

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

This weekend: 16th July

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: H. Webb
Reader: volunteer please
Ministers: A. Burns, A. O'Brien
Gifts: Ciara Leonard, K. Carr
Welcome: F. Mizzi

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: K. Howman
Reader: M. Kearney
Ministers: D. Arnott, A. Loving, I. Eichler
Gifts: L & D Goebel
Welcome: M. King

Next weekend: 23rd July

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: L. Cooper
Reader: D. Baudinette
Ministers: F. Mizzi, M. Lambert
Gifts: M. Gregory, H. Stevenson
Welcome: D. Baudinette

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: K. Loftus
Reader: P. Couttie
Ministers: P. Howman, V. Bailey, volunteer pls
Gifts: K. Sullivan, J. Hall
Welcome: L. Goebel

Church Flowers: Kath McNamara

Church Linen: 16/07 P. Bailey

Church Cleaning: 16/07 C. Legg, P. Laidlaw
23/07 J. Simpson,
T. Gracias

Heywood: 16/07 volunteer please

Dartmoor: **Cleaning:** Karen Bull
Flowers: Kizzie O'Dea
Mowing: Leo Bull

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

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.

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week : \$ 1,028.00

Target \$65,000

Total YTD 30 June 2018 \$ 2,536.00

Total YTD 30 June 2017 \$ 2,404.00

Direct deposit payments for planned giving and donations can be made electronically. Details are as follows:

Account Name:
Portland Catholic Church
BSB: 083 532
Account No. 5159 81661

Presbytery Account

Priest support \$ 413.15

Direct deposit payments for the presbytery account can be made electronically. Details are as follows:

Account Name:
All Saints Presbytery Portland
BSB: 083 526
Account No. 24476 6002



16th July
2017
15th Sunday
Ordinary Time
Year A



Weekday Services 18/07 to 21/07

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass
Wednesday: 10.00am ****BUPA**** Mass
Thursday: 10.00am Mass
Friday: 9.30am Adoration
10.00am Mass
1.30pm Harbourside Service

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

Recent Deaths:

Thera Romein

Anniversaries:

John O'Flaherty, Norma Oakley, Joe Cables, Noel Oakley, Polly Newell, Doris Mizzi, Laura Spillman, Peter Drought, Jason Wade

Prayer Requests:

Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Claire Jesser, Sr. Margaret Keane sjc, Rita Madden, Maureen McKenzie, John Smith, 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
July 23rd
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
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Priest: Rev. Gregory A. D. Tait, Adm.
email: greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Secretary: Antonella Webbstock
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 Parish website and noticeboard in the Tower Entrance of the Church.

Psalm 64

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain.

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth.

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever
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: 13: 1-9

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



Gospel Commentary - A measure of abundant grace

One of the privileges of my life has been an ongoing involvement in Catholic education, especially in religious and theological education of staff. While my connection now is somewhat removed from the day to day life of schools, I am keenly aware of the selfless dedication of leadership and staff in their efforts to create environments for the children and young adults in our communities to receive God's word in its multi-layered reality. A sense of wonder and appreciation of the goodness of creation, of respect for the human and the more-than-human Earth community, is at the heart of any truly worthwhile education. The experience of violence or broken trust in the lives of some children may inhibit that sense of wonder and respect. Sensitive educators, at home and at school, are attuned to the diversity of experience among children and are called to attend to the inevitable diversity of needs so that all might be open to learn and to grow in wisdom and grace.

Jesus' parable of the soil, seed and sower reminds us that the grace of God's word is there for everyone who is open to receive it. If the seed takes root in rich soil, the harvest is assured. If it misses the mark and falls on the path, the benefit is for the birds alone and not for the human community. If the soil is rocky, the growth is premature and short-lived and the harvest is very limited, so that the birds are deprived along with the human community. If the seed falls among thorns, it is choked-so once again, there is no harvest. The readiness of the soil is all important, though the extent of the yield is the measure of God's abundant grace.

This parable reflects Jesus' closeness to the whole Earth community and his familiarity with the lives of ordinary people. While scattering of seed before ploughing seems a rather wasteful method of sowing a crop, such a practice is attested in the ancient world. Is the sower an extraordinarily generous God or an exploitative and wasteful estate owner? Parables tease their hearers and invite them to ponder their many levels of meaning. We have to bring our own life experience into dialogue with the word of each parable and search out its meaning for us. When we consider our children, the parable of the soil, seed and sower may yield its wisdom more slowly than parents and teachers may wish. Young people tend to mature at different rates and their faith develops in myriad ways that only God as harvester truly comprehends. We do whatever we can and trust that God will ensure an abundant harvest.

- by Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Reflection by Artist - Jenny Close

Jesus tells the parable of the sower whose grain fell on a path, on rocky ground, among thorns and finally on good soil where it thrived. It was only the last lot of seeds that survived, but they were all part of the one sowing. Jesus was alluding to the success (or not) of his message; but we can read it as a metaphor for our faith journey, which goes through all the experiences mentioned above – bad times and good. Sometimes our spiritual experience gets swallowed up by our consuming worldly interests, sometimes it can feel shallow and dry, at other times it gets choked by all the negativity in life and then there are the times when it thrives. All these experiences are a real part of our faith life and the fertile moments help us to weather the rest.

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.

Urgent Request

Winter is upon us and the Op Shop is in urgent need of winter coats for men, women and children. Please drop off at Outreach. Thank you.

Dates to remember

Family Matters - Strengthening Respectful Relationships forum - Warrnambool Saturday 22 July.

All are welcome to attend this forum with Fr Frank Brennan SJ providing the opening address, followed by a number of workshops. The free event is being hosted by the Social Justice Commission of the Diocese of Ballarat in conjunction with Centacare. Workshops/seminars to choose from include: Family violence; having the suicide conversation; building trust/listening; enriching family relationships; keeping children the focus in blended families; tuning into kids. Register online: www.2017familymatters.weebly.com.

Liturgical Formation Workshop - Warrnambool Sunday July 23rd. Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass in parishes on these days. Workshops on offer are Funeral Ministry, the Diocesan Sacraments of Initiation Program, "Let the Children Come" and Formation for Lectors. If you require registration forms please contact the parish office by email Portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone 5523 1046.

Shared Table Project - Fr Michael McKinnon - Lima Peru

The \$52 annual gift to the Project will take place in the month of July. Please put the \$52 in an envelope marked Shared Table and your name and address and put on Collection Plate. If you are a new parishioner and would like to donate \$52 to feed the children in Peru, you are most welcome to join our generous band of helpers. This is our 12th year. Any further information Marg Herbertson - the Parish Co-ordinator of Shared Table Project. Mobile 044761467. **Giving to date \$745.40**

Youth Synod Questionnaire:

The second part of the Youth Synod 2018 preparatory consultation with our Diocese is a Questionnaire. Groups and individuals of all ages are invited to respond. Pope Francis wants to hear from Dioceses around the world and responses to the Questionnaire will form part of the preparations for the world-wide Ordinary Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment in Rome in October 2018. The Questionnaire is available on the Diocesan website (Latest News on home page). Please email responses by 15 August 2017. For more info contact youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5337 7125.

ACYF 2017

Registrations for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival are already over 80% capacity and Early Bird Registrations close on 18 August. The Festival is 7-9 December 2017, for Year 9-30 yo. Ballarat Diocese Youth and Young Adult Ministry has secured accommodation in Sydney and bus transport there and back. Please contact Amanda soon to 'book in' your group. If you are not yet part of a group, we can help – contact Amandayouth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 0427 748 867. More information on www.ballarat.catholic.org.au / Youth and Young Adult pages.