

**Liturgy Rosters:**  
Many thanks for the wonderful works you do!

**This weekend: 1st January**  
**Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm**

Leader: H. Webb  
Reader: D. Baudinette  
Ministers: F. Mizzi, M. Lambert  
Gifts: D. Baudinette, G. Priestley  
Welcome: D. Baudinette

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Leader: J. Sandeman  
Reader: K. Arnott  
Ministers: A. McIntyre, V. Bailey,  
B. McGennissen  
Gifts: C. Boyadjian  
Welcome: L. Goebel

**Next weekend: 8th January**  
**Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm**

Leader: L. Cooper  
Reader: C. Leonard  
Ministers: A. Burns, D. Kierce  
Gifts: C. Leonard, K. Carr  
Welcome: F. Mizzi

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Leader: K. Loftus  
Reader: M. Kearney  
Ministers: M. McGennissen, K. Howman,  
A. Loving  
Gifts: J & A Milani  
Welcome: B & M McGennissen

**Church Linen: 06/01 J Hall**

**Church Cleaning:**

01/01 The Arnott Family  
08/01 M. Lambert, J. Burns

**Heywood: 01/01 Jenny, 15/01 Kaye**

**Dartmoor: Cleaning: K. Bull**  
**Flowers: K. O'Dea**  
**Mowing: L. Bull**

**Prayer After Communion:**  
**(For Minsters to the Home-bound)**

**God my creator breathe on me again, renew me, refresh me, extend my abilities, comfort me in adjusting to changes in health, mobility and activity.**

**Body and Blood of Jesus Christ flow through every fibre of my being.**

**Keep me well, and hope filled always.**

**Holy Spirit use me in my situation, for the good of others. Amen.**



**Collections - Thank You**

**Planned Giving: \$ 460.00**  
**Christmas Appeal \$ 707.20**  
**Presbytery: \$ 992.15**

If you would like to receive a weekly copy of "The Spire" by email, please send us an email and we can add you to a list of subscribers



**1st January 2017**  
**Mary Mother of God Year A**

**Weekday Services, 03/01 to 06/01**

|                   |                |                                       |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | <b>5.00pm</b>  | <b>Mass</b>                           |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | <b>5.00pm</b>  | <b>Mass</b>                           |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Mass</b>                           |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | <b>9.30am</b>  | <b>Morning Prayer &amp; Adoration</b> |
|                   | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Mass</b>                           |
|                   | <b>6.00pm</b>  | <b>Evening Prayer</b>                 |

**\*Note\* Funeral Masses will always take the place of Weekday Mass for that day.**

**Recent Deaths:**

**Anniversaries:**

Robert Crooks, George Vaglini, Zita McInerney, Chris Kelly

**Prayer Requests:**

Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Claire Jesser, Sr. Margaret Keane sjs, Anne Loschiavo (Kempton) Rita Madden, Maureen McKenzie, Stephen Sherman, John Smith. Gerard White, Frank Kenny, Lea-anne Bourke,

*If you have any prayer requests please contact Antonella at the Parish Office; for privacy reasons only Next of Kin may ask for names to be added: Thank you*

**Weekend Mass & Sacrament of Penance times.**

**PORTLAND**

Mass: Saturday 6.30 pm,  
Sunday 10:30 am

**HEYWOOD**

1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays,  
9.00am Mass  
2nd & 4th Sunday, Lay Led Assembly, 9.00am

**DARTMOOR**

2nd & 4th Sundays 8.45am Mass

Baptisms by appointment with Fr. Gregory

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday 10.30am or any Saturday 6.30pm vigil

Marriages by appointment with Fr Gregory Tait.

Sacrament of Penance By Appointment with Fr Gregory.

**"The Spire"**

**All Saints' Parish**

**Portland - Heywood - Dartmoor**

**All Saints' Parish Office**

117 Bentinck Street, Portland  
PO Box 210 Portland 3305

Phone: 5523 1046 Fax: 5521 7612  
email: portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Priest: Rev. Gregory A. D. Tait, Adm.  
email: greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Antonella Webstock  
Wednesday & Friday 9.00am till 3.00pm

*All Saints Parish is committed to Child Safety - our Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct are on display on the noticeboard Tower Entrance of the Church.*

**Psalm 66**

May God bless us in his mercy.

God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him

May God bless us in his mercy.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia  
In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and the Gospel verses, are from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Gospel Connections - Luke 2: 16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

Our Mother. Our Sister.

Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

Mary pondered all these things in her heart.

In first century Israel, the custom was for a young woman to marry as soon as she reached puberty, so we need to remember that Mary would have been around thirteen years old when Jesus was born. Throughout her life Mary, a young woman and mother, must have pondered many things as she learnt what motherhood meant in all its joys and sorrows. We know nothing of the years in Nazareth before Jesus' baptism by John. But from the glimpses of Jesus' adult life we know he must have been raised in the religion and traditions of Israel. He would have watched his mother prepare the Sabbath meals and pray her prayer of blessing over the Sabbath lights. He would have learnt from her the stories of his ancestors – Abraham, Moses, David, Ruth, Naomi and Esther. The home of Nazareth would have been his first place of schooling. Mary was not only the physical mother of Jesus, she, along with Joseph, was also the nurturer of his personal faith.

During Jesus' ministry we seldom hear of Mary's presence for the Gospel's focus on Jesus' new family of disciples. John's Gospel names her standing at the cross and Luke presents her in the midst of the disciples at Pentecost. These glimpses assure us that Mary was both mother and faithful disciple. As mother, her role was unique. As disciple she is both mother and sister to all of us. May we all, like Mary, ponder God's mysterious ways in our hearts and nurture the seeds of faith and life within.

A painting of the Annunciation by an American artist, Henry Tanner, captures for me, something of the mystery and vulnerability of Mary's life. This painting brings out Mary's humanity and awe, which I often find missing from other depictions of this young woman. (The image can be easily found on the internet.)

In the Letter to the Ephesians, Paul places the birth of Jesus within a long and evolving history. When he writes, 'When the appointed time came,' ... the suggestion is there that from the beginning of time Jesus was always part of God's plan. Paul then moves from the simple statement of Jesus' birth to what this birth means, that all people now, in and through Jesus, are drawn into his relationship with God, all can now be sons and daughters of God. For Paul, this is the meaning of the Incarnation, that in becoming human, all humanity has been incorporated into the very life of God.

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## Living the Gospel - A Peaceful New Year?

It is traditional around New Year's Day to make resolutions for the upcoming year: changes that affect the way you live; the way you treat others; setting goals to aim for and work towards. In this context, it is interesting that the Church marks this day as a World Day of Peace. Perhaps, in amongst the self promises to give up smoking, get a bit more fit, work and study harder and treat each other a little better, we might find time to consider ways in which we can bring about a more peaceful world - even just my little bit of it.

**All Saints Outreach Op-Shop: (In Target Car park) Phone: 55 211587**

**The Parish Outreach Op-Shop is in urgent need of good quality clothing; bric a brac or furniture.**

Please ring Outreach for pick up if necessary.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of Outreach.

Outreach is open Monday to Friday 10 am - 4pm and Saturdays 10am - 12 mid-day.

As Outreach is our main fundraiser for the Parish we urgently need Volunteers to give 3 hours in the mornings or afternoons.

**Please contact Marg Herbertson at Op-Shop for further information.**

**If you are ill or in Portland District Hospital**

If you are ill and at home and would like me to visit please let me know. If you are in hospital please say 'yes' to the question regarding a clergy visit. This is the only means for me to know if you are in hospital and able then to come and visit you. Fr Greg.

**Evening Prayers - Christmas Tide**

A reminder that during the Christmas season Evening prayers will be held every Friday night 6pm to 6th January 2017.

**Dates to Remember**

Bishop's Parish Visitation April 21st – 24th Portland. Dartmoor and Heywood

**Book Club**

The next Parish Book Club meeting is on January 19th 2017 at 8 p.m. Panorama Drive, Bridgewater. The book to be discussed is "The Good People" by Hannah Kent.

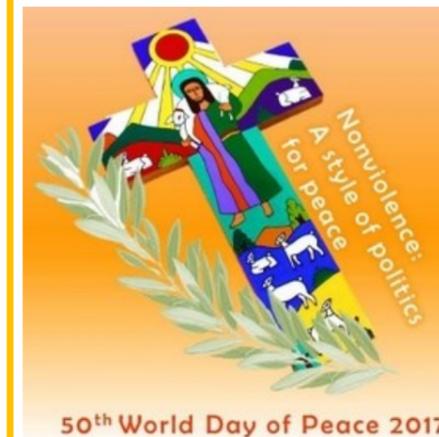
**Dedication of the Loreto Window at All Saints' Parish Church, Portland**

Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul to give thanks for the presence and ministry of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Portland and the dedication of the Loreto Window in All Saints' Parish Church on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 10.30am. Light lunch will follow at the Parish House. RSVP by January 13, 2017 to PO Box 210, Portland, 3305 or email [portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

**Request for Information**

In January and more so at the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord on Sunday 8th January Fr Greg would like to talk about all the great things that happen in our parish and namely the groups of people that make this happen. Therefore if you are involved in any group (eg. Flower arrangements, Family group, Children's Liturgy etc.) could you please write down a few sentences on the service your group provides. You can do this either by email [greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or otherwise on paper and put in the collection plate or hand to Fr Greg. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

**World Day of Peace**



Pope Francis has just released the text of the 50th World Day of Peace message which occurs on New Year's Day 2017. To read this message go to the link below.

In his message Pope Francis says, "I would like to reflect on nonviolence as a style of politics for peace. I ask God to help all of us to cultivate nonviolence in our most personal thoughts and values. May charity and nonviolence govern how we treat each other as individuals, within society and in international life."

**[w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco\\_20161208\\_messaggio-l-giornata-mondiale-pace-2017.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20161208_messaggio-l-giornata-mondiale-pace-2017.html)**