

Liturgy Rosters:

Many thanks for the wonderful works you do!

This weekend: 12th February

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: L. Cooper

Reader: C. Leonard

Ministers: A. O'Brien, D. Kierce

Gifts: C. Leonard, K. Carr

Welcome: F. Mizzi

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: J. Sandeman

Reader: P. Howman

Ministers: A. Loving, I. Eichler, C. Brevet

Gifts: J & A Milani

Welcome: B & M McGennicken

Next weekend: 19th February

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: H. Webb

Reader: M. Schultz

Ministers: F. Mizzi, M. Lambert

Gifts: M. Gregory, H. Stevenson

Welcome: D. Kierce

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: K. Arnott

Reader: K. Howman

Ministers: P. Howman, J. Sandeman,

A. McIntyre

Gifts: B & M McGennicken

Welcome: A & M Francis

Church Flowers: Marie McGennicken
Helen Farrell

Church Linen: 03/02 P. Bailey
17/02 A. McIntyre

Church Cleaning:
12/02 M & Y Crooks
19/02 K. McNamara, A. Taylor
M. King

Heywood: 19/02 Elvira & Pilar

Dartmoor: Cleaning: T. Bull
Flowers:
Mowing: N. 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: \$ 531.00
(inc. EFT)

Presbytery: \$ 616.75

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



**12th February
2017**

**6th Sunday
Ordinary Time
Year A**



Weekday Services, 14/02 to 17/02

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass
Wednesday: 10.00am Mass **BUPA**
Thursday: 9.00am Mass Bayview College
Friday: 9.30am Adoration
10.00am Mass

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

Recent Deaths:

Bert Tober

Anniversaries:

Margaret Lardner, Pat Lloyd, Helen Troeth, Anne Sharrock, Barbara Couttie, Mary (Molly) Walsh, Eric Spencer,

Prayer Requests:

Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Claire Jesser, Sr. Margaret Keane sjs, Rita Madden, Maureen McKenzie, John Smith. Gerard White, Lea-anne Bourke, Rudy Legray

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

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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 & Thursday 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 in the Tower Entrance of the Church.

Psalm 118

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!

They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts.

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.

May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes.

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law.

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.

Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

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 - Matthew 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Gospel Reflection - Understanding the righteousness of Jesus

We sometimes forget that Jesus was a faithful Jew who observed the Law handed down within Israel from generation to generation. Today's gospel brings us the continuation of Matthew's Sermon on the Mount in which Jesus, the faithful Jewish teacher, addresses his Jewish disciples and the Jewish crowds gathered to hear his words.

The mission of Jesus ("I have come to...") is to fulfill the law, not to do away with it, and fulfilling the law is a question of "righteousness". The Greek term for righteousness, *dikaionē*, translates both the Hebrew *sedeqah* meaning "right relationship" and *mishpat* meaning "justice". The righteousness of the official teachers of the Law, the scribes and Pharisees, their manner of relating to others and their notions of justice, are judged to be quite inadequate for those who are part of God's reign, "the kingdom of heaven" in Matthew's terminology. The righteousness of Jesus' followers is to "exceed" such minimalist interpretations and expressions of the Law.

Jesus, authentic teacher and interpreter of the Law, offers six examples of the righteousness that "fulfills" the Law. Four of these examples are included in today's reading. What was heard "of old" is contrasted with what Jesus wants to say to them. In the first instance, they all know that the Law forbids murder. They may not have considered the connection between unrestrained anger or murderous thoughts and murder itself. In a series of cascading sentences, Jesus presents a charter for reconciliation and forgiveness. He reminds his audience that true worship demands a forgiving heart expressed in action. He includes a fairly pragmatic reason for settling out of court: you may actually find yourself in prison. There may be an implicit criticism here of the increasingly punitive legal system of the time.

The second example puts "lustful looking" on a par with adultery. In an age of easy access to internet pornography, this example has a particular resonance. Such activities make a travesty of gospel righteousness. The third example on divorce is complicated by the exceptive clause, "except in the case of porneia". Porneia referred to any illicit sexual activity. Here it probably means marriages within degrees of kinship prohibited by Jews but not by Gentiles. The question seems to have arisen as to whether couples in such unions could stay together on becoming Christian. While Jesus presents the ideal (no divorce), we have to put this teaching into a broader context. Writing to the people of Corinth on this subject, Paul allows for exceptions, since "God has called us to peace". The fourth example is about swearing on oath. Righteousness calls for honesty and transparency in every day dealings. If the words we use are congruent with the intentions of our heart, we should not have to invoke God as a witness to the veracity of our claims.. - Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Living the Gospel - Interpretation

Jesus demonstrates the crucial nature of interpretation. It is easy for us today to look at something like the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes and dismiss them as irrelevant. Taken literally, they have fairly limited application to our modern lives. However, interpreted in a broader context and within the context of our own lives, such ancient codes of behaviour can take on new significance. Jesus points us towards the importance of looking beyond the surface and searching out the truth of such statements. Interpretation of scripture for our modern lives and modern world is vital to living life to the fullest.

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.

Requests for Spire

If you have any requests or information you would like to be put on the Spire, could you please let me know by the Wednesday prior. Many thanks Antonella

Dates to Remember

Parish Looking Forward Forum - March 9th 5.00pm - 6.30pm All Saints Church

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

Book Club

The next Parish Book Club meeting is on Thursday, February 23rd 2017 at 8 p.m. 9 Whalers Court Portland.

The book to be discussed: own choice

Briny Bunch Family Group

Our first get-together will be on Friday, 17th February at Anne and Bob's place from 6pm. Please bring your own drinks, and finger food to share. We will be planning our activities for 2017, so any suggestions will be welcome.

2017 Lent Program - Up from the Waters

The title of the 2017 resource is taken from the Gospel of Matthew (Year A):

"When Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' (3:16)"

The Lenten Gospels include the three fundamental texts for our baptismal journey to Easter: the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well; Jesus healing the blind man and the washing in the pool of Siloam; and the raising and unbinding of Lazarus to new life.

We will purchase booklets depending on the numbers required. (Please place your name on the list at the front of the church). The cost of the booklet will be \$8. We can also provide a copy of the CD's as required. Please indicate on the sheet if you would like a copy of the CD's.

Vatican News (CNS)

"Without making room for God's word in their heart, people will never be able to welcome and love all human life, each life that we encounter is a gift deserving acceptance, respect and love," the pope said in his message for Lent. "The word of God helps us to open our eyes to welcome and love life, especially when it is weak and vulnerable," he wrote.

The parable of Lazarus shows that "a right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognizing their value," he said. "A poor person at the door of the rich is not a nuisance, but a summons to conversion and to change."

But in order to understand how to open one's heart and see the other as gift, a person must see how the word of God operates.

One way to do that, he said, is to be aware of the temptations and traps the rich man fell victim to, derailing his search for true happiness." - by Carol Glatz Catholic News Service