

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

This Weekend: 26/27/28 November

Friday: 10.00am

Reader: D. Kierce
Prayers: I. Eichler
Computer: L. Cooper

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: C. Leonard
Prayers: Volunteer please
Computer: Anne O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K. Loftus
Prayers: M. Picard
Ministers: M. McGenniskien
Computer: A. Francis

Next Weekend: 3/4/5 December

Friday: 10.00am

Reader: P. Rowe
Prayers: K. Arnott
Computer: L. Cooper

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: P. Howman
Prayers: K. Howman
Computer: Anne O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: J. Sandeman
Prayers: M. McKenzie
Ministers: F. Mizzi
Computer: A. Francis

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.

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

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.



**28th November
2021**

**First Sunday
Advent
Year C**



Weekly Services 30/11 to 05/12

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass
5.30pm Advent Reflection & Evening Prayer

Wednesday: 10.00am Mass at School
No visitors allowed

Thursday: 10.00am Mass

Friday: 10.00am Mass

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass

Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Lindsay Tait, Donald Stuchberry, Robert Foran,
Linda Wilson, Daryl Freyer, Nora Durbidge,
Ron Fielding, Jim Collins, George Cumbo,
Kath Dent, Danny Clifford, Kathleen McIndoe

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*

Baptisms by appointment with Fr. Gregory
Marriages by appointment with Fr Gregory Tait.
Sacrament of Penance By Appointment with Fr Gregory.

Dear Parishioners,
Last weekend there was some confusion about the wearing
of masks at mass.

According to the State-wide Settings PDF that the State
Government released last week the wearing of masks
is still required in settings where there may be a mix of
people vulnerable to COVID-19.

I believe that this applies to our Mass attendance in all
settings where we have a mix on fully Vaccinated and
unvaccinated people attending.

I would therefore recommend that you all bring a mask to
wear indoors when you attend mass in any instance.

kind regards Fr Greg

"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*

Psalm 24

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

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
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Dates to Remember

Anointing Mass - Tuesday December 7th - 11am

Sacrament of Penance - Tuesday 21st Dec - 7pm

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 1,042

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 25,067

Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 23,455

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 \$ 573.00

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

Prevailing hope, not despair



Over the centuries there have been terrible disasters that to the people of the time would have seemed like signs of the apocalypse. There was the Black Death in the 14th century that killed 50 million people in Europe or some 60 percent of the population; the First World War followed by the influenza epidemic; and the destruction wrought by the Second World War.

When we hear Our Lord in Luke's Gospel warning of "signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony ... people dying of fear as they await what menaces the world," we may think of the threat of nuclear war, followed by a long nuclear winter destroying most life on earth.

Or perhaps we recall the warnings of scientists, echoed by Pope Francis in his document *Laudato Si'*, about the imminent catastrophe from global warming and climate change. This is no longer science fiction. As many farmers know, we are facing longer droughts, more severe flooding, more extreme weather events and fiercer storms. Rising sea levels will displace hundreds of millions of people from low-lying areas, including the major river deltas which produce much of the world's food.

Jesus knew nothing about these frightening new threats to life on earth. But he knew a lot about the trauma and tragedy that had occurred in Jewish history over hundreds of years, and he knew what his followers would encounter.

Despite all this anguish, curiously Jesus' message is one of incredible hope, not of despair. Jesus says to stand tall and be confident when the Son of Man comes "with power and great majesty", since our "liberation is near at hand." We can barely imagine what this mysterious "liberation" implies as the Reign of God transforms the universe.

Neither Jesus nor Luke are claiming to be futurologists, forecasting the future. Rather, they are affirming hope in the promises of God to guide our lives. We have here no lasting home; our lives are preparing us to be welcomed into our home in heaven, delighting in the intimacy of God's presence.

Jesus urges his disciples to stay awake and pray "for the strength to survive all that is going to happen." Jesus is not handing out free tickets for an easy ride to heaven. He is warning of the need for courage when his followers face threats of death and persecution, as do Christians in parts of the world today. While warning the disciples against backsliding, Jesus is not telling them to withdraw from the challenges of life. He urges them not to let "your hearts be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life."

As St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, may the Lord increase "your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you." Today the words "the whole human race" take on new meaning as we face great and new challenges such as the current pandemic.

Bruce Duncan CSsR © Majellan Media 2021



The word 'Advent' means 'coming'.
Lighting the candles on the wreath symbolises the coming of light (Jesus) into the world.

The first candle (violet) represents hope, the second (violet) peace, the third (rose) joy, and the fourth (violet) love.

The central white candle is lit on Christmas Day and represents Christ.

This Advent we will learn, act and pray for a more just and fair world – a world full of hope, peace, joy and love.

ADVENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send Your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for
Christmas,

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces
to hear Your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things
look forward to Your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of Your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of Your presence.

We are Your people,
walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.

To You we say, 'Come Lord Jesus'

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.

Columban Calendar

The Columban Calendar 2021 is available to purchase at the All Saints Outreach Shop for \$10. Support Missions - It would make an ideal Christmas gift! Get one before they are sold out!



Southern Stars Family Group Picnic

When: Sunday 28th November

Time: 12pm onwards

Where: Portland Skate Park, beach and the All Abilities Playground.
Anne and Pat will aim to secure a BBQ.



Anne & Pat will provide snags and bread. Please bring everything, including something to share and foldup chairs.

Briny Bunch Family Group

Briny Bunch Members are invited to afternoon tea at the Fauna Park (Bridgewater Road) from 3pm on **Sunday, 5th December**.

Bring your own drinks and a chair. Food will be supplied.

Please RSVP to Anne (0428780536) for catering purposes.



Christmas Meat Hamper

Through our Parish Outreach we will provide meat vouchers to accompany the Christmas hampers that are being delivered in December. If you would like to make a contribution to the cost of the meat for the hampers, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Meat Hampers", and return via the collections.

CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal

This pandemic has been hard on us all. But as with every disaster, COVID-19 is making the already vulnerable more vulnerable still. Your generous donation to this year's Giving Tree Appeal will provide practical and financial support for struggling Victorian families - from three square meals a day to help with utility bills... every gift you choose helps.

To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/14/giving-tree-appeal>

Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal

This Christmas donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness this Christmas and your help can provide them with much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to call home.

To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>