

Planned Giving Envelopes

This year we have not ordered a set of new Planned Giving envelopes as we were not sure when "things" would get back to normal. We have a number leftover from other years that we could use and it would save the Parish \$500.

To this end, to ensure there are enough envelopes for the parishioners who still would like to use them,

- If you have started to give by EFT that you continue to do this. Please email me at the parish email and I will re-issue a new Planned Giving number to you (for EFT payments)
- If you feel you still would like to give via envelopes please also let me know, and I will endeavor to get envelopes to you. These envelopes might not have the correct date, however just cross out the date and place the correct date on them. Also you might consider using 1 x envelope for 2 or 4 weeks worth of giving and just indicating on envelope how many weeks you are giving on the envelope. For example; if you give \$5 per week, instead of using 4 x envelopes, maybe save the \$5 each week and place into one envelope and indicate on the envelope 4 x \$5.

Thank you for your assistance in this process and if you have any questions please contact myself by email portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au or my mobile 0417269190

Planned Giving - End of Financial Year

The end of financial year is quickly approaching, so can you please ensure that your planned giving is up to date over the next month. We realise there can many pressures and hardships during this time on family finances so we do appreciate your support of our Parish financial responsibilities. I will not be able to print out statements until July, if you require any information on you individual planned giving please contact me by email.

For all who would normally give weekly with cash in your envelopes, we ask if possible, to do the following:

- Organise EFT contributions through your personal online banking
- Go directly to National Australia Bank (NAB) 64 Percy Street Portland and request that they deposit into the Parish and/or Presbytery accounts.

Details are below. **Please make sure that your name and envelope number are recorded.**

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 1,365

Pledged Amount \$62,400

Total YTD 2019/20: \$ 54,838
Total YTD 2018/19: \$ 59,954

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: inc. EFT \$ 785.35

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 June 2020

The Most Holy
Trinity
Year A



Weekly Mass Times 10/06 to 14/06

Portland - All Saints

Wednesday:	5.30pm	Mass
Friday:	10.30am	Mass
Saturday:	6.00pm	Mass
Sunday:	10.30am	Mass

Please note: Each Parishioner will need to book which mass they would like to attend for that week. Booking will take place by calling Fr Greg on 0475 512 530.

Recent Deaths:

Charlie Mifsud

Anniversaries:

Patricia Grant, Veryl Carr, Ervin Geller, Paul Sacco, Betty Rodgers, Sr Kathleen Mercovich, Percy Compton, Graeme Bennett, Mary Stuchbery, Tom Crowe, Flo Higgins

Prayer Requests:

Bruno Cancian, Margaret Couttie, Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Nicky Schultz, Claire Jesser, Lea-anne Bourke, Rudy Legray, 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

Baptisms by appointment with Fr. Gregory

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday 10.30am or any Saturday 6.00pm 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
PO Box 210 Portland 3305

Phone: 5523 1046
email: portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Rev. Gregory A. D. Tait, P.P.
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 Parish website and noticeboard in the Tower Entrance of the Church.

All Saints Parish Portland acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our Parish Community meets, the Gunditjmarra people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and constitutional acknowledgement of first peoples

What difference does believing in the Trinity make to our lives?

There are many analogies and images which help us to ponder this great mystery. But, in the end, it is not our understanding but our loving that is the measure of our lives and our faith. Indeed love is precisely what this mystery of the Trinity is about: the love between the three divine persons in God and the love that they share for us and all creation.

Our believing in the Trinity should make a real difference to our lives: it should make us more loving of other people and of all creation. In our life together as a community, the Trinity inspires us to be more open to others, more appreciative of differences and diversity among people, more inclusive of others, more welcoming and hospitable, especially in regard to the lost and the lonely, the immigrant, the refugee and the fringe dwellers in our society. It urges us to be a community of hospitality, generosity, care and compassion. "Trinity of Light, Life and Love, you loved us into life and into the light of your wisdom and grace. May we, individually and as a community, grow ever closer to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and ever more welcoming of others in our community."

You will be still able to watch online services at the following links:

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat:

Mass live streamed on [Patrick's Cathedral](#) facebook page.

Mass Western Border Parish: Website www.westernborder.church or FaceBook page: [Western Border Catholic Parish](#)

Mass for You at Home: This program has been allowing the faithful to participate in Mass from their homes for many years. Mass for You at Home is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day.

Plenary Council Discernment Papers released

Six Discernment and Writing Groups, one each for the six national themes for discernment that emerged from the Council's Listening and Dialogue phase, were tasked with writing papers to bring some major themes and issues into focus. The papers were released on Pentecost Sunday and are available to read in full at the Plenary Council website

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

Missionary & Evangelising

The renewal of our world, our Church and our lives begins with a deep listening to the presence of God's spirit in our Australian context. It asks us to read the signs of the times and invites us to prayerful discernment. Mindful of these realities, we acknowledge our need to be ecclesial communities formed by Scripture, Tradition and human experience under the guidance of God's Spirit and under the influence of the magisterium and always open to renewal. Empowered by the promise of God's enduring faithfulness (Dt 31:6, Jos 1:9, Mt 28:20) and the symbol of the 'Kingdom of God' proclaimed and inaugurated but awaiting eschatological fullness, we go forward as 'missionary disciples' of Jesus bearing witness in word and deed to all people in our world.

Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal

This report unfolds the meanings and implications of being a Christ-centred Church that is "inclusive, participatory and synodal". It tries to honour the pastoral concerns expressed in the Final Report on the "Listening and Dialogue" phase. It seeks to discern a call and to provide both a vision and a way forward for the Church in Australia. In particular, it gives priority to the inclusion of the poor and vulnerable. It urges a greater openness to, and celebration of, the diversity of peoples and expressions of faith within the Church in Australia. It calls for a change of attitude and culture within the Church in Australia, so that all persons are welcomed and recognised as the faithful move together with Christ and on the way of Christ.

Prayerful & Eucharistic

God is calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic through being a community which participates, is formed and is on mission. Informed by a theological vision reflected in the Emmaus story, these four aspects represent key challenges articulated by the People of God. Christ continually calls each of us into deeper relationship, drawing forth the desire to participate in the Church community which gathers in his name, is formed in his gospel and is on mission in the world.

Being 'prayerful' is part of a broad tradition which entails being in constant connection with God in personal and communal ways. The word 'Eucharistic' is also best understood in the largest sense, encompassing all that draws us towards the Eucharistic table. As the Second Vatican Council taught, "Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 7). The Eucharist draws forth thanksgiving for the ways Christ dwells within and among us. With this document, we seek to support God's people in their praise, reverence and service of the living God.

Humble, Healing & Merciful

The call for the Church in Australia to be humble, healing and merciful is a cry from deep within the heart of the people of God. It is a call to be like Jesus Christ, the humble man from Galilee, the gentle healer who touched the wounded and the one who reveals the merciful heart of God the Father to the world. The distress caused when the Church, through the failings of some members, manifests itself as proud, arrogant, damaging, hierarchical, hypocritical and irrelevant, is far-reaching and antithetical to its true identity.

The humble, healing and merciful theme of the Plenary Council encompasses much of the pain experienced in the body of the Church in Australia. This pain has many faces: the sexually abused, the Aboriginal Australian, the woman, the homosexual, the divorcee, the drought-ravaged land, the displaced refugee and many more who experience alienation, dispossession and suffering.

To contemplate these faces and sit in the uncomfortable place of our pain is challenging and burdensome, but it can also be a great privilege and blessing. Faith and grace allow us to connect with pain through the reality of the Paschal Mystery. The suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus allow us to confront the horror of trauma, loss and grief, with the promise of hope, redemption and new life.

C.S. Lewis spoke of the power of pain to bring clarity of focus. "We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world."¹ Perhaps the answer to the question, "What is the Holy Spirit saying to the Church in Australia?" might be most clearly heard when we connect with the pain in our midst, stand with the people who are hurting and bend our ear to listen to their stories.

Jesus Christ models for us the humble, healing and merciful path to redemption. There is no other way. It would be of benefit for the Church in Australia to discern every attitude, discussion, reorientation and future planning through the questions: Is this healing? Is this humble? Is this merciful? The Plenary Council is an opportunity for the Spirit to rouse the Church in Australia to a new awakening of its ever-urgent mission to witness Jesus Christ to a hurting world.

A Joyful, Hope-Filled & Servant Community?

The Church in Australia is called to be a Christ-centred Church that is a joyful, hope-filled and servant community.

This paper responds to that call. It provides a summary of our group's reflection and discernment on data gathered throughout the Plenary Council process. Study of the pastoral reality identified challenges and opportunities; and a theological vision is articulated that explores what God is asking of us in Australia in 2020.

We ask that the Plenary Council:

- Strengthen parish communities so they become centres of joy, hope and service for their own members and the wider community.
- Engage positively and proactively with the broader Australian community, including those who no longer identify as Catholic, to extend the work of loving service for those on the margins.
- Strengthen connections between the specialised agencies and organisations of the Church with each other and with dioceses and local worshipping communities, to enable the Church as a whole to respond better to the call of Jesus to love of neighbour.
- Promote an integrated Christian mission by maintaining an emphasis on the various aspects of Christ's presence in the world, in the Word, the Sacraments and in our brothers and sisters.
- Provide formation to assist everyone to encounter God and respond to the call to bring God's love to others.
- Work to rebuild trust in our Church, within the Church and with society generally, so that the Church can be a joyful, hope-filled servant community for all.
- Adopt a mission-focused approach to financial accountability and transparency; and review financial allocations to renew the Church in Australia.

Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform?

This Report by the Discernment and Writing Group addresses the Plenary Council question, "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is open to conversion, renewal and reform?" Responding to the results of the national consultation conducted during 2018-2019, the Group accepted its commission to "reflect on Scripture, Church teaching and our contemporary situation, in order to discern the answer to this question." (See <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/renewal/>)

The Group members, individually and communally, undertook study and reflection on the submissions and interim reports generated by the national consultation. Members also engaged in a routine of prayer, Gospel reflection, fasting and spiritual conversation in order to enrich communal discernment, asking "that the Holy Spirit grant us this gift, and then seek to develop it through prayer, reflection, reading and good counsel" (GE 166). The Group met in person twice (Melbourne 29-30 Nov 2019; Sydney 12-13 Jan 2020), supplementing these meetings with video conferences. The three-person drafting team collaborated regularly by email, shared documents and video conferencing.

- In the Report that follows, a number of key issues for consideration by the Plenary Council fall under three headings:
- Governance and Leadership: how to promote a culture of ongoing conversion and reform through renewed governance structures and procedures
- Ministry for Mission: how to strengthen faith communities for the mission of the Gospel through a wider range of vocations for ministry
- Becoming the Catholic Church with an Australian Face: how to embed the Gospel mission in the 'soil' of the people and conditions of Australia today.

