

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 or 0475 512530

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

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.



16th May
2021

The Ascension
of the Lord
Time Year B



“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

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

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

email: 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 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

Church Flowers: Judy Hall

Church Cleaning:

09/05 J. Sandeman, M. Schultz

23/05 A. McIntyre, C. Legg

06/06 K. McNamarra, M. McGennissen

Note: All that is required for cleaning is dusting and a general tidy up. If there is anyone else willing to be put on the roster please email Parish Office: Portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

Weekly Services 18/05 to 21/05

Tuesday: 5.30pm WOPCU - Baptist Church

Wednesday: 10.00am Mass
5.30pm WOPCU - St John's Church

Thursday: 10.00am Mass
5.30pm WOPCU - Uniting Church

Friday: 10.00am Mass
5.30pm WOPCU - All Saints Church

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:

Anniversaries:

George Horovitz, Rosalie Andre, Bernie Crimmin, Gerard White, Gloria Whitehead, Willy Hartmann, Ann Parker, Margaret Stuchbery, Barry Strickland, Angelo Agius, Carmel Smith, Marian May

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.

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 1,600.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 51,871

Total YTD 2019/20 \$ 51,456

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 \$ 437.00

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

Psalm 46

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
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.

The Continuing Presence of Our Lord



Jesus completes His mission on Earth and ascends into Heaven to take His seat on His glorious throne for all eternity. Or does He? The answer is yes and no. Yes, He does take His seat on His glorious throne, but no, He does not complete His mission on Earth. The Ascension is both the end and the beginning. It's a transition to the next phase in the perfect plan of the Father. And understanding the way this plan unfolds should leave us in wonder and awe.

Sure, the Apostles were probably somewhat frightened and confused. Jesus was with them, then He died, then He rose and appeared various times, and then He ascended to the Father before their eyes. But He also told them that it is good that He goes. In fact, He said that it's better that He goes. They must have been confused. Jesus also told them His Advocate would come to lead them into all Truth. So the Apostles went from joy, to fear, to relief and more joy, to confusion and sorrow, to curiosity and uncertainty.

Sound familiar? Perhaps that's the way some find their lives to be. Ups and downs, twists and turns, joys and sorrows. Each phase reveals something new, something challenging, something glorious or something sorrowful. The good news is that the Father's plan is unfolding perfectly.

The part of the perfect plan we find ourselves in with this solemnity is the part where Jesus begins to direct His mission of establishing the Kingdom of God from Heaven. His throne is, in a sense, the driver's seat of our lives. From Heaven, Jesus suddenly begins to descend continuously into our lives fulfilling His mission in and through the Apostles, as well as all of us. The Ascension does not mean Jesus is gone; rather, it means Jesus is now present to each and every person who turns to Him and surrenders their life to His mission. From Heaven, Jesus is able to be present to all. He is able to live in us and invites us to live in Him. It's the new beginning of the Church. Now all the Apostles need to do is wait for the Holy Spirit to descend.

Reflect, today, upon the abiding and intimate presence of our Lord in your life. Know that Jesus invites you to share in His mission. From His glorious throne He wants us to "preach everywhere." He wants to invite each one of us to do our part. The part of the Father's plan entrusted to each one of us is not entrusted to another. We all have a share in that plan. What is your part? How does Jesus direct His mission through you? Ponder this question today and know that He accompanies you as you say "Yes" to your part in the glorious unfolding of His perfect plan.

Lord, I do find that my life is filled with many ups, downs, twists and turns. There are joys and sorrows, moments of confusion and clarity. In all things, help me to continually say "Yes" to Your plan. Jesus, I trust in You.

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.

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

National Volunteer Week: May 17-23, 2021

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers.

From May 17-23, 2021 NVW will celebrate the significant contribution of Australia's almost six million volunteers, which includes people in our parishes and agencies. Each year these volunteers dedicate over 600 million hours to help others. .

Prayer for Volunteers

We pray for all those who volunteer in our parishes. May we value the many talents and gifts that God has given to these people. We thank them for generously offering their time to parish ministries. For all these gifts, given out of your love, we thank you, God of all goodness. Amen.

**We RECOGNISE,
celebrate and thank
volunteers
for the vital role they
play in our lives**

NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
REIMAGINE. **WEEK**

Cuppa after Mass - Sunday 30th May

Please join us for refreshments and a cuppa after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 30th May. Please bring a plate to share.

Venue: Presbytery

