

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

This weekend: 7th January

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: L. Cooper
Reader: Ciara Leonard
Ministers: A. O'Brien, A. Burns
Gifts: M. Gregory, H. Stevenson
Welcome: D. Baudinette

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: K. Howman
Reader: J. Sandeman
Ministers: M. McGennissen, K. Arnott,
J. Fitzgerald
Gifts: D & L Goebel
Welcome: A & M Francis

Next weekend: 14th January

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Leader: H. Webb
Reader: P. Couttie
Ministers: D. Kierce, A. O'Brien
Gifts: D. Baudinette, G. Priestley
Welcome: F. Mizzi

Sunday: 10.30am

Leader: A. McIntyre
Reader: P. Howman
Ministers: K. Loftus, L. Goebel, D. Arnott
Gifts: D. Goebel, C. Boyadjian
Welcome: L. Goebel

Church Flowers: Marie McGennissen

Church Linen: 31/12 J. Hall, 14/1 B. Teal

Church Cleaning:
07/01 B & M McGennissen
14/01 The Crespan Family

Heywood: 31/12 Vol. please, 14/1 Kaye

Dartmoor: **Cleaning:** Karen Bull
Flowers: Vol. please
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 Finance

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week : \$ 1,102.50

Target \$64,000

Total YTD 2017/18	\$ 34,375
Total YTD 2016/17	\$ 28,537

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: \$962.10

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



**7th January
2018
Epiphany
of the Lord
Year B**



Weekday Services 09/01 to 12/01

Tuesday: No Mass
Wednesday: No Mass
Thursday: No Mass
Friday: No Mass

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

Recent Deaths:

Joseph Farrell (of Shepparton - father of Angela Milani)
Allan Miller, Winnie McDonald, Frank Lodge

Anniversaries:

Cliff Humphries, Edwin Fox, Margaret Holmes,
Tony Shanahan, Therese Hallam, Jack Patterson,
Gwen Lenehan, Sheila Clynes, Joseph Mifsud

Prayer Requests:

Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Claire Jesser,
Sr. Margaret Keane sjc, John Smith, Lea-anne Bourke,
Rudy Legray, Graeme Sewell, Gavin & Joan Carr,
Michelle Mutch

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
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

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

Psalm 71

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor .

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
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 2: 1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Reflection - Veronica Lawson RSM

God's presence is revealed to us in diverse ways: we can read the book of God's vast creation; we can search out the meaning of our dreams; we can learn from our own and others' experience; and we can listen to the voice of our sacred scriptures. Being attentive to God's presence has nothing to do with naïve dependence on our own judgment or on the judgement of others. It has more to do with a way of being in the world that involves openness to the unexpected and a critical and careful personal and communal dialogue between our life experience and our faith tradition. A deep awareness of our place in the Earth community teaches us humility. It also teaches respect for the whole of creation and for the power of the more-than-human to lead us beyond ourselves.

Epiphany is the feast of the wise ones or astrologers "from the East" who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. They learn from the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures, the "scribes of the people". They then follow the star that leads them to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have been traditionally associated with three different characters, usually kings, of diverse nationality and colour. These strangers are the first to recognise "God-with-us" in the person of Jesus of Nazareth and to pay him homage. They also come to recognise, in a dream, the duplicity of King Herod. They have the good sense not to accede to Herod's request to "bring him word" of the newborn king. Warned once again in a dream, they return home "by another road".

The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew's drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of diverse cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, to honour the birth and the life of every child and to follow the star that leads to truth and lasting peace. There is also an invitation to be wary of self-serving rulers who find their positions threatened by the different sort of power that is based on vulnerability and openness to new life.



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.

Diocesan e-News

Diocesan e-News is available to all members of the Diocese and those associated with and with an interest in the life of the Diocese. It is published every two weeks and distributed via email. You can subscribe to receive e-News on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or you are welcome to submit items for publication to enews@ballarat.catholic.org.au. News items submitted should have relevance to the life and activity of the parishes and schools of the Diocese and include photos where possible. Please ensure you have the permission of people you photograph to submit to enews.

ACYF - view Youth Festival events

All the highlight plenary events from the Youth Festival are available for viewing at xt3. How do we connect with young people? Have a look at this. View ACYF on demand at xt3.com

Parish Support

Our Parish relies on the generous support of parishioners' time to ensure the day to day activities, both liturgical and pastoral occur. These include rosters for Liturgical Ministries, cleaning of church linen and also weekly cleaning of church interior and providing the flower arrangements. If you are able to volunteer for any of these rosters could you please contact:

- Fr Greg for Liturgical Ministries (after 1st Feb), greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au
- Antonella for other rosters, portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5523 1046

Many thanks Antonella

In addition Outreach is always looking for volunteers who could spend a few hours at the shop. Please contact Marg Herbertson: 5521 1587

51st Day of Peace; 1st of January 2018

To read a copy of Pope Francis' New Year Message for this year look on the internet on the address below.

<https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/index.html>

PROCLAIM Conference 2018 - Sponsorship opportunity

This exciting conference will engage parishes in an ongoing conversation focusing on Leadership, Culture Change, Young People, Belonging and Evangelisation. This conversation will draw together over 500 participants from across Australia for keynote presentations, facilitated conversation sessions, peer learning, expert discussion panels and future visionary planning. Keynote speakers include Cardinal John Dew (Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand), Ms Lana Turvey-Collins (Plenary Council 2020 Facilitator), Ron Huntley (Divine Renovation – Canada), and host of PROCLAIM 2018 Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Archdiocese of Brisbane).

The Diocesan Foundation has offered sponsorship for six people from the diocese (two from each zone) to attend the PROCLAIM 2018 Conference in Brisbane from July 12-14 www.proclaimconference.com.au.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the application form (available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au, News & Events tab), addressing the selection criteria, and return this to the Pastoral Ministry Office by Friday, February 16, 2018.