

## 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](mailto: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: \$ 1,865

#### Pledged Amount \$62,400

Total YTD 2019/20: \$ 56,243

Total YTD 2018/19: \$ 60,009

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 \$ 161.00

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



14th June 2020

The Body &  
Blood of Christ  
Year A



**Weekly Mass Times 17/06 to 21/06**

**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:

Michael Holmes, Louis Holmes, Fr Noel Donnelly, Irene Harrington, Russell Hurst

#### Anniversaries:

Thelma Dillon, Merle Plantinga, Steve Johnstone, Paul O'Donnell, Greg Fitzgibbon, Sr Sonia Dillon, Br Dan Geary MSC, Jean Stuchbery, Vince Ryan, Sheila Brady, Rev Peter Cross, Marj Martin,

#### 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](mailto:portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes)

Rev. Gregory A. D. Tait, P.P.

email: [greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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*



Anyone wishing to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Fr Greg on 0475 512 530

### Living the Gospel

Meals are very important events. Not only do we physically need food and drink to keep ourselves alive, but we use meals to mark occasions and celebrate events: birthdays; weddings; dates; achievements; disappointments; reunions. There is a sacredness about gathering with friends and family and sharing a meal together. Stories are told; memories shared; the food is appreciated and more often than not there's a drink to accompany the meal. Treating such occasions with gratitude – as blessed moments of grace – is living out the Eucharistic reality of welcoming Jesus into our lives and seeking to be more like him.

**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](http://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.

## The searching heart

By [Peggy Spencer](#)

**Meaningful relationships with God rely on us going to where God is and placing ourselves in his loving presence.**

*'Deep calls to deep in the roar of Your waterfalls; all Your waves and breakers have swept over me. By day, the Lord directs His love, at night His song is within me, a prayer to the God of my life.'*  
– (Psalm 42: 7-8)



It would be easy to convince ourselves that living a 'Christian Life' has everything to do with personal faithfulness, commitment and prayer life thus equating it to our own self-made efforts.

If we believe that this is all that is necessary to come closer to God, then Christian life becomes merely what we make of it. However, this is only part of the story. The full story is revealed when we make time to search the Scriptures, which speak to us of the God who seeks us out. The God who reaches deep into the recesses of our hearts and who longs to heal our inner woundedness.

### SHARED LOVE

How do we see our relationship with God? Some see their relationship with God primarily in terms of inner virtues. Others may see it as Christian discipleship within a framework for peace and justice. But to grow deeper in our relationship with God involves so much more. First and foremost, it is a relationship of shared love.

Love continually flows back and forth between God and us because that is the nature of love – it is reciprocal. Such love begins with God, and in freedom. And so, we too, are invited to accept this love, and in turn, to make our own corresponding response. Our response to this interior knowledge of the heart is to be able to love God in return.

Over the years, I have had many discussions with people who have shared with me how they longed to have a closer relationship with God. Many of them said that they frequently found themselves stymied by what they perceived as God's silence.

What they often meant, perhaps without realising it, is that they would really have liked God to do something dramatic in their lives; something with a hint of the supernatural that would perhaps prove his credentials. Somehow, I believe, we already know that God does not normally work in this way. God is not going to knock us over to get closer to us. We already have the freedom to invite him into our lives or not.

### ANXIOUS WORLD

We are living in an anxious and contradictory world. This may sound surprising in view of all the benefits of easier working conditions due to the advance in technology, more time for leisure, and more time for the pursuits of personal interest, etc. Conversely, that it is not surprising, is due to the nature of our contemporary living, which seems to be creating a culture where we are restless, demanding and ever seeking the impossible dream.

If we truly want to build a deep and meaningful relationship with God, we need to do more, we need, metaphorically, to go where God is and place ourselves in his loving presence. We need to enter into our own desert, our own place of reflection. A place of solitude and prayer. A place where we can seek the face of God and deepen our relationship with him. This place, for us, we trust will become our own precious place of encounter. And, difficult as it may be to do, we need to make this an important part of our day.

Only in this way can we hope to know him more deeply and to be able to receive the gifts which he longs for us to receive. There is no real probability that we will wake up one morning with that certain feeling we have become friends with God, although, as we are aware – all things are possible to God.

### ACTIVE, NOT PASSIVE

What he wants is to be loved and befriended by us – which means that we can't remain passive partners in our relationship. We need to pursue Him and get to know Him as we would in any other deep and meaningful relationship.

The desire to deepen our relationship with God will be the beginning of a long journey for many of us. Yet, it is not, as some seekers would believe, a 'final home-coming.'

At the same time, we may also find ourselves travelling along different paths, at varying speeds, and experiencing many obstacles along the way. We may be on different paths, but it is all the one journey.

These few words may help: At any time of the day or night we can call on God. He is always waiting, listening for our call. What a wonderful blessing. No phone needed, no emails, just a mere whisper . . .

## The Revolution of Tenderness

### Our Podcast

The Revolution of Tenderness podcast will feature talks and conversations with the Office for Social Justice about living the tradition of Catholic social thought and practice. It will be distributed via a range of podcast platforms. Visit the podcast homepage <https://anchor.fm/office-for-social-justice> for more information on where to listen.



“True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from membership in the community, from service, from reconciliation with others. The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to the revolution of tenderness.”

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, n 88.

### Episode 1: Catholic Social Teaching in the Current World Context

Dr Sandie Cornish shares reflections on Catholic Social Teaching in the current world context. The COVID-19 pandemic takes place in the context of several interconnected crises: an ecological crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a crisis of political authority and governance, and a crisis of meaning and purpose. So, what does Catholic Social Teaching have to do with all this?

Sandie argues that Catholic Social Teaching encourages us to pay attention to our world, motivating us to care, and to build up the Reign of God on earth as it is in heaven. Second, it helps us to discern our responses. She introduces the Catholic social justice tradition and suggests the pastoral spiral methodology as a way of bringing together contemplation, analysis, and theological reflection to support authentic Christian action in the world.

Find out more information about Catholic Social Teaching:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/catholic-social-teaching/>

Sandie's tips for students on how to find out what Catholic Social Teaching says on particular issues can be found <https://social-spirituality.net/podcast/how-to-find-teachings-on-issues/>

Come join the revolution of tenderness!

## Prayer a 'fight' with God, Pope says By Junno Arocho Esteves, CNS

The story of Jacob wrestling with God throughout the night is a reminder that although prayer reveals “that we are only poor men and women,” God also has a “blessing reserved for those who have let themselves be changed by him,” the Pope said during his weekly general audience.

“This is a beautiful invitation to let ourselves be changed by God. He knows how to do it because he knows each of us. ‘Lord, you know me,’ each one of us can say. ‘Lord, you know me. Change me,’” Francis said.

In the audience, livestreamed from the library of the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican, the Pope continued his series of talks on prayer. And before concluding the audience, he reminded the faithful of the observance of tomorrow's World Day Against Child Labour.

Calling child labour a “phenomenon that deprives boys and girls of their childhood,” the Pope said that the COVID-19 pandemic has forced children and young people in many countries to work in “jobs that are inappropriate for their age to help their families in conditions of extreme poverty”.

He also warned that “in many cases, these are forms of slavery and imprisonment, resulting in physical and psychological suffering”.

The Pope's concern for child labour comes nearly a week after the death in Pakistan of Zhora Shah, an 8-year-old child maid who allegedly was beaten to death by her employers after accidentally releasing their prized parrots. The case has sparked outrage in Pakistan and around the world.

“Children are the future of the human family,” Pope Francis said. “It is up to all of us to foster their growth, health and serenity!”