

# YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

*"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"*

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.



DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021  
[catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph](http://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph)

## PRAYER

O God,  
you reveal the signs of your presence  
among us in the church, in the liturgy  
and in our brothers and sisters.

Let no word of yours  
ever fall by the wayside  
or be rendered ineffective  
through our indifference or neglect.  
Rather, make us quick to recognise  
your saving plan  
whenever we encounter it,  
and keep as ready always  
to serve as prophets  
and apostles of your kingdom  
Amen.

## LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

All Saints Parish has been present at most of the important milestones in your life: your Baptism, your First Communion, at times of great celebration and at times of great sadness.

By leaving a gift to your Parish in your Will, you will leave a legacy of faith – a legacy to help ensure that the mission and pastoral outreach that has been important to you will continue both for today's needs and for those of our children, our grandchildren and beyond.

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



9th May  
2021

6th Sunday  
Easter  
Time Year B



## Weekly Services 11/05 to 14/05

<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Funeral Mass</b> <b>Bill Cannon</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Mass</b> <b>Easter Night Prayer</b>

The Portland Church only has capacity for around 80 -105 people at any one time (as per the 1 person per 2sq metre rule). Recording attendees at all masses is still required. If your mobile phone has the right app please use the QR Code sign in to register your every attendance.

## Recent Deaths:

Bill Cannon, Frank Sheehan OAM

## Anniversaries:

Margaret Sherman, Clarrie Tonkin, Tom Ray, Olivia Lantry, Xavier Mugavan, Fred Fish, Meave & Sheila Young, Fr Mark McGuinness, Katie Bourke, Mary Bennett, Joan Williams

## Prayer Requests:

Margaret Couttie, Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Nicky Schultz, Claire Jesser, Lea-anne Bourke, Michelle Mutch, Deanne Atkinson

*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 6.00 pm,  
Sunday 10:30 am

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

PO Box 210 Portland 3305

Phone: 5523 1046 Mobile 0475 512530

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 Webbstock

Wednesday & 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.*

*All Saints Parish Portland acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our Parish Community meets, the Gunditjmara 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*

## Psalm 97

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy.

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come  
to them.

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.

## Our Finances

### Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 917.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 50,311

Total YTD 2019/20 \$ 49,879

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 \$ 511.30

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



## Jesus' generous love

What constitutes a Christian community? What makes it authentic? St John's gospel tries to answer these questions. Jesus uses a simple agricultural image – a vine and its branches – to illustrate his teaching on community.

Just as branches on a vine derive their life and fruitfulness by being attached to the vine, so do Christians live by being in union with God and produce godly fruit. God's inner life in the trinity is one of union in mutual love. This union spills over to creation. We and all of creation are the fruit of this love.

Jesus, in today's gospel passage develops the practical consequences of being branches attached to the vine. Jesus insists that his followers are to imitate this loving inner life of the Trinity. We are to love one another as fully and freely as God loves us. Moreover, we are instructed to use this love to benefit society. It is by performing acts of love that distinguishes us as true disciples of Jesus.

Many years ago, I heard a priest tell a story that has stuck in my memory. He spoke of a pumpkin farmer who was inspecting his harvest in the early stages of the crop's growth. Near the edge of the crop, he found a large glass jar that had been abandoned by a passer-by. On a whim, he placed a small pumpkin inside the jar while being careful not to damage its attachment to the vine.

Months later, the crop was ready to harvest. The farmer rediscovered the plant he had placed in the jar. The pumpkin filled all the space in the jar but it was miniature compared to the rest of the pumpkins in the crop. It was unable to grow beyond the confines of its glass prison.

In the gospel, Jesus reminds us that his love for us is a love that is unfettered. He gives himself totally to us. He loves us to death. He regards each of his disciples as his intimate friend. He regards this friendship as reciprocal. He expects us to love him in return and to love one another in the same unfettered way he loves us. Regrettably, we often behave like the pumpkin in the glass jar. We remain connected to the vine, but we allow external circumstances and the cares of life to constrict our growth in love.

Jesus' generous love for us both inspires and calls us to allow love to grow to full maturity in us. It asks us to put aside any obstacle that chokes the expression of God's love. It tells us that Christian community is the place where unrestrained love is given, received and put into practice. We are his chosen friends but only if we do what he commands us: to love one another without reserve.

Michael Gilbert CSsR



***A mother is someone who without thinking about her own interests nurtures her child's interests. She is the one who will do everything to keep alive her children's dreams. No matter what she will stand behind and protect her child in all the circumstances. She walks hand in hand with her child be it the worst or the best situation in life. She is a person who takes up many roles in her life in order that she can take care of her child's dreams every time he needs. She is a motivator who will be there to guard the aspirations of her child. God has sent this wonderful creature on the earth so as to take help a child in its growing stage in learning through the way of life.***

**All Saints Outreach Op-Shop: (In Target Car park) Phone: 5521 1587**

**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.

Outreach is a significant fundraiser within the Parish and we regularly need Volunteers to give 3 hours in the mornings or afternoons.

**Please contact Marg Herbertson at Op-Shop for further information.**

### Ministry of Reader

- Readings - Weekend services
- Prayers of Intercession

We would like to start rostering for readings again and if you have previously been a reader or would like to become reader please contact Fr Greg by 15th May to indicate your interest.

[greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or 0475 512530

Whilst social distancing requirements remain in place, Ministers of Holy Communion will be advised by Fr Greg when needed.

### Mass Counts begin this weekend!

The 2021 National Count Mass Count will take place over the first four weekends in May (starting this weekend, 1 May 2021).

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2021 was prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp. The theme that was chosen, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the church and the human family.**

Please join with us in prayer in Portland at these venues;

**Tuesday 18th of May - 5.30pm, Portland Baptist Church**

**Wednesday 19th of May - 5.30pm, St John's Lutheran Church**

**Thursday 20th of May - 5.30pm, Portland Uniting Church**

**Friday 21st of May - 5.30pm, All Saints Catholic Church**

**As COVID-19 Restrictions still apply at this time we are unable to provide the usual hospitality of refreshments but our time of shared prayer together is still most valuable and important in these times**

