western Australia are the catalyst for these proposals.



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
Leadership Team: Damien Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown) Dom Prendergast & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill). Ex-Officio Member: 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

Collections last fortnight:

Presbytery:	\$NA	Parish:	\$NA
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The 'Book of the Names of the Dead': If you wish to include the names of parishioners who have recently died, Fr Sajan will be bringing the 'Book of the Names of the Dead' to all Saturday/Sunday masses held during November, including the cemetery mass as Pootilla. If you wish to update the death anniversaries listed in the Combined Newsletter, please email the Parish Secretary at: bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au/

Pootilla Cemetery Mass Sunday November 12th at 9.30 am

Celebrating the End of an Era – Saturday, 25th November
at St Brendan's School, Dunnstown from 2 pm onwards. Fun activities and games, afternoon tea followed by official proceedings. Carvery dinner (\$10 adults, \$5 children) starts 6 pm, RSVP St Brendan's 5334 7604 by November 11th

Visit of Pastoral Planning Panel:

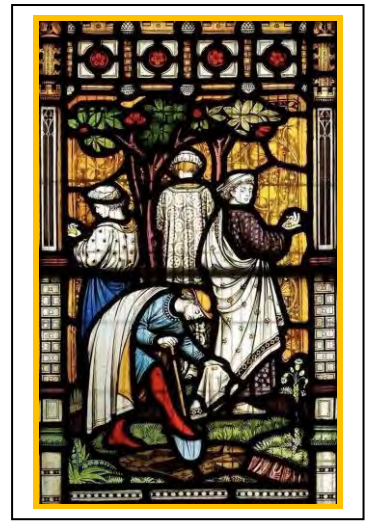
Members of the Pastoral Planning Panel will meet with the Bungaree Parish Leadership Team on Thursday, November 16th at 7.00 pm at the Bungaree Presbytery to discuss forthcoming pastoral matters.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
4/5 November 2023	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mal 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10; 1 Thess 2: 7-9, 13		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dianne Reynolds		Tuesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Gordon – 9 am* (new time)	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Jayne Bosworth	Lorraine DeSpirt & Vikki Boka	Thursday – 9.30 am Bungaree
11/12 November 2023	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Wis 6: 12-16; 1 Thess 4: 13-18		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Pootilla Cemetery – 9.30 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Margaret Green	Eddie and Mary Cassar	
18/19 November 2023	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thess 5: 1-6		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Gordon Cemetery – 11 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan – 9am (this week only)	Marie Shanahan	Bridget Sims Family	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, 9am *	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					

The parable of the Talents. Stained glass by Clayton & Bell, London for St Edith's Church, Bishop Wilton, England. © St Edith's Church, Bishop Wilton. <https://christian.art/daily-gospel-reading/matthew-25-14-30-2023/>



Recent Deaths: Mary Cullinan (formerly Evansford)

Anniversaries: Allan Dixon, Noel Torpy, Ronnie Spratling, Hughie O'Halloran, Mollie Maher, William Kennedy, Lucy O'Donohue, Basil Britt, Richard Keating, Catherine Hayward-Brown, Mons. Henry Nolan, Mary Donegan, Jack Molloy, John Ronan, Bart Fuller, Paul Wheelahan.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, Chaiel Balcombe Jackson, John Healy, Elaine Conlan.

Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for November – For the Pope: *We pray for the Holy Father. As he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit. Lord, hear us.*

Night of the Witnesses – Save the date!

Aid to the Church in Need invites you to an evening of prayer, testimony, song, adoration and reflection to honour the witness of twelve recent Christian martyrs and to stand in solidarity with Christians all over the world. On Wednesday, November 22nd at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, Archbishop Peter Comensoli will preside and His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph Absi of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church will be one of the guest speakers who will share personal testimony of persecution for the faith. For more information call 1800 101 201 or visit www.aidtochurch.org/notw/

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

Over 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health and psychosocial needs.



"This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict." Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia. With your support, there will be aid to help partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please

donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal - scan or click the QR code.

Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship 2024/2025

The Australian Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry invites applications for a fellowship from young Catholic women who are committed to their faith and who feel called to explore leadership opportunities in their chosen fields and within the Church. The fellowship welcomes those volunteering or working in Catholic ministries or roles, and those working in secular settings fulfilling their mission in the world. Fellowship participants should be open and willing to explore the diversity of the universal church and desire to identify and step into new mission fields. Applications close Thursday, November 16, 2023. For more information scan or click the QR code.



ACU Public Lectures

In the lead-up to the 60th anniversary of *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II, 4 Dec 1963), the ACU Centre for Liturgy is proud to present the following distinguished speakers:

Professor Teresa Berger (Yale University Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School) will deliver a public lecture live **via zoom** on Monday, November 6th, 10.00am on "Liturgy's Imagined Futures: Beyond Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy."

Rev Professor John F Baldovin SJ (Boston College) who will deliver/live-stream a free public lecture on ACU's Melbourne Campus on Sunday, December 3rd from 5.00pm - 6.30pm AEDT on the topic of "A Liturgical Reform in Peril? *Sacrosanctum Concilium* sixty years on." For more information and to register, scan or click the QR code.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

They do not practise what they preach.

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

5 NOVEMBER 2023

CALLED TO SERVE

Leadership has always been a risky business. With leadership comes prestige and the esteem of others and yet these can be dangerous and murky waters. Those involved in leadership often experience being caught in the tension between the respective privileges and responsibilities that accompany their position. Today's readings converge in their concern to reflect on the nature of authority and how it should be exercised.

At the time Malachi wrote, the people of Israel were in dire need of religious reform and the priests were called to account for their role in creating that situation. If the charge could be laid at the feet of the priests in Malachi's time that they did not care for the people, the same could not be said for Paul. While Paul was called to be an apostle, he was also most concerned to offer the gospel without charge. In the ancient world wandering teachers were usually sponsored financially. Paul avoided such ambiguous relationships by not accepting any help from a community till he had established it and was ready to move on to another.

When Jesus sets out to address the disciples and the people about the scribes and Pharisees it probably sounded fairly safe. Anyone can be comfortable when another person is being subjected to scrutiny and criticism! But the second half of the Gospel suddenly changes direction and disciples in every age are given some guiding principles. Firstly, leadership comes from God, secondly, we belong to one family and thirdly, leadership means service.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Mal 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 130

R. In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

- O Lord, my heart is not proud nor haughty my eyes. I have not gone after things too great nor marvels beyond me. **R.**
- Truly I have set my soul in silence and peace. A weaned child on its mother's breast, even so is my soul. **R.**
- O Israel, hope in the Lord both now and for ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 2: 7-9, 13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 23: 9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia! / You have one Father, your Father in heaven; / you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ. / Alleluia!