

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B): 10/11 February 2024

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 from last week

Presbytery	\$352.25	Parish:	\$425.00
Financial Yr to Date: \$26457.30			

Thank You:

We thank all parishioners for their contributions to our Planned Giving Program and for their generosity through the church collection for their support of the clergy.

Mid-Week Mass - Ballan:

Next Wednesday, February 14th is **Ash Wednesday**. Mass will be held at St Brigid's at 9.15 am. There will no mass this Thursday, February 15th. (Timetable of Ash Wednesday masses in the parishes of Bungaree and Gordon printed on next page).

Lenten Gospel Reflection

Once again Rosemary Canavan has generously offered to facilitate Lenten reflection on the Gospels for the Sundays of Lent - Thursdays February 22nd, 29th and March 7th, 14th and 21st in the gathering area of St Brigid's Church Ballan, following the 10.30am Mass each Thursday.

Sacramental Program 2024

Reconciliation

Parent Information Session: February 21st @ 7pm at St Brigid's Primary School.

Celebration of the Sacrament: March 19th @ 5.30pm at St Brigid's Church, Ballan.



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

Principal: Clare Scanlan ☎ 5334 5280

www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au

Collections to 17 January 2024:

Presbytery:	\$NA	Parish:	\$NA
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Thank You: We thank everyone who turned up last Saturday morning for the working bee at the former Bungaree School. We particularly thank Dom who organized the pick-up truck. Amazing job. Well done.

Ash Wednesday – February 14th:

Masses will be held at St Brendan's Dunnstown at 9.30am and St Michael's Bungaree at 10.30 am. (Timetable of Ash

Wednesday masses in the parishes of Bungaree and Gordon printed on next page).

Alert-Emails sent from Parish of Bungaree email address:

Please monitor all emails sent from the Parish of Bungaree email - bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au as they may be spams and be alert to any request to open attachments and/or files or click on links.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
10/11 February 2024	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Deut 18: 15-20; 1 Cor 7: 32-35		
Springbank – 6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Bungaree – 8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday – 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Rosemary Canavan	Tony & Edith Paarhammer	Thursday – 9.30 am Bungaree
17/18 February 2024	First Sunday of Lent Gen 9: 8-15, 1 Pet 3: 18-22		
Dunnstown – 6.30 pm	Dorothy Sheehan		Friday – 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon – 9 am	To be Advised		Saturday – 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan – 10.30 am	Lloyd Lamb	Mark & Sue Conlan	
24/25 February 2024	Second Sunday of Lent Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Rom 8: 31-34		
Ballan – 6.00 pm	Tania Hoffman	Rosemary & Michael Canavan	Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Clarkes Hill – 6.30 pm	Con Powell	Marty Forbes	Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Gordon – 9 am	To be Advised		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					



Anniversaries: Fr James Ryan, Terry O’Keefe, Peter Bretherton, Frank Leonard, Patrick Mahar, Kathleen Ryan, Patricia (Trish) Ford, Kevin Johnson, James Robert Baynes, Eileen Haintz, Thomas Joseph Mullane, Reg Hayes and John Trounce.

We offer our prayers for the sick: Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, John Healy, Elaine Conlan, Lorraine Tipple and Karem Chiparra.

World Day of the Sick: Sunday, February 11: In his message to mark the 32nd World Day of the Sick on February 11, Pope Francis reflected on the way serious illness could cause vulnerability, uncertainty and insecurity. For resources and to read Pope Francis’ message, go to the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Ash Wednesday Masses, February 14th

9.15am	Ballan
9.30am	Dunnstown
10.30am	Gordon
	Bungaree
12 Noon	Daylesford
6.00pm	Springbank
	Creswick

Mass to Launch Project Compassion 2024

Mass to launch Project Compassion 2024 will be held on Sunday, February 11 at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Ballarat at 5.00pm. Bishop Paul Bird CSSR will be the Main Celebrant and will commission Student Leaders as Ambassadors for Caritas 2024. All welcome to attend.

Lent fundraising: Caritas Australia, the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Australia, launch Project Compassion 2024. As many of you know, Caritas works with people living in the most vulnerable situations around the world and helps those living in poverty regardless of their ethnicity, religion or political beliefs. Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. During the six weeks of Project Compassion, millions of Australians unite to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. This year, Caritas Australia celebrates 60 years of service. To donate or for resources, scan or click on the QR code.



Living in Harmony - 2024 Lenten Program:

To order your copy the Lenten Program *Living in Harmony* (\$10 each) please contact Aileen in the Parish Office.

Rite of Election 2024: The Rite of Election will be held on Saturday, February 17 at 12.30pm at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall. The Rite is an opportunity for adult catechumens and candidates to meet the Bishop prior to being baptised/received into the Church at Easter.

Gordon Parish Leadership Team – Update:

At its first meeting for 2024 the team met on Wednesday February 7th. Continuing Parish delegates are Mark Conlan (Ballan), Joan Bourke and Shane Carey (Gordon), Sue Daly and Brendan Maher (Springbank) as well as the ex-officio members Jayne Bosworth (Principal St Brigid's), Paul McDowell (Principal St Patrick's) and Fr Justin (Parish Priest). The resignation of Nola Kersley (Ballan) as a member of the team was received. Expressions of interest from members of the Ballan faith community to replace Nola as one of the two Ballan delegates now being sought. Members meet on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month, 10 times each year. Please contact Mark Conlan if you're interested in being a nominee of the St Brigid’s community on the Leadership team.

Sue Daly continues as the Chair of the team with Mark Conlan as deputy chair and Joan Bourke as secretary. Reports from the two Parish Schools were tabled, noting the 2024 enrolments of 68 students at Gordon and 111 at Ballan. Prayer for the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat was included as well as the events for the anniversary tabled, including the visit of Bishop Paul to the Bungaree and Gordon parishes on the weekend of August 30th - September. The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in the Cathedral on the Monday of Holy Week (March 25th) at 11.30am with lunch and an exhibition of memorabilia on display. Each parish is invited to bring a symbol/photo of their parish to be included in the entrance procession at the Mass of the Oils. A photo display of the stained-glass windows in the Chapel of the former Gordon Convent that tell the story of our origins of faith, Catholic education, Josephites Sisters... will be arranged. With March 17th on a Sunday this year (the same day as the Ballan Autumn Festival), the Gordon and Ballan Mass times will be reversed with Ballan at 9.00am and Gordon Mass at 10.30am which will be followed by lunch to celebrate St Patrick's Day (more details to follow). St Patrick’s School in Gordon will celebrate the feast with 10.00am Mass on Monday March 18th.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 FEBRUARY 2024

BE AS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want to you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gut-wrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus?

Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,/ whose sin is remitted./ O happy the man to whom the Lord/ imputes no guilt,/ in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins;/ my guilt I did not hide./ I said: 'I will confess/ my offence to the Lord.'/ And you, Lord, have forgiven/ the guilt of my sin. **R.**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,/ exult, you just!/ O come, ring out your joy,/ all you upright of heart. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

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

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!