

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

This Weekend: 10/11/12 December

Friday: 10.00am

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

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D. Baudinette
Prayers: D. Bennett
Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M. Schultz
Prayers: M. Picard
Ministers: B. McGennissen
Computer: A. Francis

Next Weekend: 17/18/19 December

Friday: 10.00am

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

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: P. O'Brien
Prayers: C. Leonard
Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: A. McIntyre
Prayers: J. Sandeman
Ministers: M. McGennissen
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.



**12th December
2021**

**Third Sunday
Advent
Year C**



Weekly Services 14/12 to 19/12

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

Wednesday: 10.00am **Mass at school**
No visitors

Thursday: 10.00am Mass

Friday: 10.00am Mass
6.00pm Evening Prayer

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass

Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Patrick Pye, Willy Paget, Lorraine Asling, Vic Wright, Michael Twomey, Margaret McMahon, Anne Pye, Angelo Sacco, Kathleen Thomas, Gwen Blackley, Sr Myrene Erdman IBVM, Lorna Arnold, Leon Kelly, Magdalena Gerada, Cecelia Bull, Joseph Mifsud, Marlene Murphy, Marie McHaffie, Jack Millar, Anna Ridsdale

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,
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 12

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name.

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
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: \$ 1,077.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 26,811
Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 25,397

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 \$ 579.00

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

Dining at God's table



I was surprised recently to hear one of my students describe Jesus as a “wowser” and Christianity as the world’s foremost proponent of “wowserism”. While I might be able to understand why a young person might express the latter sentiment (albeit unjustly), I find it difficult to see how anyone could accuse Jesus of being a “wowser”.

In the popular imagination, the term “wowser” has become synonymous with “bible-basher” and “God botherer”. Religious devotees are often dismissed as wowsers because there is a popular perception that they are narrow-minded, forthright and

ensorious fanatics who disapprove of people partying and enjoying life. Something of the forthright “God botherer” is seen in the figure of John the Baptist in today’s Gospel warning that the coming of the Messiah will be like a “winnowing fan” on the “threshing floor” sorting the wheat from the chaff.

However, a counterpoint to these dire predictions of punishment in the “unquenchable flame” is found in the exhortation of Paul to the Philippians to “rejoice always” as the Lord’s return is near. Joy and exaltation at the coming of the Messiah is a feature of the reading from Isaiah as well, who proclaimed with delight that “the Holy One of Israel” is in our midst.

This party atmosphere is one that pervades much of the story of Jesus. The Gospels tell of many occasions when Jesus celebrated with friends and acquaintances at weddings, bar mitzvahs, sabbaths, and other Jewish religious festivals.

There were certainly times when Jesus could get angry and express moral outrage. In Matthew’s well-known “sermon on the mount” Jesus calls for a higher standard in moral behaviour that goes beyond the mere observance of law. But Jesus also enjoyed life immensely. He was someone who rarely refused a dinner invitation.

Both Luke (7:24) and Matthew (11:19) record that Jesus’ opponents accused him of being a “drunkard and a glutton”. Elsewhere Jesus is rebuked by John’s disciples for not insisting his disciples fast and do penance (Mk 2:18; Matt 9:14; Lk 5:33). Jesus’ reply is telling. He equates his circle of disciples with guests at a wedding feast, and he goes on to suggest that through his ministry God is doing something “new”, which requires his followers to rejoice and feast together around a common table.

Scholars argue that Jesus used the practice of table fellowship to signal the message that the world as he and his contemporaries knew it was at an end. A new era was dawning when God would reign upon earth and all the sinners, the poor, the marginalised and oppressed, and even the God botherers and bible bashers, would dine at God’s table.

Jesus was no wowser. Even though he did call on people to live morally good lives, Jesus believed that no one was ultimately beyond redemption. This message is the source of the joy that lays at the heart of the Christian story. All are welcome to the feast. The Holy One of Israel is in our midst, rejoice!

Ian J Elmer

Christmas Mass Times

21st December, Tuesday	7.00pm - Sacrament of Penance, All Saints Church
24th December, Friday	5.00pm - Vigil Mass - Dartmoor (Vaccinated only)
24th December, Friday	7.30pm - Carols - All Saints Portland (Vaccinated only)
24th December, Friday	8.00pm - Christmas Eve Mass - All Saints Portland (Vac. Only)
25th December, Saturday	9.30am - Christmas Day Mass - All Saints Portland (Limited to 50 people, available to unvaccinated parishioners and visitors, bookings essential 0475 512530 or greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

No VIGIL Mass - Saturday 25th December

26th December, Sunday	10.30am - Feast of the Holy Family, All Saints Portland
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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!

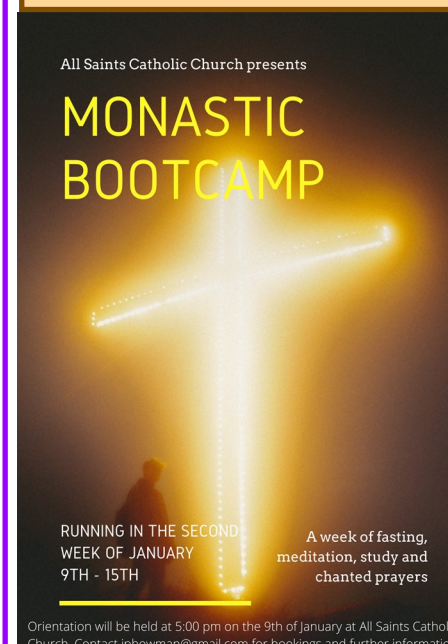


Christmas Meat Hamper

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.

Total to date \$440

Monastic Bootcamp - January 9th - 15th



A week of fasting, meditation and prayer.

See larger version of posters in foyer.

Any questions or for bookings please contact

Jamin Howman

jphowman@gmail.com

FAQs

I'm not Catholic, can I attend?

Absolutely. This is a week based on Catholic theology and practice, but there is no requirement that an attendee is a member of the Catholic Church.

I don't know that much about what Catholics do or believe. Will I stick out like a sore thumb?

Because this week is very structured and informative it is an excellent occasion to come to understand more about the Catholic faith. This week would be very suitable for anyone who is curious about the faith, or wishing to reconnect with their faith.

I am a Christian, but don't believe what Catholics believe. Will there be any theological issues that I will struggle with?

The central plank of the week is the chanting of the Divine Office, which is essentially just singing parts of the Holy Bible. There may be parts of the week that Christians of other churches will disagree with, but you are welcome to absent yourself from these or just consider yourself an observer rather than a participant.

I would love to be a part of this, but I have other commitments such as work. Can I just come to the events I am able to?

Sure. This week is designed to be modular so you can attend which ever events you can.

I would like to attend only the Divine Office, not the theology presentations. Is this a problem?

No at all. You are welcome to come to as little or as much of the week’s events as you would like.

What is the cost of Tickets?

This is a non-ticketed event. You are welcome turn up on the day, but an email RSVP for planning purposes beforehand would be greatly appreciated.

So there is no cost?

The running of this program will cost a certain amount of money. It is requested that you contribute an amount of money at the end of the week, if you chose to continue to attend, to cover the costs as well as provide funds for future events.

Do I need to book?

For planning purposes a booking would be greatly appreciated, though it is not necessary.

For bookings contact Jamin Howman: jphowman@gmail.com