

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

*This weekend: 7th May*

**Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm**

Leader: H. Webb  
Reader: D. Baudinette  
Ministers: D. Kierce, F. Mizzi  
Gifts: M. Gregory, H. Stevenson  
Welcome: D. Kierce

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Leader: J. Sandeman  
Reader: K. Loftus  
Ministers: K. Arnott, J. Fitzpatrick, L. Goebel  
Gifts: K. Sullivan, J. Hall  
Welcome: A & M Francis

*Next weekend: 14th May*

**Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm**

Leader: L. Cooper  
Reader: P. Kierce  
Ministers: A. O'Brien, D. Kierce  
Gifts: Ciara Leonard, K. Carr  
Welcome: F. Mizzi

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Leader: P. Couttie  
Reader: K. Howman  
Ministers: V. Bailey, B & M McGennissen  
Gifts: T. Mizzi, C. Boyadjian  
Welcome: L. Goebel

**Church Flowers:** Kath McNamara

**Church Linen:** 07/05 B. Teal

**Church Cleaning:** 07/05 The Crespan Family  
14/05 M & Y Crooks

**Heywood:** 07/05 Vicki  
21/05 volunteer please

**Dartmoor:** Cleaning: Tracy Bull  
Flowers: volunteer please  
Mowing: Noel Bull

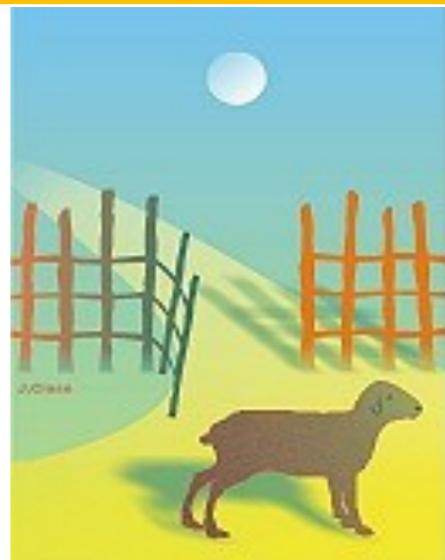
**Prayer After Communion:**  
(For Minsters to the Home-bound)

**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:** \$ 967.00 (inc. EFT)  
**Project Comp:** \$ 1,502.50  
**Presbytery:** \$ 428.20

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



**7th May  
2017**

**4th Sunday  
Easter  
Year A**



**Weekday Services 09/05 to 12/05**

**Tuesday:** No Mass  
**Wednesday:** No Mass  
**Thursday:** 5.00pm Mass  
**Friday:** 10.00am Mass  
6.00pm Night Prayer

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

#### Recent Deaths:

Fr John Murphy SDB, Elizabeth Mary Alexander, Neil Pritchard

#### Anniversaries:

George Kempton, Jean Murphy, Sr Christine Daly IBVM, Max Stevenson, Jim Galvin, Ernest Broadwood, Xavier Mugavin, Bernie Crimmin,

#### 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, Graeme Sewell

*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.

**Children's Liturgy**

**May 14th**

**Mel**

## "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 in the Tower Entrance of the Church.*

### Psalm 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me .  
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 - John: 10: 1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

## Gospel Reflection - Led into nourishing pastures

My brother and sister-in-law were farmers who woke up one morning to find that all their sheep had disappeared. It seems that some enterprising thief or thieves had managed to load their sheep on to transports and move them interstate in the few hours between dusk and dawn. The unwelcome visitors had actually come in by the front gate, crossed the cattle pit, worked swiftly, and driven out again. In ancient Palestine, the flock would have been much smaller, the entrance would have been guarded and comings and goings would have been monitored closely by the gatekeeper. A thief would have had to scale the wall of the small enclosure and watch carefully for a chance to get away with a few of the sheep.

In John 10, Jesus presents a parabolic image about sheep and shepherds. His hearers fail to understand. This is hardly surprising because of the unusual mixing of metaphors, but also because they are hostile and choose not to understand. He proceeds to offer explanations of various aspects of the image he has created, two of which are included in today's reading. In the image, Jesus is both the gate to the sheepfold and the shepherd of the flock. He contrasts the access he provides as "the gate" with the unauthorized access gained through others "who have come before" him, namely the religious authorities featured in the previous chapter. They are unauthorized shepherds who gain access to the sheepfold on false pretences and lead God's flock into pastures that fail to satisfy.

There are echoes of the Psalms of Israel in this reading. In Psalm 23, God is the shepherd of Israel who leads the people into nourishing pastures and restores life to the depths of their nephesh or being. Nephesh is the word used in Genesis 2 for the life that God breathes into all beings. God leads the people in the way of justice or righteousness. Psalm 118 sings of God's gate through which the just or righteous will enter and give thanks. As the gate to the little sheepfold, Jesus offers the way to and from abundant life. As the shepherd, he monitors the movement of the sheep so that they are not tempted to stray along the paths of unrighteousness and destruction.

As usual, the gospel text is multi-layered. The images pulsate with life and energy. They invite to vigilance on the one hand and gratitude on the other. They offer yet another way of thinking about Easter. At this time of Earth's distress, we might spare a thought for our farmers who, often in the face of adversity, struggle to care for their animals, to ensure the sustainability of the land entrusted to them, and to provide the produce we so often take for granted..

- Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

**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.**

## Red Cross and CWA

Please make welcome members of the Portland Branches of Red Cross and CWA who are attending Mass on Sunday 7th May to celebrate Red Cross Day. They would like to thank you in advance for allowing them to be part of the All Saints parish this year.

## Rosters

Can we ask that any rostered person who cannot fulfil their ministry on a particular day, personally arrange for a substitute. Thank you.

## Planned Giving

Statements for the period 1/7/16 to 2/4/17 have been printed and are available for collection from the front of the church. Please collect your envelope or contact the office if you would prefer us to email to you. Many thanks, Antonella

## 30th Anniversary Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Peter Connors

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and the people of the Diocese of Ballarat invite you to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Peter Connors. Mass will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 10.30am. Morning tea will follow in the Hall.

## Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be Thursday May 25th 2017 at 8.00 p.m. at 9 Whaler Court, Portland.

The Book: "The Last Painting of Sara De Vos" by Dominic Smith

## Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)

ACYF is in Sydney December 7-9, 2017. A joyful 3 day immersion in faith with 15,000 other young Australians. Young people (yr 9-30yo) are encouraged to go. Information is on the diocesan website Youth and Young Adult pages: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or contact Amanda on 5337 7125 or [youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

## Gospel Reflection

'The sheep follow because they know his voice. But they failed to understand what he meant.'

The image of the shepherd is one of familiarity and closeness. It is sad and strange that this very common image in scripture, and one very dear to Jesus, is often drowned out by another voice which says, 'Familiarity breeds contempt.' That other voice has had quite a hearing in the upbringing of many of us, and in the context of religion has led many people to believe that they should not dare to think of themselves as close to Jesus.

Yet here we are, pretty ordinary sort of 'sheep', and Jesus is speaking in terms of closeness, recognition, and trust. The image of the shepherd goes hand in hand with the often repeated words of our God in Scripture: 'Do not be afraid for I am with you.'

Our task is to allow the words of Jesus to move beyond being a lovely image, and to let the truth they point to be evident in our faith and in our worship: Jesus is close to us, and he yearns for us to know this is so.