

**Liturgy Rosters:**  
Many thanks for your ministry to the Parish!

**Next Weekend: 28/29 August**

**Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

Prayers: D. Kierce  
Reader: D. Baudinette  
Ministers: A. O'Brien

Please note: If you are rostered for a ministry you have been counted in the numbers attending mass. If you are unable to be at church for your scheduled ministry please contact Fr Greg.

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Prayers: M. Picard  
Reader: A. McIntyre  
Ministers: M. McGenniskien

**Next Weekend: 4/5 September if mass occurs**

**Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

Prayers: P. O'Brien  
Reader: D. Bennett  
Ministers: D. Kierce

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Prayers: M. McKenzie  
Reader: K. Loftus  
Ministers: J. Sandeman

## 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

## Church Cleaning:

**29/08 M. Schultz, J. Sandeman**

**12/09 C. Legg, A. McIntyre**

*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](mailto:Portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au)*

## Our Finances

### Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 667.00

**Target \$62,400**

**Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 8,790**  
**Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 11,155**

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 \$ 231.00

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



**29th August  
2021**

**22nd Sunday  
Ordinary Time  
Year B**



### Weekly Services 31/08 to 03/09

**Wednesday: 10.00am TBA**

**Thursday: 10.00am TBA**

**Friday: 10.00am TBA**

All persons wishing to attend Fri/Sat/Sun services to contact Fr Greg. Recording attendees over the age of 12mths at all masses is mandatory. If your mobile phone has the right app please use the QR Code sign in to register your every attendance. Face coverings must be worn indoors unless you have an exemption (you will need to provide proof of such exemption). Church will only be open during mass times.

### Recent Deaths:

Ann Mary Cremona, Danny Gorrie, Patricia Sampson

### Anniversaries:

Mary Caveny, Madison Arnold, Mollie Oliver, Mavis O'Meara, Dot Berry, Irene Barnes, Bill Aldridge, Tom Hill, Ivan Sanderson, Maureen Bourke, Jim McCarthy, Nell White, Fr Peter Taffe, Hazel Young, Bill Woods, Patricia Belfield, Murray Penrose, Maureen Bourke

### 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 6.00pm 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 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 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*

## Psalm 14

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart.

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.  
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.

## Pondering God's purpose

Have you ever experienced something that becomes more absorbing the more you spend time with it? Maybe it's a piece of music, a novel, a spot in the park. You could watch that movie a million times. The bible is similar. It was written to be pondered; it is 'meditation literature'.



For example, there is a verse tucked away in today's second reading from the Letter of James. In the version of the bible that I am reading (NRSV, Catholic Edition), it says: In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Let's ponder it. Break it down into its parts and see how they are connected:

- (a) In fulfillment of his own purpose
- (b) he gave us birth by the word of truth
- (c) so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures

God has a purpose, and he acts. A carpenter has the plan in his mind, say, for a beautiful Country Windsor chair. He executes that plan by gathering, cutting, and shaping the pieces of oak and then fitting them together.

(a) is the general description: God has a purpose to fulfill; (b) is the action: he executes this purpose by giving birth to us 'by the word of truth'. What about (c)?

The logical connection between (c) and the preceding phrases is revealed in its first two words: 'so that'. God does something. Why does he do anything? Because he has a reason to. He has a purpose. So (c) specifies what remains general in (a): God's 'purpose' named in (a) is described in (c), accomplished through (b). He 'gives us birth' (the action) so that or 'in order to' make us 'first fruits'.

Restated: God's plan is to make us 'first fruits of his creatures' by giving birth to us 'by the word of truth'. The language is strange and wonderful—ponderable. What does it mean? Try this: (b) 'birth by the word of truth' is Early Church insider's language for baptism. Birth is a metaphor: at baptism we are born again, not into this world but out of it, into the new world. Jesus died and rose into 'new life'—eternal life—and in baptism we share in his new birth in advance of our own physical death; we share in the life of the world to come—eternal life—in advance of the end of this world. (c) is the effect of (b), our baptism, realising (a) God's purpose.

Baptism makes us 'first fruits of his creatures'. The 'first fruits' is an agricultural metaphor. It is also insider's speak. Early Christians knew that the world since Jesus's resurrection is in 'harvest time'. When someone enters the Church through baptism, God is gathering the earliest ripened fruit in advance of the ultimate harvest, when he will transform the whole universe on the model of Jesus's resurrection.

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### Dealing with Imperfection

Lord, we're often very quick to see  
the faults in other people,  
but very slow to notice our own faults

Let us be honest enough to see ourselves  
as we really are – a mixture of good and bad –  
just like the people we often criticize.

Teach us, Lord, to be less critical of others.

### Letter from Bishop Paul Bird



Hello Everyone

Following consultations over the past few weeks, I am pleased to announce an appointment to the parishes of Mortlake and Terang.

From September 20, 2021, **Fr Gary Jones**, currently Parish Priest of Creswick and Daylesford, will become Parish Priest of **Mortlake and Terang**.

For most of this year, Fr Mick McKinnon has been serving the communities of Mortlake and Terang while he has been waiting for an opportunity to travel to Peru for ministry there in collaboration with the Columbans. Fr Mick has recently received notification that he will be able to travel. I offer my thanks to Fr Mick for his care for the parishioners of Mortlake and Terang for these past months. He will continue as Administrator of these parishes until September 19.

I thank Fr Gary Jones for his years of service to the communities of Creswick and Daylesford and pray for blessings upon him as he prepares for the move to Mortlake and Terang.

From September 20, there will be interim arrangements in place for the care of the Creswick and Daylesford parishes, until longer term provision can be made.

I hope to announce further appointments by the end of September, to take effect in the new year.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

**Warrnambool, Warrnambool West, Dennington, Koroit and Port Fairy Parishes:** It is proposed that these parishes be united into one parish to be called "Star of the Sea". The new parish would continue to be served by Frs John Fitzgerald and John Corrigan.

**Hopetoun, Horsham, Nhill and Warracknabeal Parishes:** It is proposed that these parishes be united into one parish to be called "Saint Paul VI Parish, Wimmera-Mallee". The new parish will continue to be served by Monsignor Glynn Murphy and Jim McKay.

### Social Justice Sunday: August 29, 2021

The launch of the Social Justice Statement was held on August 5 and Bishop Paul features in this video. Watch it at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LvLX2BQiOjM&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LvLX2BQiOjM&feature=emb_logo)

The Social Justice Statement 2021-22: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. Download the statement from the ACBC Office for Social Justice website

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>.

### "Mission: one heart many voices" Virtual Conference

Inspired by Jesus, this conference will focus on themes of encounter on the margins, inclusion, governance and synodality and challenge you to consider contemporary mission in light of Pope Francis' teaching, witness and vision of liminal leadership in mission. The Conference is from September 1-3, 2021 and is being convened by Catholic Religious Australia in conjunction with Catholic Mission. An opportunity not to be missed. Check it out at <https://2021.mohmv.com.au/>.